

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ACTS AND RESOLVES  
OF THE  
SEVENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

OF THE  
STATE OF MAINE.

1911

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Published by the Secretary of State, agreeably to Resolves of  
June 28, 1820, February 18, 1840, and March 16, 1842

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AUGUSTA  
KENNEBEC JOURNAL PRINT  
1911

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RESOLVES

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1911

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**CHAP. 221****Chapter 221.**

Resolve to amend article twenty-two of the Constitution, relating to cities of forty thousand inhabitants or more to increase the municipal indebtedness to seven and one-half per centum.

Constitutional amendment proposed.

Resolved, that the following amendment to the constitution of this state be proposed for the action of the legal voters of this state in the manner provided by the constitution, to wit, article twenty-two of said constitution, limiting municipal indebtedness, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "town" in the first line thereof, the following words, 'having less than forty thousand inhabitants, according to the last census taken by the United States,' and by inserting after the word "however" in the fourth line, the following words, 'that cities having a population of forty thousand or more, according to the last census taken by the United States may create a debt or liability which single or in the aggregate with previous debt or liability, shall equal seven and one-half per centum of the last regular valuation of said city, that cities of forty thousand inhabitants or over, may, by a majority vote of their city government, increase the present rate of five per centum by one-fourth of one per centum in any one municipal year until in not less than ten years, the maximum rate of seven and one-half per cent is reached, that any city failing to take the increase in any one municipal year then the increase for that year is lost and no increase can be made until the next year as provided above, and provided further,' so that said article as amended, shall read as follows:

Debt limit of cities and towns fixed.

'No city or town having less than forty thousand inhabitants, according to the last census taken by the United States, shall hereafter create any debt or liability, which single or in the aggregate, with previous debts or liabilities shall exceed five per centum of the last regular valuation of said city or town: provided, however, that cities having a population of forty thousand or more, according to the last census taken by the United States, may create a debt or liability which single or in the aggregate, with previous debts or liabilities, shall equal seven and one-half per cent of the last regular valuation of said city, that cities of forty thousand inhabitants, or over, may, by a majority vote of their city government, increase the present rate of five per centum by one-fourth of one per cent in any one municipal year, until, in not less than ten years, the maximum rate of seven and one-half per cent is reached, that any city failing to take the increase in any one municipal year then the increase for that year is lost and no increase can be made until

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the next year as provided above, and provided further, that the adoption of this article shall not be construed as applying to any fund received in trust by said city or town, nor to any loan for the purpose of renewing existing loans, or for war or to temporary loans to be paid out of the money raised by taxes during the year in which they were made.'

Resolved, that the aldermen of cities, selectmen of towns, and the assessors of the several plantations in this state, are hereby empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns, or plantations, in the manner provided by law, to vote at a meeting to be held on the second Monday of September in the year one thousand nine hundred and eleven, upon an amendment proposed in the foregoing resolution, and the question shall be: "Shall the constitution be amended as proposed by resolution of the legislature providing that the towns having a population of forty thousand inhabitants or more, according to the last census taken by the United States, be permitted to create a debt or liability which single or in the aggregate equals seven and one-half per centum of its last regular valuation and that the increase in amount of debt be no greater than one-quarter of one per centum, over the present rate of five per cent in any one year, and the inhabitants of said city, town or plantation shall vote by ballot on said question, those favoring the amendment voting "yes" upon their ballots and those opposing voting "no" upon their ballots, and the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted, and declared in open ward, town, and plantation meetings, and lists of the votes so received shall be made and returned to the office of 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 make return to the next legislature and if it shall appear that a majority of the votes are in favor of the amendment the constitution shall be amended accordingly.

Resolved, that the secretary of state shall prepare and furnish to the several cities, towns, and plantations, ballots and blank returns in conformity to the foregoing resolves accompanied by a copy thereof.

Inhabitants  
of towns,  
cities and  
plantations,  
how notified.

Secretary of  
state shall  
furnish bal-  
lots and  
blank re-  
turns.

Approved March 31, 1911.