



# 130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

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Legislative Document

No. 1058

H.P. 787

House of Representatives, March 11, 2021

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine To Provide for the Popular Election of the Treasurer of State**

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

Handwritten signature of Robert B. Hunt in cursive.

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, DILLINGHAM of Oxford,  
FECTEAU of Augusta, GRIGNON of Athens, NEWMAN of Belgrade, THORNE of Carmel,  
WADSWORTH of Hiram.

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. Third, §1** is amended to read:

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

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

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

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

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

21                     "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to provide that the  
22 Treasurer of State be elected by the people biennially in the same manner  
23 as members of the Senate and the House of Representatives?"

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

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

35   **SUMMARY**

36          This resolution proposes a constitutional amendment that provides for direct popular  
37 election beginning in 2022 of the Treasurer of State biennially in the manner currently  
38 provided for Senators and Representatives.