



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1307

H.P. 832

House of Representatives, March 23, 2023

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine to Require Constitutional Officers to Be Elected by Statewide
Election**

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative ANDREWS of Paris.
Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook, Senator FARRIN of Somerset and
Representatives: DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor,
SUPICA of Bangor, WARREN of Scarborough, Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot,
BENNETT of Oxford, BRAKEY of Androscoggin, HICKMAN of Kennebec.

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. V, Pt. Second, §1** is amended to read:

5 **Section 1. Election.** The Secretary of State shall be chosen ~~biennially at the first~~
6 ~~session of the Legislature, by joint ballot of the~~ popular election on the same date and in
7 the same manner as provided by this Constitution for the election of Senators and
8 Representatives ~~in convention.~~

9 **Constitution, Art. V, Pt. Second, §1-A** is amended to read:

10 **Section 1-A. Succession to the office of Secretary of State.** If a vacancy occurs
11 in the office of the Secretary of State, the first deputy secretary of state shall act as the
12 Secretary of State until a Secretary of State is elected by ~~the Legislature during the current~~
13 ~~session if in session, or at the next regular or special session~~ popular election. A vacancy
14 in the office of the Secretary of State may be filled by a new election.

15 **Constitution, Art. V, Pt. Third, §1** is amended to read:

16 **Section 1. Election.** The Treasurer shall be chosen ~~biennially, at the first session of~~
17 ~~the Legislature, by joint ballot of the~~ popular election on the same date and in the same
18 manner as provided by this Constitution for the election of Senators; and Representatives
19 ~~in convention.~~

20 **Constitution, Art. V, Pt. Third, §1-A** is amended to read:

21 **Section 1-A. Succession to the office of Treasurer.** If a vacancy occurs in the
22 office of Treasurer of State, the deputy treasurer of state shall act as the Treasurer of State
23 until a Treasurer of State is elected by ~~the Legislature during the current session if in~~
24 ~~session, or at the next regular or special session~~ popular election. A vacancy in the office
25 of Treasurer of State may be filled by a new election.

26 **Constitution, Art. IX, §11** is amended to read:

27 **Section 11. Attorney General.** The Attorney General shall be chosen ~~biennially~~
28 ~~by joint ballot~~ popular election on the same date and in the same manner as provided by
29 this Constitution for the election of the Senators and Representatives ~~in convention.~~
30 Vacancy in said office ~~occurring when the Legislature is not in session,~~ may be filled by
31 appointment by the Governor, subject to confirmation as required by this Constitution for
32 Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court.

33 **Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question; effective date.**
34 **Resolved:** That the municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their
35 respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding
36 a statewide election, at a statewide election held in the month of November following the
37 passage of this resolution, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment proposed in this
38 resolution by voting upon the following question:

39 "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to provide that the
40 Secretary of State, the Treasurer of State and the Attorney General be

