

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 1507

H. P. 1760

House of Representatives, May 9, 1947

Reported by Mr. Hayward from the Committee on Ways and Bridges and printed under Joint Rules.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-SEVEN

**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Authorizing
Issuance of Highway and Bridge Bonds.**

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

Constitution, Art. IX, § 17, amended. Section 17 of article IX of the constitution, as heretofore amended, is hereby further amended by striking out all of said section and inserting in place thereof the following, so that said section as amended shall read as follows:

Sec. 17. The state, under proper enactment of the legislature, may issue its bonds not exceeding in the aggregate \$36,000,000 in amount at any one time, and all bonds issued after the year 1947 shall be payable serially within 25 years from date of issue, at a rate of interest not exceeding 4% per year, interest payable semiannually.

The proceeds of bonds hereafter issued and outstanding under authority of this section shall be devoted solely to the construction and reconstruction of state highways and bridges, and for matching federal funds for said construction and reconstruction of said state highways and bridges. When any bonds issued under authority of this section are paid at maturity or otherwise retired, new bonds may be issued in place thereof, but the aggregate amount of bonds issued and outstanding shall not at any one time

exceed \$36,000,000, including all highway bonds heretofore issued, and outstanding as of June 30, 1947.

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 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.'

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 a special election held on the 2nd Monday in September, 1947, 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 in an amount not to exceed \$36,000,000 for the construction and reconstruction of state highways and bridges and for matching federal funds for said construction and reconstruction of said highways and bridges?"

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.