



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1178

H.P. 856

House of Representatives, March 22, 2021

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Prohibit the Consideration of a People's Veto at a
Presidential Primary**

Received by the Clerk of the House on March 18, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative COREY of Windham.
Cosponsored by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland and
Representatives: CONNOR of Lewiston, LIBBY of Auburn, WADSWORTH of Hiram,
WARREN of Hallowell, WHITE of Waterville, Senators: CHIPMAN of Cumberland,
LUCHINI of Hancock, ROSEN of Hancock.

1 **Constitutional amendment. Resolved:** Two thirds of each branch of the
2 Legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the Constitution of Maine be
3 proposed:

4 **Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. Third, §17, sub-§3** is amended to read:

5 **3. Referral to electors; proclamation by Governor.** As soon as it appears that
6 the effect of any Act, bill, resolve, or resolution or part or parts thereof has been suspended
7 by petition in manner aforesaid, the Governor by public proclamation shall give notice
8 thereof and of the time when such measure is to be voted on by the people, which shall be
9 at the next statewide or general election, whichever comes first, not less than 60 days after
10 such proclamation except that such measure may not be voted on at a presidential primary
11 election. If the Governor fails to order such measure to be submitted to the people at the
12 next statewide or general election except for a presidential primary election, the Secretary
13 of State shall, by proclamation, order such measure to be submitted to the people at such
14 an election and such order shall be sufficient to enable the people to vote.

15 **Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective date.**

16 **Resolved:** That the municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their
17 respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding
18 a statewide election, at a statewide election held in the month of November following the
19 passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment proposed in this
20 resolution by voting upon the following question:

21 "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to prohibit the
22 consideration of a people's veto at a presidential primary election?"

23 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question
24 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square
25 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared
26 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in
27 the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the
28 returns. If it appears that a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of the amendment,
29 the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment becomes part of
30 the Constitution of Maine on the date of the proclamation.

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

34 SUMMARY

35 This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit the consideration of a
36 people's veto at a presidential primary election.