

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

NINETY - SECOND LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1254

House of Representatives, July 26, 1946

Filed with the Clerk for printing or reproduction under House rules.
To be presented by Mr. Williams of Clifton.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-SIX

House Amendment "A" to H. P. 1510, L. D. 1224, "Resolve, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for a Bond Issue for the Purpose of Paying a Bonus of \$100 and \$200 to Maine Members of the Military and Naval Forces in World War II."

Amend said Resolve by striking out the title thereof and inserting in place thereof the following:

'RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for a Bond Issue for the Payment of a Bonus to Maine Veterans of World War II and for the Payment of Other Veterans' Benefits and to Provide for the Payment of Such Bonds by Additional Cigarette and Liquor Taxes and Miscellaneous Taxes.'

Further amend said Resolve by striking out all after the title thereof and inserting in place thereof the following:

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

Article IX, § 14, of the constitution, amended. Section 14 of article IX of the constitution, as amended by articles XXXV, XLI, XLII, XLIII, XLV and LV, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 14. 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 \$2,000,000, 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; to provide for the payment of a bonus to Maine veterans of World War II and for the payment of other veterans' benefits; or for the purpose of building and maintaining public wharves and for the establishment of adequate port facilities in the state of Maine; 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.'

Article IX, constitution, amended. Article IX of the constitution, as amended, is hereby further amended by adding thereto the following section to be numbered section 23, and to read as follows:

'Sec. 23. The legislature may authorize the issuing of bonds not to exceed the amount of \$16,000,000, payable within 10 years, which bonds or their proceeds shall be devoted exclusively to the payment of a bonus to Maine veterans of World War II, to establishing a technical and vocational institute, and to aiding the construction of a plant science building and an engineering building at the University of Maine and to the payment of the sum of \$1,000,000 into the Maine Post War Public Works Reserve. The amount necessary to pay such bonds as they mature and the interest as it accrues shall be raised by additional cigarette and liquor taxes and miscellaneous taxes.'

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, at the next general state-wide election held on the 2nd Monday in September, to give in their votes upon the amendment proposed in the foregoing part of this resolve, and the question shall be:

"Shall the constitution be amended as proposed by a resolve of the legislature providing for the issuing of state bonds for the purpose of

paying a bonus to Maine veterans of World War II and for the payment of other veterans' benefits and to provide for the payment of such bonds by additional cigarette and liquor taxes and miscellaneous taxes?"

And the legal voters 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" 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 legal voters 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.'