

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**EIGHTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE**

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**SENATE**

**NO. 107**

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In Senate, Feb. 16, 1923.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and one thousand copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

L. ERNEST THORNTON, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Brewster of Cumberland.

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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, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
the State of Maine Authorizing the Conservation, Storage  
and Control of the Waters Within the State.

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Resolved: Two-thirds of the legislature concurring, that  
2 the following amendment to the constitution of this state  
3 be proposed for the action of the legal voters, to wit, by  
4 adding thereto the following article:

'The conservation, storage, and control by the state or by  
2 a duly authorized public district or districts thereof or  
3 other agency, public or private, of the waters within the  
4 state are paramount public uses and for the benefit of the  
5 people of the state; and the legislature may provide for the

6 same and may provide for the assessment or collection of  
7 a reasonable charge therefor upon the lands, property, and  
8 water-powers which shall or may be benefited thereby.'

FORM OF QUESTION AND DATE WHEN AMEND-  
MENT IS TO BE VOTED ON.

Resolved: that the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of  
2 towns, and the assessors of the several plantations in this  
3 state are hereby empowered and directed to notify the  
4 inhabitants 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 following the passage of this resolve, to give  
9 in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the fore-  
10 going resolution, and the question shall be: "Shall the  
11 constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the  
12 legislature authorizing the conservation, storage and con-  
13 trol of the waters within the state?"

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations  
2 shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of the  
3 amendment expressing it by the word "Yes" upon their  
4 ballots and those opposed to the amendment by the word  
5 "No" upon their ballots, and the ballots shall be received,  
6 sorted, counted, and declared in open ward, town and  
7 plantation meetings, and returns made to the office of the  
8 secretary of state in the same manner as votes for governor  
9 and members of the legislature, and the governor and coun-

10 cil shall count the same, and if it shall appear that a majority  
11 of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of the  
12 amendment, it shall thereupon become a part of the con-  
13 stitution, and the governor shall forthwith make known the  
14 fact by his proclamation.

BALLOTS TO BE PREPARED BY SECRETARY OF  
STATE.

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