MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib

NINETY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document   No. 342

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for Lowering the Voting Age.

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

Article II, § 1, constitution, amended. Section 1 of Article II of the
constitution, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'**Sec. 1. Lowering of voting age.** Every citizen of the United States
of the age of 2+ 18 years and upwards, excepting paupers, persons under
guardianship, and Indians not taxed, having his or her residence estab-
lished in this state for the term of 6 months next preceding any election,
shall be an elector for governor, senators and representatives, in the city,
town or plantation where his or her residence has been established for
the term of 3 months next preceding such election and he or she shall
continue to be an elector in such city, town or plantation for the period
of 3 months after his or her removal therefrom, if he or she continues
to reside in this state during such period; and the elections shall be by
written ballot. But persons in the military, naval or marine service of
the United States, or this state, shall not be considered as having obtained
such established residence by being stationed in any garrison, barrack,

or military place, in any city, town or plantation; nor shall the residence of a student at any seminary of learning entitle him to the right of suff-rage in the city, town or plantation where such seminary is established. No person, however, shall be deemed to have lost his **or her** residence by reason of his **or her** absence from the state in the military service of the United States or of this state.'

Form of question and date when amendment shall be voted upon. Re-solved: That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the as-sessors of the several plantations of this state, are hereby empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and hold-ing biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of senators and representatives at the next general or special state-wide election, to give in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall be: "Shall the constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the legislature to lower the voting age from 21 to 18 years?" And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of the amendment voting "Yes" upon their ballots and those opposed voting "No" upon their bal-lots, and the ballots shall be received, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the office of the secre-tary of state in the same manner as votes for governor and members of the legislature, and the governor and council shall count the same, and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of the amendment, the governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation, and the amendment shall thereupon as of the date of said proclamation become a part of the constitution.

Secretary of state shall prepare ballots. Resolved: That the secretary of state shall prepare and furnish to the several cities, towns and planta-tions, ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolve accompanied by a copy thereof.