



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 344

H.P. 242

House of Representatives, February 8, 2021

**RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of
Maine To Explicitly Prohibit Discrimination Based on the Sex of an
Individual**

Received by the Clerk of the House on February 4, 2021. Referred to the Committee on
Judiciary pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative RECKITT of South Portland.

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. I, §25** is enacted to read:

5 **Section 25. Equality of rights.** Equality of rights under the law may not be denied
6 or abridged by the State or any political subdivision of the State based on the sex of an
7 individual. The Legislature has the power to enforce this section by appropriate legislation.

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

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

14 "Do you favor amending the Constitution of Maine to prohibit the denial
15 or abridgment by the State or any political subdivision of the State of equal
16 rights based on the sex of an individual?"

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

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

28 SUMMARY

29 This resolution proposes to amend the Constitution of Maine to prohibit the denial or
30 abridgment by the State or any political subdivision of the State of equal rights based on
31 the sex of an individual.