



# Maine Sheriffs' Association

*"One Team, One Mission"*

**Sheriff Scott Nichols, President**

Sheriff Troy Morton, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, Sheriff Scott Kane, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President – Sheriff Barry Curtis, Secretary – Sheriff Todd Brackett, Treasurer – Sheriff Dale P. Lancaster, Immediate Past President – Sheriff Kevin Joyce, Past President-at-Large - Mary-Anne LaMarre, Executive Director

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March 6, 2025

**TESTIMONY OF  
SHERIFF ROBERT YOUNG  
MAINE SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION**

**In OPPOSITION to**

**LD 132 – Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Constitution of Maine**

Senator Carney, Representative Kuhn, and honorable members of the Joint Standing on Committee on Judiciary. My name is Robert Young, and I am the Sheriff of Piscataquis County. I am here today on behalf of the Maine Sheriffs Association.

Maine sheriffs met to discuss this bill and voted to oppose L.D. 132 - Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Constitution of Maine.

We disagree with the concept of allowing constitutional amendments to be initiated directly by the people of the State. Our current process, obtaining a 2/3 vote in both House and Senate, followed by the majority of voters in the general election, is admittedly arduous. The laws and principles outlined in our Constitution govern our state and should not be modified without the intense scrutiny we currently employ. The public has a very clear pathway to changing the Constitution by working with their lawmakers and following the process in place.

Additionally, the resolve appoints members of the Senate and House, a federally recognized Indian tribe, civil liberties union, a law scholar, a judicial branch appointment, and the Secretary of State. The office of Sheriff is a constitutional office and the omission of representation on this proposed commission is disconcerting.

Omitting a constitutional officer from the make up on this commission and stripping away the current process to modify our Constitution are alarming proposals. Maine sheriffs appreciate the opportunity to share our concerns with this committee and we urge you to vote to defeat LD 132.

Thank you for your consideration.