

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - T H I R D L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 986

H. P. 1395

House of Representatives, February 19, 1947

Transmitted by revisor of statutes pursuant to joint order.

On motion of Mr. Woodworth of Fairfield tabled pending reference, and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Woodworth of Fairfield.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-SEVEN

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Providing for a Limitation on the Power to Assess Taxes Upon Real and Personal Estate.

Constitutional amendment. Resolved: Two-thirds of each branch of the legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the constitution of this state is hereby proposed:

Constitution, Art. IX, § 8, amended. Section 8 of Article IX of the constitution of Maine, as amended by Article XXXVI, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 8. All taxes upon real and personal estate, assessed by authority of this state, shall be apportioned and assessed equally, according to the just value thereof; but the legislature shall have power to levy a tax upon intangible personal property at such rate as it deems wise and equitable without regard to the rate applied to other classes of property. **Provided, however, that such taxes upon real and personal estate, exclusive of such tax as may be levied upon intangible personal property, shall not be assessed at a greater rate than 45 mills on the dollar of the valuation thereof, and such valuation, when made by local assessors shall not ex-**

ceed the valuation placed thereon by the state tax assessor; and the total amount of the levy on real estate and tangible personal property shall be levied by municipalities solely for municipal uses.'

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, towns 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, 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 providing for a limitation on the power to assess taxes upon real and personal estate?" 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 to the amendment voting "No" upon their ballots, and the ballots shall be received, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns 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 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 plantations, ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolve accompanied by a copy thereof.