

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - THIRD LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1308

S. P. 468

In Senate, March 18, 1947.

Received by unanimous consent. Referred to Committee on Judiciary, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Hopkins of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-SEVEN

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Limit the Indebtedness on Municipalities by Public or Quasi-Municipal Corporations to Twenty Per Cent of the State Valuation.

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

Constitution, Art. XXII, amended. Article XXII of the constitution, as amended by article XXXIV, is hereby further amended by adding at the end thereof a new paragraph to read as follows:

'No public or quasi-municipal Corporation hereafter created, the purpose of which is to render a service which is the obligation by law of a city or town, or which is a service that a city or town may furnish or which is a service that the legislature may authorize, shall create any debt or liability on any city or town or fractional part thereof which singly, or in the aggregate, with previous debts or liabilities, shall exceed 20% of the last regular state valuation of the property of such city or town or fractional part thereof within said district to be served by such public or quasi-municipal corporation.'

Form of question and date when amendment shall be voted upon. Resolved: That the aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns and the as-

sessors 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 or special state-wide election, 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 to limit the indebtedness on municipalities by public or quasi-municipal corporations to 20% of the state valuation?" 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, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns 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.