

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document

No. 681

H. P. 1078

House of Representatives, February 14, 1951

Referred to the Committee on Highways. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Burgess of Limestone.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-ONE

**AN ACT to Provide for the Issue of State of Maine Highway Bonds for
the Construction of State Highways.**

Preamble. Two-thirds of both houses of the legislative deeming it necessary in accordance with section 14 of article IX of the constitution to provide for the issue of state of Maine highway bonds for the construction of state highways.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. Bond issue of \$13,000,000 authorized. In addition to state highway and bridge bonds heretofore issued in the name and behalf of the state as provided by law, the treasurer of state is hereby authorized, under the direction of the governor and council, to issue from time to time, serial coupon bonds in the name and behalf of the state to an amount not exceeding \$13,000,000, payable serially at the state treasury within 15 years from the date of issue.

Such bonds and coupons shall be of such denominations and from and upon such terms and conditions, not inconsistent herewith, as the governor and council shall direct. The proceeds from the sale of said bonds shall be used for construction of state and state aid highways which are eligible for the use of federal-aid highway funds in said construction.

The said bonds shall be deemed a pledge of the faith and credit of the state. The said bonds shall be issued from time to time so as to meet the needs of the road building program as outlined by the 95th legislature, and as authorized by the legislature.

Sec. 2. Additional gasoline tax. In addition to the excise tax now levied and imposed upon internal combustion engine fuel, sold or used in this state, an excise tax of 1c per gallon is hereby imposed and levied thereon.

This tax is imposed and levied for the purpose of assisting in meeting the needs of the road building program as outlined to the 95th legislature, and as authorized by the legislature.

This section shall be construed as an amendment of sections 159 to 168, inclusive, of chapter 14 of the revised statutes, as amended. It shall be in force and effect until June 30, 1965, when it shall become void.

It is the intent of the legislature that during the effective period of this act, 1c additional tax on gasoline shall be levied and refunded under the provisions of section 160 of chapter 14 of the revised statutes and 1c additional shall be charged and collected under the provisions of section 162 of said chapter and paid under the provisions of section 163 of said chapter and imposed under the provisions of section 172 of said chapter and that 6/7 instead of 5/6 of the tax paid shall be rebated under the provisions of section 166 of said chapter.

Sec. 3. Referendum. 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 held on the 2nd Monday in September, to give in their votes upon the acceptance or rejection of the foregoing act, and the question shall be: "Shall the Act to Provide for the Issue of State of Maine Highway Bonds for the Construction of State Highways, passed by the 95th legislature, be accepted?"

And the inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed within a square upon their ballots their opinion of the same, those in favor of said act voting "YES" and those opposed to said act voting "NO" and the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meeting, and re-

turn 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 said act, the governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation, and the act shall thereupon become effective as of the date of said proclamation.

Secretary of state shall prepare ballots. The secretary of state shall prepare and furnish to the several cities, towns and plantations ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing act, accompanied by a copy thereof.