



127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 1367

H.P. 928

House of Representatives, April 23, 2015

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Eliminate the Income Tax

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative FREDETTE of Newport. (GOVERNOR'S BILL) Cosponsored by President THIBODEAU of Waldo and Representative: ESPLING of New Gloucester, Senators: CUSHING of Penobscot, MASON of Androscoggin. 1 **Constitutional amendment. Resolved:** Two thirds of each branch of the 2 Legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the Constitution of Maine be 3 proposed:

4 **Constitution, Art. IX, §8, sub-§6** is enacted to read:

6. Taxation of income prohibited. Beginning January 1, 2020, the Legislature shall never, in any manner, enact or impose a tax upon the income of any person nor shall the State levy or collect such an income tax for any period beginning on or after January 1, 2020.

9 **Constitution, Art. IX, §9** is amended to read:

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Section 9. Power of taxation. The Legislature shall never, in any manner,
 suspend or surrender the power of taxation, except as limited by this Constitution.

; and be it further

13 **Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective date.** 14 **Resolved:** That the municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their 15 respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for 16 holding a statewide election, at a statewide election held in the month of November 17 following the passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment 18 proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to prohibit the
Legislature, beginning January 1, 2020, from enacting or imposing a tax
on the income of any person and prohibiting the State from levying or
collecting an income tax for any period beginning on or after January 1,
2020?"

24 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question 25 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and 26 27 declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall 28 29 review the returns. If it appears that a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of the 30 amendment, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment 31 becomes part of the Constitution of Maine on the date of the proclamation; and be it 32 further

33 Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved: That the Secretary of State
 34 shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies
 35 of this resolution necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

- 36 SUMMARY
- This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to prohibit the Legislature, beginning January 1, 2020, from enacting or imposing a tax upon the income

- of persons in this State and to prohibit the State from levying or collecting such a tax for any period beginning on or after January 1, 2020. 1
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