

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 995**

H. P. 1642

House of Representatives, February 23, 1949

Referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Chapman of Portland by request.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-NINE

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**AN ACT Amending the Charter of the City of Portland re Election of  
Members to City Council.**

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Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

**Sec. 1. P. & S. L., 1923, c. 109, Art. II, § 2, amended.** The 1st paragraph of section 2 of Article II of chapter 109 of the private and special laws of 1923, as repealed and replaced by section 3 of chapter 113 of the private and special laws of 1945, is hereby amended to read as follows:

‘The city council shall be composed of 9 members, ~~each~~ 3 of whom shall be elected **at large** by **and from** the registered voters of the entire city ~~Three shall be elected at large from the registered voters of the entire city~~ and one shall be elected **by and from the registered voters** of each of the 6 districts provided for in section 1 of Article II ~~from the registered voters of each district~~. Each member shall be elected for a term of 3 years and until his successor is elected and qualified. ~~except as hereinafter provided in this section. At the 1st election of members of the city council held after the adoption of this amendment, 9 members shall be elected; 3 members shall be elected at large, the member elect who shall receive the largest number of votes cast shall hold office for 3 years, the member elect who shall receive the 2nd largest number of votes cast~~

shall hold office for 2 years and the member elect who shall receive the 3rd largest number of votes cast shall hold office for 1 year, and each shall hold office until his successor is elected and qualified; and 6 members shall be elected, one from each district, the 2 members elect who shall receive the largest number of votes cast shall hold office for 3 years, the 2 members elect who shall receive the 2nd largest number of votes cast shall hold office for 2 years and the 2 members elect who shall receive the 3rd largest number of votes cast shall hold office for 1 year, and each shall hold office until his successor is elected and qualified.'

**Sec. 2. Referendum.** This act shall take effect 90 days after the adjournment of this legislature only for the purpose of permitting its submission to the legal voters of the city of Portland at a special city election to be held on the 2nd Monday of September, 1949, in the manner now provided by law for the holding of municipal elections. For the purposes of such election, the city clerk shall reduce the subject matter of this act to the following question: "Shall 'An Act Amending the Charter of the City of Portland re Election of Members to City Council' passed by the 94th legislature be approved?" and the voters shall indicate by a cross or a check mark, placed within a square upon their ballots, over the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same. The provisions of this act shall not affect the present tenure of office of any member of the council and shall apply only to elections held after the effective date hereof. The result of the vote shall be declared by the municipal officers and certificate thereof filed by the city clerk with the secretary of state.