MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY-EIGHTH   LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document   No. 1535

S. P. 548   In Senate, April 26, 1957.
   Reported by 6 members of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and
printed under Joint Rules No. 10.
                              CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-SEVEN

**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for
Election of Members of the Executive Council.**

   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 V, Part Second, Section 2, repealed and replaced. Section
2 of Part Second of Article V of the Constitution is hereby repealed and the
following enacted in place thereof:

   'Section 2   Each Councillor shall be elected by the qualified electors of his
district and shall be a resident of the county entitled to such Councillor. He shall
hold office two years from the first Wednesday of January next succeeding his
election; and vacancies, which shall afterward happen, shall be filled in the fol-
lowing manner: The Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council,
shall appoint within thirty days from said vacancy a Councillor resident in the
same county of said district in which the vacancy occurred, and the oath of
office shall be administered by the Governor; said Councillor shall hold office
for the remainder of the unexpired term; but not more than one Councillor shall
be elected or appointed from any district prescribed for the election of Senators;
they shall be priviledged from arrest in the same manner as Senators and Repre-
sentatives.'

   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 Section 2, part second of Article 5 of the Constitution, which now provides that the Councillors shall be chosen biennially, on the first Wednesday of January, by joint ballot of the Senators and Representatives in convention be **amended so as to read** "each Councillor shall be elected by the qualified electors of his district and shall be a resident of the county entitled to such Councillor. He shall hold office two years from the first Wednesday next succeeding his election;

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 and declared 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.