

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# NINETY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1548

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S. P. 580

In Senate, May 12, 1955.

Received by unanimous consent. Under suspension of rules, read twice and passed to be engrossed without reference to a committee. Ordered sent forthwith to the House.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Reid of Kennebec.

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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 Clarify Voting by Persons in Military Service.**

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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. IX, Section 12, repealed.** Section 12 of Article IX of the Constitution is hereby repealed as follows:

~~'Section 12. Voting by persons in military service for county officers. But citizens of this state, absent therefrom in the military service of the United States, or of this state, and not in the regular army of the United States, being otherwise qualified electors, shall be allowed to vote for judges and registers of probate, sheriffs, and all other county officers, on the second Monday in September biennially forever. And the votes shall be given at the same time and in the same manner, and the names of the several candidates shall be printed or written on the same ballots with those for governor, senators, and representatives, as provided in section four of article second of this constitution.'~~

**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 a special state-wide

election to be held on September 12, 1955, 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 clarify voting by persons in military service?”

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.