

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

HOUSE

NO. 9

House of Representatives, Jan. 24, 1911.

Tabled for printing by Mr. Sleeper, pending reference to committee.

C. C. HARVEY, Clerk.

STATE OF MAINE

RESOLVE proposing an amendment to the Constitution of
Maine, conferring the right of suffrage on women.

Resolved, That the following amendment to the Constitu-
tion of this State be proposed for the action of the legal
voters of this State, in the method provided for by the Con-
stitution, to wit:

Section one of Article II is hereby amended by striking
out the word "male" in the first line of said section; by
striking out the words "his residence established" in the
fourth line of said section, and inserting in place thereof
the words 'an established residence'; by striking out the
word "his" in the seventh line of said section, and inserting
in place thereof the word 'said'; by inserting after the word
"him" in the thirteenth line of said section, the words 'or
her'; and by striking out in the sixteenth line of said section
the words "his residence by reason of his absence," and in-

15 serting in place thereof the words 'said residence by reason
16 of absence,' so that said section, as amended, shall read as
17 follows:

'Sect. 1. Every citizen of the United States of the age
19 of twenty-one years and upwards, excepting paupers, per-
20 sons under guardianship, and Indians not taxed, having an
21 established residence in this State for the term of three
22 months next preceding any election, shall be an elector for
23 governor, senators and representatives, in the town or plan-
24 tation where said residence is so established; and the elec-
25 tions shall be by written ballot. But persons in the military,
26 naval or marine service of the United States, or this State,
27 shall not be considered as having obtained such established
28 residence by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or
29 military place, in any town or plantation; nor shall the resi-
30 dence of a student at any seminary of learning entitle him
31 or her to the right of suffrage in the town or plantation
32 where such seminary is established. No person, however,
33 shall be deemed to have lost said residence by reason of
34 absence from the State in the military service of the United
35 States, or of this State.'

Resolved, That the aldermen of cities, selectmen of towns,
37 and assessors of plantations in this State, are hereby em-
38 powered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their re-
39 spective cities, towns, and plantations, in the manner pre-
40 scribed by law, at the September election next ensuing after
41 the passage and approval of these resolves, to give in their

42 votes on the question whether the amendment of the Con-
43 stitution proposed and the foregoing resolves shall be made;
44 and the question proposed in this resolve shall be, Shall
45 Section one of Article II of the Constitution of Maine be
46 amended by striking out the word "male" in the first line of
47 said section; by striking out the words "his residence estab-
48 lished" in the fourth line of said section, and inserting in
49 place thereof the words 'an established residence'; by strik-
50 ing out the word "his" in the seventh line of said section, and
51 inserting in place thereof the word 'said'; by inserting after
52 the word "him" in the thirteenth line of said section, the
53 words 'or her'; and by striking out in the sixteenth line of
54 said section the words "his residence by reason of his ab-
55 sence," and inserting in place thereof the words 'said resi-
56 dence by reason of absence,' so that said section, as amended,
57 shall read as follows:

'Sect. 1. Every citizen of the United States of the age of
59 twenty-one years and upwards, excepting paupers, persons
60 under guardianship, and Indians not taxed, having an estab-
61 lished residence in this State for the term of three months
62 next preceding any election, shall be an elector for governor,
63 senators and representatives, in the town or plantation where
64 said residence is so established; and the elections shall be
65 by written ballot. But persons in the military, naval or
66 marine service of the United States, or this State, shall not
67 be considered as having obtained such established residence
68 by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or military place,

69 in any town or plantation; nor shall the residence of a stu-
70 dent at any seminary of learning entitle him or her to the
71 right of suffrage in the town or plantation where such semi-
72 nary is established. No person, however, shall be deemed
73 to have lost said residence by reason of absence from the
74 State in the military service of the United States, or of this
75 State.'

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns, and plantations
77 shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of said
78 amendment expressing it by the word "yes" upon their bal-
79 lot, and those opposed to said amendment expressing it by
80 the word "no" upon their ballot, and the ballots shall be
81 received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town,
82 and plantation meetings. A list of the votes so received
83 shall be made, returned to the Secretary of State in the same
84 manner as votes for Governor, and the Governor and Coun-
85 cil shall count the same, and make return to the Legislature,
86 and if the majority of the votes are in favor of said amend-
87 ment, the Constitution shall be amended accordingly.

Resolved, That the Secretary of State shall prepare and
89 furnish for the several cities, towns and plantations, ballots
90 and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolves,
91 accompanied with the copy thereof.