# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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### SEVENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

#### SENATE

NO. 255

In Senate, March 26, 1919.

Reported by Mr. Peacock from Committee on Ways and Bridges and laid on table to be printed under joint rules.

P. F. CRANE, Secretary.

#### STATE OF MAINE

## IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND NINETEEN

RESOLVE, Amend Article IX of the Constitution as Amended by Article XXXV of the Constitution Increasing the Amount of Bonds to be Issued for the Purpose of Building State Highways and Providing for the Building of Intrastate, Interstate and International Bridges.

Resolved: Two-thirds of the legislature concurring the 2 following amendment to the constitution of the state be pro-3 posed.

Section fourteen of article nine of the constitution as 2 amended by article thirty-five of the constitution is hereby 3 further amended by striking out the words "and maintaining

4 of" in the sixth line thereof and by adding after the word

5 "highways" in the sixth line thereof the words 'intrastate, 6 interstate and international bridges' so that said section as 7 amended shall read as follows:

Sect. 14. The credit of the state shall not be directly or 2 indirectly loaned in any case. The legislature shall not 3 create any debt or debts, liability or liabilities, on behalf of 4 the state, which shall singly, or in the aggregate, with pre-5 vious debts and liabilities hereafter incurred at any one time, 6 exceed three hundred thousand dollars, except for the pur-7 pose of building state highways, intrastate, interstate and in-8 ternational bridges, to suppress insurrection, to repel in-9 vasion or for purposes of war; but this amendment shall not 10 be construed to refer to any money that has been or may be 11 deposited with this state by the government of the United 12 States, or to any fund which the state shall hold in trust for 13 any Indian tribe.'

Section seventeen of said article is amended by striking 2 out after the word "exceeding" in the first and second lines 3 thereof, the word "two" and inserting in place thereof the 4 word "ten" and by striking out after the words "years" in 5 the third line thereof the words "at a rate of interest not 6 exceeding four per centum per annum" and inserting in 7 place thereof the words 'at the prevailing rate of interest at 8 the time of sale', and by striking out in the fifth line thereof 9 the words 'and maintaining' and by adding after the word 10 "highways" in the fifth line the words 'intrastate, interstate 11 and international bridges' and by striking out after the word

12 "exceed" in the seventh line thereof the word "two" and in-13 serting in place thereof the word 'ten' so that said section 14 as amended shall read as follows:

'Sect. 17. The legislature may authorize the issuing of 2 bonds not exceeding ten million dollars in amount at any 3 one time, payable within forty-one years, at the prevailing 4 rate of interest at time of sale, payable semi-annually, which 5 bonds or their proceeds shall be devoted solely to the build-6 ing of state highways, intrastate, interstate and international 7 bridges; provided, however, that bonds issued and outstand-8 ing under the authority of this section shall never, in the 9 aggregate, exceed ten million dollars; the expenditure of 10 said money to be divided equitably among the several countil ties of the state.'

Resolved: That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of 2 towns and the assessors of the several plantations in this 3 state are hereby empowered and directed to notify the in-4 habitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to 5 meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and hold-6 ing biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of 7 senators and representatives on the second Monday in Sep-8 tember following the passage of this resolve, to give in their 9 votes upon the amendment proposed in the foregoing resolution and the question shall be:

Shall the constitution be amended as proposed by a resolu-2 tion of the legislature providing for an increase in the 3 amount of state bonds to be issued for the purpose of build4 ing state highways and intrastate, interstate and interna-5 tional bridges?

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations 2 shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of the 3 amendment voting "Yes" upon their ballots and those op4 posed to the amendment voting "No" upon their ballots and 5 the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in 6 open ward, town and plantation meetings and return made 7 to the office of the secretary of state in the same manner 8 as votes for governor and members of the legislature and 9 the governor and council shall count the same and if it shall 10 appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the ques11 tion are in favor of the amendment, the governor shall 12 forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation and the 13 amendment shall thereupon as of the date of said proclama14 tion become a part of the constitution.

Resolved: That the secretary of state shall prepare and 2 furnish to the several cities, towns and plantations ballots 3 and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing resolve 4 accompanied by a copy thereof.