

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

Transmitted by Director of Legislative Research pursuant to joint order.

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

Legislative Document

No. 925

H. P. 834

House of Representatives, February 23, 1955

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Earles of South Portland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-FIVE

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Changing the Tenure of Office of Sheriffs to Four-Year Terms.

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, Article IX, Section 10, amended. The 1st paragraph of Section 10 of Article IX of the Constitution is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sheriffs shall be elected by the people of their respective counties, by a plurality of the votes given in on the second Monday of September, and shall hold their offices for ~~two~~ **four** years from the first day of January next after their election, unless sooner removed as hereinafter provided.'

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 changing the tenure of office of sheriffs to four-year terms?"

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.