



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1221

H.P. 796

House of Representatives, March 20, 2025

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine to Prohibit the Legislature from Using Paid Family and
Medical Leave Program Funds for Any Other Purpose**

Reference to the Committee on Labor suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative DRINKWATER of Milford.
Cosponsored by Senator BRADSTREET of Kennebec and
Representatives: DAIGLE of Fort Kent, DUCHARME of Madison, GRIFFIN of Levant,
LEMELIN of Chelsea, MORRIS of Turner, SOBOLESKI of Phillips.

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. IX, §26** is enacted to read:

5 **Section 26. Limitation on expenditure of paid family and medical leave**
6 **benefits program revenues.** All revenues derived from taxes, fees, premiums, fines
7 and penalties relating to a paid family and medical leave benefits program and any other
8 money received from any source, including grants, gifts, bequests or money specifically
9 designated to benefit such a program, together with the interest and earnings on such
10 revenues and other money, must be expended solely for the cost of program benefits and
11 administration and may not be encumbered for, or diverted to, other purposes.

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

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

18 "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to provide that all
19 revenues relating to a paid family and medical leave benefits program must
20 be expended solely for the cost of program benefits and administration and
21 may not be used for other purposes?"

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

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

33 SUMMARY

34 This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to provide that all
35 revenues relating to a paid family and medical leave benefits program must be expended
36 solely for the cost of program benefits and administration and may not be encumbered for,
37 or diverted to, other purposes.