

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - SECOND LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 832

S. P. 319

In Senate, February 14, 1945.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary in concurrence. Ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Dow of Oxford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-FIVE

**RESOLVE, Proposing a Constitutional Amendment to Increase the
Tenure of Sheriffs to Four Years.**

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

Article IX, § 10, constitution, amended. The 1st paragraph of section 10 of Article IX of the constitution, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

‘Sheriffs shall be elected by the people of their respective counties, by a plurality of the votes given in on the second Monday of September, and shall hold their office for ~~two~~ **four** years from the first day of January next after their election. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as is provided in the case of judges and registers of probate.’

Form of question and date when amendment shall be voted upon. Resolved: That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the assessors of the several plantations of this state, are hereby empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, town and plantations to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of senators and representatives, at the next general or special state-wide election held on a 2nd

Monday in September, to give in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the foregoing part of this resolve, and the question shall be:

“Shall the Constitution be amended as proposed by a resolve of the legislature, increasing the tenure of sheriff to four years?”

And the legal voters 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 to the amendment voting “No” and the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings, and return made to the office of the secretary 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 legal voters 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 plantations ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolve accompanied by a copy thereof.