MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1258

S. P. 529

In Senate, April 4, 1951.

Reported by Senator Barnes of Aroostook from Committee on Judiciary pending acceptance of report and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE

MEMORIAL TO CONGRESS

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled:

Joint Resolution Regarding a Constitutional Convention of the United States or Amendments to the Constitution of the United States Relating to Strengthening the United Nations.

Whereas, the following joint resolution was passed by the Senate and House of Representatives at the 94th State of Maine Legislature, to Wit:

"Resolved, by the Senate and House of the State of Maine, that Application is hereby made to the Congress of the United States, pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States, to give serious consideration to the calling of a convention for the sole purpose of proposing amendments to the Constitution which are appropriate to authorize the United States to negotiate with other nations, subject to later ratification, a constitution of a world federal government, open to all nations, with limited powers adequate to assure peace, or amendments to the constitution which are appropriate to ratify any world constitution which is presented to the United States by the United Nations, by a world constitutional convention or otherwise;" and

Whereas, the above mentioned joint resolution is not an application for the calling of a Convention under Article V of the Constitution of the United States, but, on the contrary, is simply an application to the Congress of the United States that they give serious consideration to the exercise of their own prerogatives over the subject matter; and

Whereas, the above mentioned joint resolution has been misinterpreted and misunderstood by various individuals, and various groups of individuals; and

Whereas, the above mentioned joint resolution expressed the sentiments of the 94th State of Maine Legislature which is no longer in existence; and

Whereas, the 95th State of Maine Legislature deems it its duty to clarify the situation in respect to the subject matter; now, therefore, be it

Resolved: by the Senate and House of Representatives of the 95th State of Maine Legislature, as follows:

The Maine State Legislature approves giving the United Nations such limited governmental police and inspection powers as are necessary to control armaments and punish aggression.

It does not approve making the United Nations a strong central governernment with extensive powers which might in the beginning or through any subsequent development threaten the individual freedom of Americans or the domestic, political, economic, social or religious institutions of the United States; and be it further

Resolved: That a copy of this Resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be immediately transmitted by the Secretary of State, by registered mail, to the proper officers and committees of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, the President of the United States and to each of the Representatives and Senators representing the State of Maine in the United States Congress.