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New Hampshire, 25 January 1790

Introduction

The General Court began considering the amendments on 1 January 1790. On 13 January, the House, having read and considered the proposed amendments, “Voted to accept the whole of Sd. Amendments except the first & Second Articles.” On 20 January, the Senate received the House’s approval of all but the first and second of Congress’ amendments. Over the next week, differences over the first amendment addressing representation in Congress were resolved. On 25 January, New Hampshire ratified the amendments making it the fifth state to accept constitutional amendments.

House of Representatives Proceedings, Thursday, 24 December 1789 (excerpts)

There being a quorum sufficient to transact business, information was given his Excellency and the honourable Senate thereof.

The Secretary came down and gave information that a quorum of the Senate were present, and ready to proceed to business; also delivered the following message from his Excellency the President:

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives,

It affords me the highest pleasure to meet you again in Assembly, to advise and consult with you upon the affairs of the State, at a time when so many important matters will fall under your consideration.

The public papers received since the last session, will be laid before you by the Secretary; and among them you will find many acts and resolves of Congress which will require your deliberations. . . .

The amendments proposed by Congress to the Constitution of the United States, cannot fail of being considered and determined upon, as early as the nature of the business before you will admit.

Some other matters of importance will, from time to time, as they may be in readiness, be communicated by private messages. . . .

*Given at the Council-Chamber, in }
Portsmouth, 23d December, 1789. }*

JOHN SULLIVAN.

Voted, That Mr. Peabody, Mr. Page, Mr. Jeremiah Smith, Mr. Sheafe, and Mr. Hale, with such of the honorable Senate as they may join, be a committee to take under consideration his

Excellency's message, this day received, and report what business is necessary first to be entered upon and done at this session.

House of Representatives Proceedings, Friday, 1 January 1790

Voted, That two hundred and fifty copies of the proposed amendments to the Constitution of the United States, be printed and distributed to the members of the legislature as soon as may be, for their perusal.

Senate Proceedings, Friday, 1 January 1790

A vote that two hundred and fifty copies of the proposed amendments to the constitution of the United States, be printed and distributed to the members of the Legislature as soon as may be for their perusal, was brought up, read and concurred.

House of Representatives Proceedings, Wednesday, 13 January 1790

Upon Reading & maturely Considering the proposed amendments to the Federal Constitution Voted to accept the whole of Sd. Amendments except the first & Second Articles which first and Second articles were rejected

Sent up for Concurrence
Thos. Bartlett Speaker

Senate Proceedings, Wednesday, 20 January 1790

A vote to accept the whole of the amendments to the federal constitution except the first and second articles, which first and second articles were rejected, was brought up, read and concurred with this amendment, that the second article only be rejected and that all the other amendments be accepted, — sent down — brought up, read and concurred excepting the following words in the latter part of the first article [“]nor more than one representative for every fifty thousand.[”]

Senate Proceedings, Thursday, 21 January 1790

Voted that His Excellency the President & the Hon. John Pickering Esq & Nathl. Rogers with such of the Hon House as they may join, be a Committee to confer on the within vote & report there on

Sent down for Concurrence

J. Pearson Secy

House of Representatives Proceedings, Thursday, 21 January 1790

The Same Day read and Concurred. Mr. Smith, Mr. Peabody, Mr. Page, Mr. Abbot & Mr. Betten Joind.

Thos. Bartlett Sparker

House of Representatives Proceedings, Monday, 25 January 1790

Upon reading and considering the proposed amendments to the federal constitution, Voted, to accept the whole of said amendments except the second article, which article was rejected.

Senate Proceedings, Monday, 25 January 1790

A vote to accept the whole of the amendments to the federal constitution except the second article which was rejected, was brought up, read and concurred.

New Hampshire General Court Accepts Constitutional Amendments, 25 January 1790

In the House of Representatives Jany 25th. 1790.

Upon reading & maturely considering the proposed amendments to the federal Constitution,

Voted to accept the whole of said Amendments except the second Article which was rejected—

Sent up for Concurrence

Thos. Bartlett Speaker

In Senate the same day read & concurred

J. Pearson Secy

A true copy

Attest Joseph Pearson Secy

New Hampshire Gazette, 27 January 1790

The Hon. General-Court, after maturely considering of the proposed amendments to the United States Constitution have acceded to them all, except the second article, which they have rejected in gross.

President John Sullivan to President George Washington, Durham, N.H., 29 January 1790

I have the honor to inclose you for the Information of Congress a vote of the assembly of this State to Accept all the Articles of Amendments to the Constitution, of the united states Except the Second which was rejected; I have the honor to be with the most profound respect sir your most obedient and very humble Servt,

Tobias Lear to Roger Alden, 16 February 1790

In obedience to the command of the President of the United States, I now transmit to you, to be deposited in the Office of the Secy of State—The certified Copy of a Vote of the Legislature of the State of New Hampshire to accept the Articles of Amendment proposed for the Constitution of the United States except the second Article;—and also a Letter, which accompanied said Vote, from John Sullivan President of the State of New-Hampshire to the President of the United States.

with very great esteem, I am, Sir yr most Obedt. Servt

New York Gazette of the United States, 17 February 1790

A message was received from the President of the United States, with a letter from his Excel. President Sullivan enclosing the act of the Legislature of the State of New-Hampshire, for adopting the amendments proposed by Congress to the Constitution—except the second.

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