"Ought to Pass New Draft L.D. 1393"

# NINETY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

**Legislative Document** **No. 52**

H. P. 105 House of Representatives, January 17, 1951.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Chase of Cape Elizabeth.

## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FIFTY-ONE

**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Relating to Absent Voting.**

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

**Constitution, Art. II, § 4, repealed and replaced.** Section 4 of article II of the constitution, as amended by article XXIII, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

**'Sec. 4. The election of governor, senators and representatives shall be on the 2nd Monday of September biennially. Provided, however, that the legislature under proper enactment may authorize absentee voting, physical incapacity voting and voting by citizens of the state absent therefrom in the armed forces 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 rep-

resentatives at the next general or special state-wide election, 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 relating to absent voting?"

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 returns 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.