

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sixty-Seventh Legislature.

SENATE.

No. 194.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLVES concerning an amendment to the constitution forbidding the appropriation or use of Public Moneys or Public Property for any sectarian or ecclesiastical purposes.

Resolved, That the following amendment to the constitution of this state be and hereby is proposed for the action of the legal voters of the state in the manner provided by the constitution, viz. :

‘No money or property of the state, and no money raised by taxation, by any town or city of this state, shall ever be appropriated or used, or authorized to be used, for the purpose of founding, maintaining or aiding, by appropriation, payment for services, expenses or otherwise, any church, religious denomination or religious society, or any

11 institution, society or undertaking, which is wholly or in
12 part under sectarian or ecclesiastical control. But this
13 shall not abrogate the action of any prior legislature.’

Resolved, That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of
15 towns, and the assessors of the several plantations of this
16 state are hereby empowered and directed to notify the
17 voters of their respective cities, towns and plantations in
18 the manner prescribed by law at the next biennial elec-
19 tion to be held in September in the year of our Lord, one
20 thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, to give in their
21 votes upon the amendment proposed in the foregoing
22 resolve; and the question shall be, shall the constitution
23 be amended as proposed by a resolve of the sixty-seventh
24 legislature of the state of Maine concerning an amend-
25 ment to the constitution forbidding the appropriation or
26 use of public moneys or public property for any sectarian
27 or ecclesiastical purposes; and the inhabitants of the said
28 cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said
29 question, those in favor of said amendment expressing it
30 by the word “yes” upon their ballots, and those opposed
31 to the amendment expressing it by the word “no” upon
32 their ballots, and the ballots shall be received, sorted,
33 counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation
34 meeting, and lists of the votes so received shall be made
35 and returned to the secretary of state in the same manner
36 as votes for governor, and the governor and council shall
37 count the same and make return to the legislature; and if

38 a majority of the votes are in favor of said amendment,
39 the constitution shall be amended accordingly.

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

MAJORITY REPORT.

The Committee on Judiciary to which was referred resolves concerning an amendment to the Constitution forbidding the appropriation or use of public moneys or public property for any sectarian or ecclesiastical purposes, have had the same under consideration, and the undersigned of said committee ask leave to report that the same ought not to pass.

SPOFFORD,
SAVAGE,
HAINES,
NOBLE,
PARSONS,
KEEGAN.

MINORITY REPORT.

The Committee on Judiciary to which was referred “Resolve concerning an amendment to the Constitution forbidding the appropriation or use of public moneys or public property for any sectarian or ecclesiastical purposes,” have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report that the same ought to pass.

HIGGINS,
LARRABEE,
KNOWLTON.

STATE OF MAINE.

IN SENATE, March 6, 1895.

Pending acceptance, laid on table to be printed, on motion by Mr. SPOFFORD of Hancock.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary.*