**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Amending the Pardon Powers of the Governor**

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

**Constitution, Art. V, Pt. First, §11** is amended to read:

**Section 11. Power to pardon and remit penalties, etc.; conditions.** The Governor shall have power after advice from a body created by law and after public notice to remit after conviction all forfeitures and penalties, and to grant reprieves, commutations and pardons, except in cases of impeachment, ~~upon~~ and except during the last 6 months of each 4-year term of office of the Governor, during which time no reprieves, commutations or pardons may be granted. The Governor may impose such conditions, ~~and with such~~ restrictions and limitations as may be deemed proper, subject to such regulations as may be provided by law, relative to the manner of applying for pardons. Such power to grant reprieves, commutations and pardons shall include offenses of juvenile delinquency.

**Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective date.** **Resolved:** That the municipal officers 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 a statewide election held in the month of November following the passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment proposed in this resolution by voting upon the following question:

"Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to require the Governor to receive advice from a body created by law and give public notice before granting a pardon, reprieve or commutation and to prohibit the Governor from granting a pardon, reprieve or commutation during the last 6 months of each 4-year term of office of the Governor?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within the corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must 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. If it appears that a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of the amendment, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment becomes part of the Constitution of Maine 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.

**SUMMARY**

This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment to require the Governor to receive advice from a body created by law and give public notice before granting a pardon, reprieve or commutation and to prohibit the Governor from granting a pardon, reprieve or commutation during the last 6 months of each 4-year term of office of the Governor.