

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

S. P. No. 305

S. D. No. 114

In Senate, Feb. 20, 1925.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Speirs of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

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

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution,
Providing Authority to the Legislature to Require Compulsory Voting.

Resolved: Two-thirds of the legislature concurring the following amendment to the constitution of the state be proposed:

The legislature shall have authority to provide for compulsory voting at primary and general elections, but the right of secret voting shall be preserved.

Resolved: That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns, and the assessors of the several plantations in this state are hereby empowered and directed to notify the 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 in the year nineteen hundred twenty-six, to
9 give in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the
10 foregoing resolution, and the question shall be: "Shall the
11 constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the
12 legislature granting to the legislature authority to provide
13 for compulsory voting at primary and general elections?"

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 plan-
7 tation meetings, and returns made to the office of secretary
8 of state in the same manner as votes for governor and
9 members of the legislature, and the governor and council
10 shall count the same, and if it shall appear that a majority
11 of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of
12 the amendment, the same shall thereupon become a part of
13 the constitution, and the governor shall forthwith make
14 known the fact by his proclamation.

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.