"Enacted as Resolves 1935, Chapter 96"

EIGHTY - SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document **No. 477**

S. P. 442 In Senate, February 12, 1935.

Referred to Committee on Ways and Bridges and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent down for concurrence.

ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Friend of Somerset.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for an Additional Issue of Highway Bonds.

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

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

Additional issue of highway bonds. Section 17 of article IX of the constitution, as amended by article LII of the constitution 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 1935 shall be payable serially within 15 years from date of issue, at a rate of interest not exceeding 4% per year, payable semi-annually.

The proceeds of bonds hereafter issued and outstanding under authority of this section to the extent of $5,000,000 shall be devoted solely to the construction of the system of state highways heretofore designated or to such as may hereafter be designated. Said bonds, when paid at maturity or otherwise retired, shall not be reissued. 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 in addition 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. Provided further, that in case it becomes necessary in the judgment of the governor and council to match available federal funds for the construction of state highways, the state may issue its bonds up to $1,000,000 per year, the proceeds thereof to be available for the aforesaid purpose after July 1, 1936.'

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, on the second Monday in September following the passage of this resolve, 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 providing for an increase in the amount of state bonds to be issued for the purpose of matching federal aid money available for the construction of state highways?

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, 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 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.