

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE
4

5 **Legislative Document**

No. 1756

6
7 S. P. 753 Office of the Secretary of the Senate
8 Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to
9 Joint Rule 26.

Reference to the Committee on State Government suggested and
1,400 Ordered Printed.

MAY M. ROSS Secretary of the Senate
Presented by Senator Pray of Penobscot.

10 Cosponsor: Representative G. Diamond of Windham and Represent-
11 ative M. Pearson of Old Town.

12 STATE OF MAINE
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO
16

17 **RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution**
18 **of Maine to Limit the Life of Bond Issues.**
19

20 **Constitutional amendment. RESOLVED:** Two-thirds of
21 each branch of the Legislature concurring, that the follow-
22 ing amendment to the Constitution of Maine be proposed:

23 **Constitution, Art. IX, §14, as amended by CR 1977, c.**
24 **3, is further amended by adding after the 3rd sentence 3 new**
25 **sentences to read:**

26 For any bond issue requiring ratification of the electors
27 pursuant to this section, if no bonds have been issued
28 within 5 years of the date of ratification, then no bonds
29 may be issued after that date. The Legislature may, within
30 2 years after the expiration, of that 5-year period, extend
31 the 5-year period for an additional 5 years or may
32 deauthorize the bond issue. If the Legislature fails to

1 take action within that 2 years, the bond issue shall be
2 considered to be deauthorized and no bonds may be issued.

3 **Constitutional referendum procedure; form of question;**
4 **effective date. Resolved:** That the city aldermen, town
5 selectmen and plantation assessors of this State shall
6 notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and
7 plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for
8 holding a statewide election, at the next general election
9 in the month of November following passage of this resolu-
10 tion, to vote upon the ratification of the amendment pro-
11 posed in this resolution by voting upon the following ques-
12 tion:

13 "Shall the Constitution of Maine be amended to limit
14 the life of bond issues?"

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

27 **Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. Resolved:**
28 That the Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to
29 each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and
30 copies of this resolution necessary to carry out the pur-
31 poses of this referendum.

32 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

33 The purpose of this constitutional resolution is to
34 limit the time period after the ratification of a bond issue
35 during which bonds may be issued. If no bonds have been
36 issued after 5 years following ratification, the bond issue
37 is deauthorized unless the Legislature extends the life of
38 the bond issue. If the Legislature fails to act within 2
39 years, the bond issue is deauthorized.

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