

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 241

S. P. 197

In Senate, February 1, 1939.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Bridges. Sent down for concurrence and 1000 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Friend of Somerset.

S T A T E O F M A I N E

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
THIRTY-NINE

**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for
an Additional Issue of Highway Bonds.**

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

Article IX, § 17, constitution, amended. Section 17 of Article IX of the constitution as amended by Article LVIII of the constitution is hereby further amended by adding thereto the following:

Providing for additional issue of highway bonds. The state under proper enactment of the legislature may issue its bonds not exceeding in the aggregate \$44,900,000 in amount at any one time, and all bonds issued after the year 1938 shall be payable serially within 15 years from date of issue, at a rate of interest not exceeding 4% per year, payable semi-annually.

The proceeds of bonds hereafter issued and outstanding under this section to the extent of \$5,900,000 shall be devoted solely to the construction of state highways heretofore designated as a part of the state highway system or to such as may hereafter be so designated. No more than \$1,400,000 shall be issued in any one year.

The proceeds of bonds hereafter issued and outstanding under authority of this section to the extent of \$3,000,000 shall be devoted solely to the building of interstate, intrastate, and international bridges of which not more than \$500,000 shall be issued in any one year. Said bonds when paid at maturity or otherwise retired shall not be reissued. All bonds issued under the authority of this section shall be in addition to the bonds heretofore issued in the amount of \$3,000,000, the proceeds of which were devoted to the building of a combination highway and railroad bridge across the Kennebec river between the city of Bath and the town of Woolwich, and in addition to the bonds heretofore issued in the amount of \$900,000, the proceeds of which were devoted to the building of a highway bridge across the Penobscot river between the towns of Prospect, Verona and Bucksport.

Provided further that in case it becomes necessary in the judgment of the governor and council to match federal funds for the construction of state highways, the state may issue its bonds up to a total sum, including bonds previously authorized by Article LVIII of the constitution, of \$1,400,000 per year, the proceeds thereof to be available for the aforesaid purpose after November, 1939.

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 an increase in the amount of state bonds to be issued for the construction of state highways heretofore designated as a part of the state highway system or to such as may hereafter be so designated, and intrastate, interstate and international bridges?”

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.

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.