

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# ONE HUNDRED AND SECOND LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 804**

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H. P. 612

House of Representatives, January 28, 1965

Received by unanimous consent. Referred to Committee on State Government.  
Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

JEROME G. PLANTE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Berry of Cape Elizabeth.

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## STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SIXTY-FIVE

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**RESOLVE, Proposing Amendment to the Constitution Relating to Bond Issues  
to be Voted Upon by the People.**

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**Constitutional amendment. 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 2nd sentence of Section 14 of Article IX of the Constitution is amended to read as follows:

‘The Legislature shall not create any debt or debts, liability or liabilities, on behalf of the State, which shall singly, or in the aggregate, with previous debts and liabilities hereafter incurred at any one time, exceed two million dollars, except to suppress insurrection, to repel invasion, or for purposes of war; and excepting also that whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, by proper enactment ratified by a majority of the electors voting thereon at a general or special election, the Legislature may authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State at such times and in ~~such amounts~~ **amounts of three million dollars or more** and for such purposes as approved by such action; but this shall not be construed to refer to any money that has been, or may be deposited with this State by the Government of the United States, or to any fund which the State shall hold in trust for any Indian tribe.’

**Constitution, Article IX, Section 14, amended.** Section 14 of Article IX of the Constitution is amended by inserting after the 2nd sentence the following:

‘Whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, the Legislature may enact legislation authorizing the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State at such times and in amounts less than three million dollars and for such pur-

poses as approved by such action; and such legislation shall take effect ninety days after the recess of the Legislature, unless a petition of electors, the number of which shall not be less than five percent of the total vote for Governor cast in the last gubernatorial election preceding the filing of such petition, and addressed to the Governor and filed in the office of the Secretary of State within ninety days after the recess of the Legislature, requesting that such bond issue be referred to the people, and thereupon the legislation shall be voted upon at the next general election.'

**Form of question and date when amendments 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 resolve, 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 relating to bond issues to be voted upon by the people?"

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 count 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 resolve, accompanied by a copy thereof.