"Enacted as Resolves 1935, Chapter 81"

NEW DRAFT

EIGHTY - SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document **No. 757**

S. P. 626 In Senate, March 14, 1935.

Reported by Senator Burkett of Cumberland from Committee on Judiciary and laid on table to be printed under Joint Rules.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

New Draft of S. P. 192, L. D. 142

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for Longer Residence to Qualify as a Voter.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Constitutional amendment. Resolved: Two-thirds of the legislature concurring, that the following amendment to the constitution of this state be proposed:

Article II, section 1 of the Constitution; relating to qualification of voters, amended. Section 1 of said Article II as amended in Articles XXIX and XLIV, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'**Sec. 1.** Every male citizen of the United States of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, excepting paupers, persons under guardianship, and Indians not taxed, having his residence established in this state for the term of ~~three~~ **six** months next preceding any election, shall be an elector for governor, senators and representatives, in the town or plantation where his residence is so established, and he shall continue to be an elector in such town or plantation for the period of three months after his removal therefrom, if he continues to reside in this state during said period; and the elections shall be by written ballot. But persons in the military, naval or

marine service of the United States, or this state, shall not be considered as having obtained such established residence by being stationed in any garrison, barrack, or military place, in any town or plantation; nor shall the residence of a student at any seminary of learning entitle him to the right of suffrage in the town or plantation where such seminary is established. No person, however, shall be deemed to have lost his residence by reason of his absence from the state in the military service of the United States, or of this state.'

Form of question and date when amendment shall be voted upon. Resolved: That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the assessors of the several plantations of this state, are hereby empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of senators and representatives, on the 2nd Monday in September following the passage of this resolve, to give in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall be:

"Shall the constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the legislature to provide for longer residence of 6 months instead of 3 months to qualify as a voter?"

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of the amendment voting "Yes" upon their ballots and those opposed to the amendment voting "No" upon their ballots, and the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings, and return made to the office of the secretary of state in the same manner as votes for governor and members of the legislature and the governor and council shall count the same and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of the amendment, the governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation and the amendment shall thereupon as of the date of said proclamation become a part of the constitution.

Secretary of state shall prepare ballots. Resolved: That the secretary of state shall prepare and furnish to the several cities, towns and plantations ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolve accompanied by a copy thereof.