

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 874

S. P. 359

In Senate, February 22, 1951

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

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Boucher of Androscoggin.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-ONE

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Elect Secretary of State, Treasurer of State and Attorney General by the People.

Constitutional amendment. Resolve: Two-thirds of each branch of the legislature concurring, that the following amendments to the constitution of this state be proposed:

Constitution, Art. V, part third, § 1, repealed and replaced. Section 1 of part third of article V of the constitution, as amended by article XXIII, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 1. The secretary of state shall be elected by the qualified electors and shall hold office for 2 years from the 1st Wednesday in January next following the election.'

Constitution, Art. V, part fourth, § 1, repealed and replaced. Section 1 of part fourth of article V of the constitution, as amended by articles XXIII and XXVII, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 1. The treasurer of state shall be elected by the qualified electors

and shall hold office for 2 years from the 1st Wednesday in January next following the election.'

Constitution, Art. IX, § 11, repealed and replaced. Section 11 of article IX of the constitution, as amended by article XXIII, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 11. The attorney-general shall be elected by the qualified electors and shall hold office for 2 years from the 1st Wednesday in January next following the election. Vacancy in said office may be filled by the appointment of the governor with the advice and consent of the council.'

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 to elect secretary of state, and attorney-general by the people?"

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, sorted, 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.