

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# FIFTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE.

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HOUSE.

No. 105.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE providing for an amendment of the constitution, changing the term of office of senators and representatives.

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*Resolved,* Two-thirds of both branches of the legislature concurring that section two, article four, part first, of the constitution of this state, as amended under the "resolutions concerning an amendment of the constitution of Maine," approved the fourth day of March, in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, shall be further amended by striking out the words "first Wednesday in January next succeeding their election," and inserting in place thereof, the words "day next preceding the biennial meeting of the legislature," so that said section shall read as follows:

*Sect. 2.* The house of representatives shall consist of one hundred and fifty-one members, to be

15 elected by the qualified electors, and hold their  
16 office two years from the day next preceeding the  
17 biennial meeting of the legislature. The legisla-  
18 ture, which shall first be convened under this con-  
19 stitution, shall on or before the fifteenth day of  
20 August, in the year of our Lord, one thousand,  
21 eight hundred and twenty-one, and the legislature,  
22 within every subsequent period of at most ten  
23 years, and at least five, cause the number of the  
24 inhabitants of the state, to be ascertained, exclu-  
25 sive of foreigners not naturalized and Indians not  
26 taxed. The number of representatives shall, at  
27 the several periods of making such enumeration,  
28 be fixed and apportioned among the several coun-  
29 ties, as near as may be, according to the number of  
30 inhabitants, having regard to the relative increase  
31 of population. The number of representatives  
32 shall, on said first apportionment, be not less than  
33 one hundred and not more than one hundred and  
34 fifty.

*Resolved*, That the aldermen of cities, selectmen  
2 of towns, and assessors of plantations, in the state,  
3 are hereby empowered and directed to notify the  
4 inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and  
5 plantations, in the manner prescribed by law, at the  
6 annual meeting in September next, to give in their

7 votes upon the amendment proposed in the fore-  
8 going resolve; and the question shall be, "shall the  
9 constitution be amended so as to change the term  
10 of office of senators and representatives, as pro-  
11 posed in said resolve?" And the inhabitants of  
12 said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by  
13 ballot on said question, those in favor of said  
14 amendment voting "yes," and those opposed, vot-  
15 ing "no," upon their ballots; and the ballots shall  
16 be received, sorted, counted and declared in open  
17 ward, town and plantation meeting; and fair lists  
18 of the votes shall be made out by the aldermen of  
19 cities, selectmen of towns, and assessors of plan-  
20 tations, and signed by them, and attested by the  
21 clerks, and returned to the office of the secretary  
22 of state in the same manner as votes for represen-  
23 tatives; and the governor and council shall open,  
24 examine and count the same and make return  
25 thereof to the next legislature; and if it shall ap-  
26 pear that a majority of the votes cast and returned  
27 on the question is in favor of said amendment, the  
28 constitution shall be amended accordingly, and the  
29 amendment shall thus be a part of the constitution,  
30 and the governor shall make known the fact by his  
31 proclamation.

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

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, }  
March 4, 1880. }

Reported by Mr. INGALLS from Committee on Judiciary, and ordered printed under rule.

ORAMANDAL SMITH, *Clerk.*