

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE.

No. 47.

STATE OF MAINE.

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the petitions of H. A. Pike and others, praying that the constitution and laws be so amended as to secure the right of suffrage to women, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report that the petitioners have leave to withdraw.

Per order.

D. N. MORTLAND.

MINORITY REPORT.

The undersigned, a Minority of the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the Petitions of H. A. Pike and others, praying for an amendment of the constitution so as to secure to women the right of suffrage, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report the accompanying Resolves, which are herewith submitted.

CALEB A. CHAPLIN,
SAMUEL TITCOMB,
NELSON DINGLEY, Jr.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVES providing for an amendment to the constitution, conferring the right of suffrage on women.

Resolved, Two-thirds of both branches of the legislature concurring, that the constitution of this state be amended by striking out the word "male" in the first line of the first section of article two, so that the section, as amended, shall read as follows :

Sect. 1. Every citizen of the United States of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, excepting paupers, persons under guardianship, and Indians not taxed, having his residence established in this state for the term of three months next preceding any election, shall be an elector for governor, senators, and representatives, in the town or plantation where his residence is so established ; and the election shall be by written ballot. But persons in the military, naval, or marine service of the United States, or this state, shall not be considered as having obtained such established residence by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or military place, in any town or plantation ;

19 nor shall the residence of a student at any seminary of
20 learning entitle him to the right of suffrage in the
21 town or plantation where such seminary is established.
22 No person, however, shall be deemed to have lost his
23 residence by reason of his absence from the state in
24 the military service of the United States, or of this
25 state.

Resolved, That the aldermen of cities, and the select-
2 men of the several towns, and the assessors of the
3 several plantations in the state, are hereby empowered
4 and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respec-
5 tive cities, towns and plantations, in the manner pre-
6 scribed by law, at the annual meeting in September
7 next, to give in their votes upon the amendment
8 proposed in the foregoing resolve; and the question
9 shall be, Shall the constitution be amended as pro-
10 posed by a resolve of the legislature providing for
11 an amendment to the constitution of this state con-
12 ferring the right of suffrage on women? And the
13 inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall
14 vote by ballot on said question, as provided in the
15 foregoing resolve, those in favor of said amendment
16 expressing it by the word "YES" upon their ballot,
17 and those opposed to the amendment expressing it by
18 the word "NO" upon their ballot; and the ballots
19 shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in

20 open ward, town and plantation meeting, and lists
21 shall be made out of the votes by the aldermen,
22 selectmen and assessors and clerks of the several
23 cities, towns and plantations, and returned to the office
24 of the secretary of state, in the same manner as votes
25 for senators, and the governor and council shall count
26 the same, and make return thereof to the next legisla-
27 ture, and if a majority of the votes are in favor of
28 said amendment, the constitution shall be amended
29 accordingly.

Resolved, That the secretary of state shall prepare
2 and furnish the several cities, towns and plantations,
3 blank returns, in conformity to the foregoing resolves,
4 accompanied with a copy thereof.



STATE OF MAINE.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }
February 13, 1873. }

Ordered printed with the minority report.

S. J. CHADBOURNE, *Clerk.*