

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# NINETY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 884**

H. P. 1570

House of Representatives, February 17, 1949.

Reported by Committee on Constitutional Revision. Referred to Committee on Judiciary, sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

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## STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
FORTY-NINE

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**RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Empower the Legislature to Authorize the Issuance of State Bonds for any Purpose Stated in the Constitution.**

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

**Constitution, Art. IX, § 14, repealed and replaced.** Section 14 of article IX of the constitution, as amended by articles XXXV, XLI, XLII, XLIII, XLV and LV, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

‘Sec. 14. The credit of the state shall not be directly or indirectly loaned in any case. The legislature shall not hereafter create any debt or liability on behalf of the state which shall singly or in the aggregate with other debts or liabilities at any one time exceed \$20,000,000, except to suppress insurrection, to repel invasion or for purposes of war. Up to the amount of \$20,000,000 the legislature, by vote of 2/3 of both branches and subject to the approval of the governor, may create debt by bond issue or otherwise for the purpose of construction of public buildings, bridges, highways and other permanent facilities and for refunding debts originally created for such purposes. This section 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 may hold in trust.' And be it further

**Certain sections repealed. Resolved:** That section 15; section 17, which became a part of the constitution by the adoption of article XXXV, and as amended by articles XLIII, XLVIII, XLIX, LI, LII and LVIII; section 18, which became a part of the constitution by the adoption of article XLI; section 19, which became a part of the constitution by the adoption of article XLV; section 20, which became a part of the constitution by the adoption of article LVI; and section 21, which became a part of the constitution by the adoption of article LX, are hereby repealed.

**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 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 empower the legislature to authorize the issuance of state bonds for any purpose stated in the constitution?" 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.