

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEVENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

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SENATE

NO. 32

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*In Senate, Jan. 15, 1913.*

*Presented by Senator Hersey of Aroostook and on motion by same senator laid on the table for printing, pending reference to a committee.*

*W. E. LAWRY, Secretary.*

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STATE OF MAINE

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RESOLVE Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine Conferring the Right of Suffrage on Women.

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*Resolved,* That the following amendment to the constitu-  
2 tion of this State be proposed for the action of the legal  
3 voters of this State in the method provided for by the con-  
4 stitution, to wit:

Sect. 1 of Article 2 is hereby amended by striking out the  
6 word "male" in the first line of said section; by inserting  
7 after the word "his" in the third line of said section the  
8 words 'or her;'; by inserting after the word "elections" in  
9 the fourth line of said section the words 'except that a citi-  
10 zen by marriage only shall have been a resident of the Unit-  
11 ed States for five years'; by inserting after the word "his"

12 in the sixth line of said section the words 'or her'; by insert-  
13 ing after the word "him" in the eleventh line of said section  
14 the words 'or her'; by inserting after the word "his" and  
15 before the word "residence" in the thirteenth line of said  
16 section the words 'or her'; and by inserting after the last  
17 word of the thirteenth line and before the word "absence"  
18 in the fourteenth line of said section the words 'or her', so  
19 that said section as amended shall read as follows:

'Section I. Every citizen of the United States of the age  
21 of twenty-one years and upwards, excepting paupers, per-  
22 sons under guardianship, and Indians not taxed, having his  
23 or her residence established in this State for the term of  
24 three months next preceding any election, except that a cit-  
25 izen by marriage only shall have been a resident of the Unit-  
26 ed States for five years, shall be an elector for Governor,  
27 Senators and Representatives, in the town or plantation  
28 where his or her residence is so established; and the elec-  
29 tions shall be by written ballot. But persons in the mili-  
30 tary, naval or marine service of the United States, or this  
31 State, shall not be considered as having obtained such estab-  
32 lished residence by being stationed in any garrison, barrack  
33 or military place in any town or plantation; nor shall the  
34 residence of a student at any seminary of learning entitle  
35 him or her to the right of suffrage in the town or plantation  
36 where such seminary is established. No person, however,  
37 shall be deemed to have lost his or her residence by reason  
38 of his or her absence from the State in the military service

39 of the United States or of this State.’

*Resolved:* That the aldermen of cities, selectmen of  
41 towns, and assessors of plantations in this state are hereby  
42 empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their  
43 respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the man-  
44 ner prescribed by law for calling and holding biennial meet-  
45 ings of said inhabitants for the election of senators and rep-  
46 resentatives, on the second Monday in September following  
47 the passage of this resolve, to give in their votes on the ques-  
48 tion whether such amendments shall be made. And the  
49 question proposed in this resolve shall be: Shall Sect. 1  
50 of Article 2 of the Constitution of Maine be amended by  
51 striking out the word “male” in the first line of said section;  
52 by inserting after the word “his” in the third line of said  
53 section the words ‘or hers’; by inserting after the word  
54 “elections” in the fourth line of said section the words ‘ex-  
55 cept that a citizen by marriage only shall have been a resi-  
56 dent of the United States for five years’; by inserting af-  
57 ter the word “his” in the sixth line of said section the words  
58 ‘or her’; by inserting after the word “him” in the eleventh  
59 line of said section the words ‘or her’; by inserting after the  
60 word “his” and before the word “residence” in the thirteenth  
61 line of said section the words ‘or her’ and by inserting after  
62 the last word of the thirteenth line and before the word  
63 “absence” in the fourteenth line of said section the words  
64 ‘or her’, so that said section as amended shall read as fol-  
65 lows:

‘Section 1. Every citizen of the United States of the age  
67 of twenty-one years and upwards, excepting paupers, per-  
68 sons under guardianship, and Indians not taxed, having his  
69 or her residence established in this State for the term of  
70 three months next preceding any election, except that a cit-  
71 izen by marriage only shall have been a resident of the Unit-  
72 ed States for five years, shall be an elector for Governor,  
73 Senators and Representatives, in the town or plantation  
74 where his or her residence is so established; and the elec-  
75 tions shall be by written ballot. But persons in the military,  
76 naval or marine service of the United States, or this State,  
77 shall not be considered as having obtained such established  
78 residence by being stationed in any garrison, barrack or  
79 military place in any town or plantation; nor shall the resi-  
80 dence of a student at any seminary of learning entitle him  
81 or her to the right of suffrage in the town or plantation  
82 where such seminary is established. No person, however,  
83 shall be deemed to have lost his or her residence by reason  
84 of his or her absence from the State in the military service  
85 of the United States or of this State.

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations  
87 shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of said  
88 amendment expressing it by the word “Yes” upon their bal-  
89 lot, and those opposed to said amendment expressing it by  
90 the word “No” upon their ballot, and the ballots shall be  
91 received, sorted, counted, and declared in open ward, town  
92 and plantation meetings. A list of the votes so received

93 shall be made, and returned to the Secretary of State in the  
94 same manner as votes for Governor, and the Governor and  
95 Council shall count the same and if the majority of the  
96 votes are in favor of said amendment, the constitution shall  
97 be amended accordingly.'

*Resolved:* That the Secretary of State prepare and fur-  
99 nish for the several cities, towns and plantations ballots and  
100 blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolves  
101 accompanied with a copy thereof.