



# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 1553

H.P. 1011

House of Representatives, April 10, 2025

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine to Require a Supermajority of the Legislature to Approve  
Raising Taxes**

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Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative HENDERSON of Rumford.  
Cosponsored by Senator BICKFORD of Androscoggin and  
Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor,  
GREENWOOD of Wales, LAVIGNE of Berwick, MCINTYRE of Lowell, MINGO of Calais,  
QUINT of Hodgdon, RUDNICKI of Fairfield.

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. I, §22** is amended to read:

5                   **Section 22. Taxes.** No tax or duty shall be imposed without the consent of the  
6                   people or of their representatives in the Legislature. The rate of taxation imposed by the  
7                   State with regard to any tax may not be increased and a new tax may not be imposed by the  
8                   State unless by consent of the people by exercise of their right of direct initiative or by a  
9                   2/3 vote of the members of each House.

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

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

16                                 "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to require that the rate  
17                                 of taxation imposed by the State with regard to any tax may not be  
18                                 increased and a new tax may not be imposed by the State unless by consent  
19                                 of the people by exercise of their right of direct initiative or by a 2/3 vote  
20                                 of the members of each House?"

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

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

## 32   SUMMARY

33                  This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to require that the rate of  
34                  taxation imposed by the State with regard to any tax may not be increased and a new tax  
35                  may not be imposed by the State unless by consent of the people by exercise of their right  
36                  of direct initiative or by a 2/3 vote of the members of each House.