

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 773

S. P. 415

In Senate, February 17, 1949.

Referred to Committee on Aeronautics, sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Allen of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-NINE

RESOLVE Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Authorize a Bond Issue to Match Federal Funds for the Construction and Improvement of Airports.

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. IX, § 14, amended. Section 14 of Article IX of the constitution of the state, as amended, 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, intra-state, interstate and international bridges; **to match federal funds for the construction and improvement of airports**; 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; or for the purposes 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.'

Constitution, Art. IX, § 23, additional. Article IX of the constitution, as amended, is hereby further amended by adding thereto a new section to be numbered section 23, to read as follows:

'Sec. 23. The state under authority of proper enactment of the legislature may issue its bonds, not to exceed the amount of \$1,000,000, to match available federal funds for the construction and improvement of airports throughout the state; the interest payments and amortization of such bonds to be paid from funds collected from the tax on gasoline used by airplanes.'

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 to authorize a bond issue not to exceed \$1,000,000 to match federal funds for the construction and improvement of airports and said bonds to be paid for from the tax on gasoline used by airplanes?"

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.