

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES

OF THE

FIFTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE.

1877.

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of June 28, 1820,  
February 28, 1840, and March 16, 1842.

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AUGUSTA :

SPRAGUE, OWEN & NASH, PRINTERS TO THE STATE.

1877.

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RESOLVES

OF THE

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and for postage, the sum of three hundred and eighty-one CHAP. 290  
dollars and eighty-two cents.

Approved February 9, 1877.

### Chapter 290.

Resolve in favor of an Assistant in the State Library.

*Resolved*, That the sum of two hundred dollars be and hereby is appropriated to pay an assistant in the state library for one year from date of passage of this resolve.

Assistant in the state library, in favor of.

Approved February 9, 1877.

### Chapter 291.

Resolve in favor of the Secretary of State.

*Resolved*, That the sum of two hundred and fifty dollars be, and hereby is appropriated as a contingent fund, for the use of the secretary of state.

Secretary of state, contingent fund for the use of.

Approved February 9, 1877.

### Chapter 292.

Resolves providing for certain amendments to the Constitution of the State of Maine.

*Resolved*, Two-thirds of both houses of the legislature concurring, that the following be proposed as amendments to the constitution of the State of Maine, to wit :

Amendments to the constitution.

Electors.

No person shall vote at any election in this state, unless he has paid a poll tax within two years preceding the election in which he proposes to vote, provided said tax has been legally assessed upon him.

Electors.

Municipal Indebtedness.

No city or town shall hereafter create any debt or liability, which, singly, or in the aggregate with previous debts or liabilities, shall exceed five per centum of the last regular valuation of said city or town; *provided, however*, that the

Municipal indebtedness.

## CHAP. 292

adoption of this article shall not be construed as applying to any fund received in trust by said city or town, nor to any loan for the purpose of renewing existing loans, or for war or to temporary loans to be paid out of money raised by taxation during the year in which they are made.

Proposed amendment to be submitted to a vote of the people.

*Resolved*, That the aldermen of the several cities, and selectmen of the several towns, and the assessors of the several plantations, in the state, are hereby empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations, in the manner prescribed by law, at the annual meeting in the month of September next, to give in their votes upon the questions whether the amendments proposed in the foregoing resolve, to the constitution of the state, shall be made; and the questions submitted to said inhabitants shall be as follows, to wit:

Form of question.

Shall the constitution of the State of Maine be amended, as proposed by resolves of the legislature, approved on the ninth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven, to wit: (Here insert all the above named proposed amendments, *seriatim et verbatim*.)

Ballots, how received.

*Resolved*, That the aldermen of the several cities, the selectmen of the several towns, and the assessors of the several plantations, in this state, at the general election to be held in this state on the second Monday of September next, shall provide, at each poll in the state, a separate box to receive the ballots of the electors in relation to said amendments; and each elector may present a ballot on which shall be printed or written, or partly printed and partly written, in the form following, namely: For all the propositions on this ballot which are not cancelled with ink or pencil, and against all which are so cancelled. For the proposed amendment in relation to

—form of.

#### Electors.

For the proposed amendment in relation to  
Municipal Indebtedness.

—how counted.

Each of said ballots shall be counted as a vote for each proposition thereon not cancelled with ink or pencil, and against each proposition so cancelled. And the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted, declared and recorded in open ward, town and plantation meeting, and lists of the votes shall be made by the aldermen, selectmen, assessors and clerks of the several cities, towns, wards and plantations, and

Votes, how returned.

returned to the office of the secretary of state, in the same manner as votes for governor. And the governor and council shall count the same, and make return thereof to the next legislature, and if a majority of the votes are in favor of any of said amendments, such amendments shall be declared by proclamation of the governor to be adopted, and the constitution shall be so amended, to take effect on the first Wednesday of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight.

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How counted and declared.

Amendments, when to take effect.

*Resolved*, That the secretary of state shall cause printed ballots to be prepared, in the form hereinbefore prescribed; and said ballots, and also proper blanks for the return of the votes, shall be furnished to the aldermen of the several cities, the selectmen of the several towns, and the assessors of the several plantations in this state, at the same time and in the same manner as blank returns for the votes for governor, and shall be kept at every poll during the time of voting, in sufficient quantities for the use of the electors; and one of said printed ballots shall be posted up with every warrant for calling the meeting for said general election, in every place where such warrant is required to be posted up.

Secretary of state to provide ballots and blanks.

Printed ballots to be posted with warrant.

*Resolved*, That the secretary of state be directed to seasonably prepare and furnish to the municipal officers of the several cities, towns and plantations in the state, blank warrants, in due form, for the calling the next annual meeting in the month of September next, containing proper articles for the election of all officers required by law to be voted for, and also proper articles setting forth the proposed amendments to the constitution of the state, as named in the first resolve.

Secretary of state to provide blank warrants.

*Resolved*, That the secretary of state shall publish these resolves, in the same manner and at the same time that the public acts of the legislature are required to be published.

Resolves, publication of.

Approved February 9, 1877.