

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1139

H. P. 991

House of Representatives, March 2, 1955

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Stilphen of Rockland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-FIVE

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Providing for Two Senators from Counties with Less Than Sixty Thousand Inhabitants.

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 IV, Part Second, Section 1, amended. The 1st sentence of Section 1 of Part Second of Article IV of the Constitution is hereby amended to read as follows:

'The senate shall consist of the members to which the several counties are entitled, on the following basis of representation according to the Federal Census: each county having a population of ~~thirty thousand inhabitants or less shall have one senator; each county having a population of more than thirty thousand inhabitants and less than sixty thousand inhabitants shall have two senators; each county having a population of more than sixty thousand inhabitants and less than one hundred and twenty thousand inhabitants shall have three senators; each county having a population of more than one hundred twenty thousand and less than two hundred forty thousand inhabitants shall have four senators; and each county having a population of more than two hundred forty thousand inhabitants shall have five senators.~~

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 Providing for Two Senators from Counties with Less Than Sixty Thousand Inhabitants?”

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.