

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1070**

S. P. 456

In Senate, March 2, 1951.

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

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Noyes of Hancock.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-ONE

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**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Amend the  
Initiative Referendum Provision.**

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

**Constitution, Art. IV, Part Third, § 18, amended.** The 1st sentence of section 18 of article IV, part third, which became a part of the constitution by the adoption of article XXXI, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

‘The electors may propose to the legislature for its consideration any bill, resolve or resolution, including bills to amend or repeal emergency legislation but not an amendment of the state constitution **or a bill which produces state revenue through taxation**, by written petition addressed to the legislature or to either branch thereof and filed in the office of the secretary of state or presented to either branch of the legislature within 45 days after the date of convening of the legislature in regular session.’

**Form of question and date when amendment shall be voted upon. Re-**

**solved:** 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 amend the initiative referendum provision?”

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.