

127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 837

H.P. 571

House of Representatives, March 10, 2015

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Limit the Application of a Citizen Initiative Concerning Wildlife Matters to Counties in Which It Is Approved

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

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Representative SHAW of Standish. Cosponsored by Representatives: CRAFTS of Lisbon, SHORT of Pittsfield. 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:

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Constitution, Art. IV, Pt. Third, §19 is amended to read:

5 Section 19. Effective date of measures approved by people; measure concerning wildlife matters; veto power limited. Any measure referred to the 6 people and approved by a majority of the votes given thereon shall, unless a later date is 7 8 specified in said measure, take effect and become a law in 30 days after the Governor has 9 made public proclamation of the result of the vote on said measure, which the Governor shall do within 10 days after the vote thereon has been canvassed and determined; 10 provided, however, that any such measure which entails expenditure in an amount in 11 excess of available and unappropriated state funds shall remain inoperative until 45 days 12 after the next convening of the Legislature in regular session, unless the measure provides 13 for raising new revenues adequate for its operation. A measure concerning wildlife 14 matters that is approved by vote of the people applies only in counties in which a majority 15 of the votes in those counties approved the measure. The veto power of the Governor 16 shall not extend to any measure approved by vote of the people, and any measure initiated 17 18 by the people and passed by the Legislature without change, if vetoed by the Governor and if the veto is sustained by the Legislature shall be referred to the people to be voted 19 20 on at the next general election. The Legislature may enact measures expressly 21 conditioned upon the people's ratification by a referendum vote.

; and be it further

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 provide that a
citizen initiative concerning wildlife matters that is approved by vote of
the people applies only in counties in which a majority of the votes in
those counties approved the initiative?"

33 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 34 square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and 35 declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of 36 37 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 38 amendment, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay and the amendment 39 40 becomes part of the Constitution of Maine on the date of the proclamation; and be it 41 further

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

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5 This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to provide that a citizen 6 initiative concerning wildlife matters that is approved by vote of the people applies only 7 in counties in which a majority of the votes in those counties approved the initiative.