

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 215**

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S. P. 179

In Senate, January 29, 1941.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Bridges and send down for concurrence. 500 copies ordered printed.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Friend of Somerset.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-ONE

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**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Providing for an Issue of Highway Bonds, and Preventing the Use of Funds Derived from Motor Vehicle Taxation on Other than Highway and Bridge Purposes.**

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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 of the constitution amended.** Article IX of the constitution, as amended, is hereby further amended by adding thereto, 2 additional sections to be numbered 22 and 23, and to read as follows:

'Sec. 22. Providing for an additional issue of highway bonds. In addition to all bonds heretofore authorized, the state under proper enactment of the legislature, may issue its bonds not exceeding the sum of \$6,000,000; and all of such bonds shall be payable serially within 15 years from date of issue at a rate of interest not exceeding 4%, payable semi-annually. Said bonds shall be issued on and after July 1, 1943 as follows: \$1,500,000 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1944; \$1,500,000 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1945; \$1,500,000 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946; \$1,500,000 during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1947.

The proceeds from the bonds issued under the provisions of this section shall be expended for the purposes of matching federal aid funds for state highway construction, and for construction of state highways and bridges within the state highway system.'

'Sec. 23. No diversion of motor vehicle taxes. All revenue, in excess of the necessary cost of collection and administration, including statutory refunds, accruing from motor vehicle registration fees, operators' licenses, gasoline and other motor vehicle fuel excise taxes and any other special charges or taxes with respect to the operation of motor vehicles or the sale or consumption of motor vehicle fuels shall be appropriated and used solely to meet debts and liabilities incurred for highway and bridge construction or reconstruction, to construct, reconstruct and maintain highways and bridges under the direction and supervision of a state department and for state enforcement of traffic laws and shall not be diverted or used for any other purpose.'

**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 2nd Monday in September in 1942, 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 issue of highway bonds, and preventing the use of funds derived from motor vehicle taxation on other than highway and bridge purposes?"

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.