

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 478**

H. P. 432

House of Representatives, February 3, 1955

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Malenfant of Lewiston.

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**STATE OF MAINE**

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FIFTY-FIVE

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**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Change the Qualifications of Citizenship of the Governor.**

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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. V, Part First, Section 4, amended.** Section 4 of Part First of Article V of the Constitution is hereby amended to read as follows:

**'Section 4. Qualifications.** The governor shall, at the commencement of his term, be not less than thirty years of age; a ~~natural born~~ citizen of the United States, have been five years a resident of the state; and at the time of his election and during the term for which he is elected, be a resident of said state.'

**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 change the qualifications of citizenship of the Governor?"

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.