

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 275

H. P. 209

House of Representatives, January 20, 1971

Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Authorizing the Legislature to Enact Self-amortizing Bonds Upon Petition or Referral by the Legislature.

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

Constitution, Article IX, Section 14, amended. Section 14 of Article IX of the Constitution, as amended, is further amended by adding after the first sentence a new sentence to read as follows:

Notwithstanding the foregoing, whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, the Legislature, by proper enactment, may authorize the issuance of self-amortizing bonds on behalf of the State at such times and in such amounts and for such purposes as approved by such action; and such enactment 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 one 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 the self-amortizing bond issue specified in the petition be referred to the people, and thereupon the legislation shall be voted upon and become effective in accordance with Article IV, Part Third, Section 17; the Legislature by its resolve may refer a self-amortizing bond issue to the people for ratification at a general or special election.

Form of question and date when amendment shall be voted upon. Resolved: That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the asses-

sors 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 amendment proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall be:

‘Shall the Constitution be amended to authorize the Legislature to enact self-amortizing bond issues, to be ratified by the people upon petition or referral by the Legislature?’

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 amendment, the Governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation, and the amendment 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.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to enable the Legislature to enact self-amortizing bonds.