

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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E I G H T Y - S I X T H   L E G I S L A T U R E

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Legislative Document

No. 626

H. P. 1117

House of Representatives, Feb. 8, 1933.

Referred to Committee on Judiciary and 500 copies ordered printed.  
Sent up for concurrence.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Scates of Westbrook.

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S T A T E   O F   M A I N E

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED THIRTY-  
THREE

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RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for  
a Bond Issue, the Proceeds to be Disbursed for the Relief of Desti-  
tution.

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**Constitutional Amendment. Resolved:** Two-thirds of the legislature  
concurring, that the following amendment to the constitution of this state  
be proposed:

**Article IX, constitution, amended.** Article nine of the constitution is  
hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

**'Sec. 20. Bond issue to be disbursed for the relief of destitution.** The  
state under proper enactment of the legislature may issue its bonds not to  
exceed the amount of two million dollars payable within ten years, at a  
rate of interest not exceeding five per centum per annum, payable semi-  
annually, the proceeds to be disbursed for the relief of destitution and for  
no other purpose. Said bonds, when paid at maturity or otherwise retired,  
shall not be reissued.'

**Article IX, § 14 of the constitution; relating to state debt limit, amended.**  
Section fourteen of said article nine, as amended by articles thirty-five,  
forty-one, forty-two, forty-three and forty-five, is hereby further amended  
by adding after the words "state of Maine" the words 'or for the relief of  
destitution'; so that said section fourteen, as amended, shall read as  
follows:

**'Sec. 14. The credit of the state shall not be directly or indirectly loaned in any case.** The credit of the state shall not be directly or indirectly loaned in any case. 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 eight hundred thousand dollars, except for the purposes of building state highways, intrastate, interstate and international bridges; to suppress insurrection, to repel invasion, or for the purposes of war; to provide for the payment of a bonus to Maine soldiers and sailors in the war with Germany; or for the purposes of building and maintaining public wharves and for the establishment of adequate port facilities in the State of Maine; or for the relief of destitution; but this amendment 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.'

**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 hereby 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, on the second Monday in September 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 as proposed by a resolution of the legislature providing for the issuance of bonds, the proceeds of which are to be disbursed for the relief of destitution and for no other purpose?"

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall vote by ballot on said question, those in favor of the amendment voting "Yes" upon their ballots and those opposed to the amendment voting "No" upon their ballots, and the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings, and return 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 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.'