

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# Sixty-Eighth Legislature.

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SENATE.

No. 188.

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## STATE OF MAINE.

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RESOLVE concerning an amendment to the Constitution forbidding the use of Money raised by Taxation, for Sectarian or Ecclesiastical Purposes.

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*Resolved*, Two-thirds of both branches of the legislature  
2 concurring, that the constitution of this State be amended as  
3 follows: No money or property of the State, and no money  
4 raised by taxation, by any town or city of this State, shall  
5 ever be appropriated or used, or authorized to be used, for  
6 the purpose of founding, maintaining or aiding by appro-  
7 priation, payment for services, expenses or otherwise, any  
8 church, religious denomination or religious society, or any  
9 institution, society or undertaking, which is wholly or in  
10 part under sectarian or ecclesiastical control; but this shall  
11 not be construed to abrogate any appropriation heretofore  
12 made, or any existing provision of law.

*Resolved*, That the aldermen of cities, selectmen of towns, 14 and assessors of plantations in the State, are hereby 15 empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their 16 respective cities, towns and plantations, in the manner pre- 17 scribed by law, at the annual meeting in September, eight- 18 een hundred and ninety-eight, to give in their votes upon 19 the amendment proposed in the foregoing resolve; and the 20 question shall be, "Shall the constitution be so amended 21 as to forbid the use of money raised by taxation, for sec- 22 tarian or ecclesiastical purposes, proposed in said resolve;" 23 and the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations, 24 shall vote by ballot on said question; those in favor of said 25 amendment, voting "yes," and those opposed voting "no," 26 upon their ballots; and the ballots shall be received, sorted 27 and counted and declared in open ward, town and planta- 28 tion meeting, and fair lists of the votes shall be made out 29 by the aldermen of cities, selectmen of towns and assessors 30 of plantations, and signed by them, and attested by the clerk, 31 and returned to the office of secretary of State, in the same 32 manner as votes for representatives, and the governor and 33 council shall open and examine and count the same, and 34 make return thereof to the next legislature; and if shall 35 appear that a majority of the votes cast and returned on the 36 question is in favor of said amendment, the constitution 37 shall be amended accordingly, and the amendment shall 38 then be a part of the constitution, and the governor shall 39 make known the fact by his 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.

## REPORT "A."

The undersigned members of committee on judiciary, to which was referred resolve concerning an amendment to the constitution forbidding the use of money raised by taxation for sectarian or ecclesiastical purposes, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report that the same ought to pass.

SAVAGE,  
 DRUMMOND,  
 KNOWLTON,  
 HAMILTON,  
 SMITH.

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 REPORT "B."

The undersigned members of committee on judiciary, to which was referred resolve concerning an amendment to the constitution forbidding the use of money raised by taxation for sectarian or ecclesiastical purposes, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to report that the same ought not to pass.

STEARNS,  
 PHILBROOK,  
 WEEKS,  
 FOGLER.

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 STATE OF MAINE.
 

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IN SENATE, March 18, 1897.

Pending acceptance of either report, laid on table to be printed on motion by Mr. SAVAGE of Androscoggin.

KENDALL M. DUNBAR, *Secretary.*