

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIFTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE.

Committee on the Judiciary.

No. 10.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVE concerning an amendment of the Constitution of
Maine.

Resolved, That the following amendment to the Constitution
2 of this State be proposed for the action of the legal voters of
3 this State, in the manner required by the Constitution, to wit:

4 No. 5.

5 APPORTIONMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES.

6 Sections two and three of Article four, Part first, and Article
7 four of the Amendments, shall be stricken out and the follow-
8 ing inserted in lieu thereof.

9 The House of Representatives shall consist of one hundred
10 and fifty-one members, to be elected by the qualified electors,
11 and to hold their offices during the same term as the Governor
12 and Senators.

13 The existing apportionment of Representatives among the
14 several cities, towns and plantations of this State, shall con-
15 tinue until the next apportionment of Representatives shall be
16 made by the Legislature. The Legislature, after the first day
17 of January and before the fifteenth day of August, in the year
18 of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty-one, and
19 within every subsequent period of at most ten years and at
20 least five years, shall cause the number of the inhabitants of
21 the State to be ascertained, exclusive of foreigners not natural-
22 ized, and Indians not taxed, and for that purpose may adopt
23 the census last taken by authority of the government of the
24 United States. The Legislature shall, at the several periods of

25 making the enumeration of said inhabitants, apportion the
26 whole number of Representatives, first among the counties,
27 and the number apportioned to each county among the several
28 Representative districts thereof, as nearly as may be, accord-
29 ing to the number of said inhabitants. There shall be as many
30 Representative districts in each county as the number of Rep-
31 resentatives apportioned to such county; said districts to be
32 made as nearly as may be by uniting contiguous territory, and
33 without dividing any town or the ward of any city, *provided*
34 that where any town or the ward of any city shall have inhabi-
35 tants enough to entitle it, upon an equal apportionment, to
36 more than one Representative, then the number of Representa-
37 tives apportioned to said town or ward shall be the number to
38 which it is so entitled; *provided also*, that if, in making up
39 Representative districts by uniting towns and the wards of
40 cities, there should be more Representatives apportioned to a
41 county, than the number of Representative districts, then the
42 Legislature, in apportioning the Representatives to the dis-
43 tricts of a county, may and shall determine what years, during
44 the next ten years, such excess in the number of Representa-
45 tives, shall be assigned to, and elected by the several Repre-
46 sentative districts so established, having the largest excess of
47 said inhabitants above the equal ratio of representation for the
48 whole county; *provided also*, that in case single Representa-
49 tive districts cannot be so made out of contiguous territory,
50 then the Legislature may make Representative districts, to
51 which not more than two Representatives may be apportioned,
52 if the aggregate of said inhabitants, therein, shall entitle them
53 thereto. The Legislature shall not alter the right of represen-
54 tation so established until the next general apportionment,
55 unless it shall become necessary, or convenient, upon the
56 division or annexation of towns.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, January 13, 1875.

Ordered, That the Committee on the Judiciary be empowered to procure such printing done as may be necessary in the transaction of committee business.

SAMUEL W. LANE, *Secretary*.