



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 715

H.P. 506

House of Representatives, February 28, 2017

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Amend the Citizen Initiative Process**

Reference to the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative CRAIG of Brewer.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, FOLEY of Wells, HERRICK of Paris, JOHANSEN of Monticello, KINNEY of Knox, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, TUELL of East Machias, Senator: WHITTEMORE of Somerset.

1 State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall
2 review the returns. If it appears that a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of the
3 amendment, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment
4 becomes part of the Constitution of Maine on the date of the proclamation; and be it
5 further

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

9 **SUMMARY**

10 This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that a direct
11 initiative petition contain signatures of at least 15% of the registered voters in each
12 county. The Constitution of Maine currently requires a petition to contain a number of
13 signatures equal to at least 10% of the total vote for Governor cast in the last
14 gubernatorial election.

15 This resolution requires the Secretary of State to hold at least one public debate on
16 the measure proposed in the petition in each senatorial district at which the full text of the
17 measure and any amended form, substitute or recommendation of the Legislature must be
18 read aloud in its entirety.