

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1990

S. P. 717

Committee on State Government suggested.

In Senate, January 24, 1972

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Sewall of Penobscot.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-TWO

RESOLUTION: Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Pledging Credit of the State for Guaranteed Loans to Resident Maine Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

Constitutional amendments. **Resolved:** Two-thirds of each branch of the Legislature concurring that the following amendments to the Constitution of this State be proposed:

Constitution, Article IX, Section 14, amended. The first sentence of Section 14 of Article IX of the Constitution, as amended, is further amended to read as follows:

The credit of the State shall not be directly or indirectly loaned in any case, except as provided in sections 14-A, 14-B and, 14-C, 14-D and 14-E.

Constitution, Article IX, Section 14-E, additional. Article IX of the Constitution is amended by adding a new section 14-E, to read as follows:

Section 14-E. Business loans to veterans. For the purposes of recognizing the services and sacrifices of Maine's men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America in time of war or national emergency; enlarging the opportunities for employment of Maine's veterans; insuring the preservation and betterment of the economy of the State of Maine; and stimulating the flow of private investment funds to Maine's veterans, the Legislature by proper enactment may insure the payment of up to 80% of any mortgage loan to resident Maine veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States, when such loans are made in connection with such legitimate purposes as the Legislature may determine, not exceeding in the aggregate \$2,000,000 in amount at any one time and may also appropriate moneys

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and authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State at such times and in such amounts as it may determine to make payments insured as aforesaid.

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 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 Representatives at the next general election in the month of November or special state-wide election on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following the passage of this resolution to give in their votes upon the amendments proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall be:

"Shall the Constitution be amended as proposed by a resolution of the Legislature Pledging Credit of the State for Guaranteed Loans to Resident Maine Veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States of America?"

The inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question, and shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed against the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same. 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 review the same, and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of the amendments, the Governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation, and the amendments 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 resolution, accompanied by a copy thereof.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this amendment is to encourage lenders to loan funds to deserving Maine veterans and to permit the Legislature to enact legislation to implement such Constitutional authority.