

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED BY THE  
  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**  
January 8, 1986 to April 16, 1986

**SECOND SPECIAL SESSION**  
May 28, 1986 to May 30, 1986

AND AT THE

**THIRD SPECIAL SESSION**  
October 17, 1986

PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF REVISOR OF STATUTES IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,  
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

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J.S. McCarthy Co., Inc.  
Augusta, Maine

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**CONSTITUTIONAL  
RESOLUTIONS**

OF THE

**STATE OF MAINE**

AS PASSED AT THE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

1985

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## CHAPTER 3

H.P. 1599 - L.D. 2252

RESOLUTION, Proposing Amendments  
to the Constitution of Maine  
to Change the Reapportionment Procedures to  
Reflect Changes in Legislative Procedures and  
to Specify how the Reapportionment Commission  
Should Operate.

Constitutional amendment. RESOLVED: Two thirds of each branch of the Legislature concurring, that the following amendments to the Constitution of Maine be proposed:

Constitution, Article IV, Pt. 1, §2 is amended to read:

Section 2. Number of Representatives; biennial terms; division of the State into districts for House of Representatives. The House of Representatives shall consist of 151 members, to be elected by the qualified electors, and hold their office 2 years from the day next preceding the first Wednesday in December following the general election. The Legislature which convenes in 1983 and every 10th year thereafter shall cause the State to be divided into districts for the choice of one Representative for each district. The number of Representatives shall be divided into the number of inhabitants of the State exclusive of foreigners not naturalized according to the latest Federal Decennial Census or a State Census previously ordered by the Legislature to coincide with the Federal Decennial Census, to determine a median mean population figure for each Representative District. Each Representative District shall be formed of contiguous and compact territory and shall cross political subdivision lines the least number of times necessary to establish as nearly as practicable equally populated districts. Whenever the population of a municipality entitles it to more than one district, all whole districts shall be drawn within municipal boundaries. Any population remainder within the municipality shall be included in a district drawn to cross the municipal boundary, provided that such population remainder of the municipality must be contiguous to another municipality or municipalities included in the district with contiguous territory and shall be kept intact.

Constitution, Article IV, Pt. 1, §3, first ¶ is amended to read:

Section 3. The apportionment plan of the commission established under Article IV, Part Third, Section 1-A shall be submitted to the Clerk of the House no later than 90 120 calendar days after the convening of the Legislature in which apportionment is required. In the preparation of legislation implementing the plan, the commission, following a unanimous decision by commission members, may adjust errors and inconsistencies in accordance with the standards set forth in this Constitution, so long as substantive changes are not made. The Legislature shall enact the submitted plan of the commission or a plan of its own by a vote of two thirds of the Members of each House within 30 calendar days after the plan of the commission is submitted. Such action shall be subject to the Governor's approval as provided in Article IV, Part Third, Section 2.

Constitution, Article IV, Pt. 2, §2, 2nd ¶ is amended to read:

The apportionment plan of the commission established under Article IV, Part Third, Section 1-A shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Senate no later than 90 120 calendar days after the convening of the Legislature in which apportionment is required. In the preparation of legislation implementing the plan, the commission, following a unanimous decision by commission members, may adjust errors and inconsistencies in accordance with the standards set forth in this Constitution, so long as substantive changes are not made. The Legislature shall enact the submitted plan of the commission or a plan of its own by a vote of two thirds of the Members of each House, within 30 calendar days after the plan of the commission is submitted. Such action shall be subject to the Governor's approval as provided in Article IV, Part Third, Section 2.

Constitution, Article IV, Pt. 3, §1-A, 2nd ¶, 3rd sentence is amended to read:

No action ~~shall~~ may be taken without a quorum of 7 8 being present.

Constitution, Article IV, Pt. 3, §1-A, 3rd ¶ is amended to read:

Public members of the commission shall receive compensation, as provided the same rate of per diem that is paid to Legislators for every day's attend-

ance at special sessions of the Legislature as defined by law. All members of the commission shall be reimbursed for actual travel expenses incurred in carrying out the business of the commission. The Legislature which is required to apportion shall appropriate sufficient funds to compensate public members, to provide staff assistance to the commission, to provide travel expenses for all members and to provide for incidental expenses of the commission as needed to carry out its duties under this Constitution establish a budget for the apportioning commission within the state budget document in the fiscal year previous to the fiscal year during which the apportioning commission is required to convene and shall appropriate sufficient funds for the commission to satisfactorily perform its duties and responsibilities. The budget shall include sufficient funds to compensate the chairman of the commission and his staff. The remainder of the appropriation shall be made available equally among the political parties represented on the commission to provide travel expenses, incidental expenses and compensation for commission members and for partisan staff and operations.

Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective date. Resolved: That the city aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, at the next general election in the month of November following the passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendments proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

"Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended to improve the efficiency of the apportioning commission and to specify how the commission should operate?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal voters are in favor of the amendments, the Governor

shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendments shall become part of the Constitution on the date of the proclamation.

Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved: That the Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this resolution necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

Effective pending referendum.

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