

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

S. P. No. 10

S. D. No. 9

In Senate, Jan. 21, 1925.

Taken from the table by Mr. Barwise of Penobscot and referred to the Committee on Education and 5000 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Barwise of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

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

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution
Prohibiting the Use of Public Funds for Sectarian Schools.

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

Section 1. All moneys raised by taxation in the towns and
2 cities for the support of public schools, and all moneys
3 which may be appropriated by the state for the support of
4 common schools shall be applied to, and expended in, no
5 other schools than those which are conducted according to

6 law, under the order and superintendence of the authorities
7 of the town or city in which the money is expended; and no
8 grant, appropriation or use of public money or property or
9 loan of public credit shall be made or authorized by the
10 state or any political division thereof for the purpose of
11 founding, maintaining or aiding any school or institution
12 of learning, whether under public control or otherwise,
13 wherein any denominational doctrine is inculcated; and no
14 such grant, appropriation or use of public money or property
15 or loan of public credit shall be made or authorized for the
16 purpose of founding, maintaining or aiding any church,
17 religious denomination or society.

Sect. 2. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to
2 deprive any inmate of a publicly controlled reformatory,
3 penal or charitable institution of the opportunity of religious
4 exercises therein of his own faith; but no inmate of such
5 institution shall be compelled to attend religious instruction
6 against his own will, or, if a minor, without the consent of
7 his parent or guardian.

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 in-
4 habitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations in
5 the manner prescribed by law, to give in their votes at the
6 next regular biennial election in the month of September
7 upon the amendment proposed in the foregoing resolution,

8 and the question shall be: "Shall the constitution be amend-
9 ed as proposed by a resolution of the legislature prohibiting
10 the use of public funds for sectarian schools?"

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.