

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT

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EIGHTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

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HOUSE

NO. 233

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House of Representatives, March 1, 1923.

On motion of Mr. Wing of Auburn, five hundred copies ordered printed.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE  
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THREE

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RESOLVE, Amending the Constitution of the State of Maine so as to Limit Appropriations for Denominational, Sectarian, Parochial, or Religious Institutions and Purposes until December Thirty-first, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty, and so as to Prohibit Such Appropriations after December Thirty-first, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty.

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Resolved: Two-thirds of the legislature concurring, that  
2 the following amendment to the constitution of the state  
3 of Maine be proposed:

'Section 1. After December thirty-first, nineteen hundred  
2 and thirty, neither the legislature nor any branch of the  
3 state government, nor any subdivision of the state, political

4 or otherwise, shall appropriate any money for, lend credit,  
5 or contribute any property or thing of value to, any denom-  
6 inational, sectarian, parochial, or religious school, institution,  
7 association, corporation, cause or purpose.

‘Sect. 2. The legislature which shall meet during the  
2 years nineteen hundred and twenty-five and twenty-six  
3 shall appropriate no money to any denominational, sectarian,  
4 parochial, or religious institution or purpose for which an  
5 appropriation was not made by the legislature of nineteen  
6 hundred and twenty-one and twenty-two; and every such  
7 appropriation made by the legislature which shall meet in  
8 nineteen hundred and twenty-five and twenty-six shall in  
9 no particular instance exceed seventy-five per cent of the  
10 amount appropriated by the legislature of nineteen hundred  
11 and twenty-one and twenty-two.

‘Sect. 3. The legislature which shall meet during the  
2 years nineteen hundred and twenty-seven and twenty-eight  
3 shall appropriate no money to any denominational, sectarian,  
4 parochial, or religious institution or purpose for which an  
5 appropriation was not made by the legislature of nineteen  
6 hundred and twenty-one and twenty-two; and every such  
7 appropriation made by the legislature which shall meet in  
8 nineteen hundred and twenty-seven and twenty-eight shall  
9 in no particular instance exceed fifty per cent of the amount  
10 appropriated by the legislature of nineteen hundred and  
11 twenty-one and twenty-two.

'Sect. 4. The legislature which shall meet during the  
2 years nineteen hundred and twenty-nine and thirty shall  
3 appropriate no money to any denominational, sectarian,  
4 parochial, or religious institution or purpose for which an  
5 appropriation was not made by the legislature of nineteen  
6 hundred and twenty-one and twenty-two; and every such  
7 appropriation made by the legislature which shall meet in  
8 nineteen hundred and twenty-nine and thirty shall in no  
9 particular instance exceed twenty-five per cent of the  
10 amount appropriated by the legislature of nineteen hundred  
11 and twenty-one and twenty-two.'

That the aldermen of the cities, the selectmen of the  
2 towns and the assessors of the several plantations in this  
3 state are hereby empowered and directed to notify the in-  
4 habitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations  
5 to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and  
6 holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the elec-  
7 tion of senators and representatives on the second Monday  
8 in September in the year nineteen hundred and twenty-four  
9 to give in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the  
10 foregoing resolution, and the question shall be :

“Shall the Constitution be amended as proposed by a res-  
2 olution of the Eighty-first Legislature so as to limit the  
3 power of the legislatures of nineteen hundred and twenty-  
4 five and twenty-six, nineteen hundred and twenty-seven and  
5 twenty-eight, and nineteen hundred and twenty-nine and  
6 thirty, to appropriate any money for, lend credit, or con-

7 tribute any property or thing of value to, any denomina-  
8 tional, sectarian, parochial, or religious school, institution,  
9 association, corporation, cause or purpose, and so as to ab-  
10 rogate the power of the legislature and of political sub-  
11 divisions of the state to appropriate any money for, lend  
12 credit, or contribute any property or thing of value to, any  
13 denominational, sectarian, parochial, or religious school,  
14 institution, association, corporation, cause or purpose, after  
15 December thirty-first, nineteen hundred and thirty?"

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations  
2 shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of the  
3 amendment voting "Yes" upon their ballots, and those op-  
4 posed to the amendment voting "No" upon their ballots, and  
5 the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared  
6 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and return  
7 made to the office of the secretary of state in the same  
8 manner as votes for governor and members of the legisla-  
9 ture, and the governor and council shall count the same,  
10 and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants vot-  
11 ing on the question are in favor of the amendment, the  
12 governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his procla-  
13 mation and the amendment shall thereupon as of the date  
14 of the proclamation become a part of the Constitution.

That the secretary of state shall prepare and furnish to  
2 the several cities, towns and plantations ballots and blank  
3 returns in conformity with the foregoing resolve accompa-  
4 nied by a copy hereof.