"Enacted as Resolves 1943, Chapter 53"

NINETY-FIRST LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document **No. 339**

S. P. 233 In Senate, February 4, 1943.
Tabled by Senator Elliot of Knox pending reference and ordered printed.
ROYDEN V. BROWN, Secretary.
Presented by Senator Friend of Somerset.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY-THREE

RESOLVE, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Limit to Highway Purposes the Use of Revenues Derived from the Taxation of Vehicles Used on the Public Highways, and Fuels Used for Propulsion of Such Vehicles.

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

Article IX of the constitution amended. Article IX of the constitution is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section to be numbered section 22, and to read as follows:

'Sec. 22. All revenues derived from fees, excises and license taxes relating to registration, operation and use of vehicles on public highways, and to fuels used for the propulsion of such vehicles shall be expended solely for cost of administration, statutory refunds and adjustments, payment of debts and liabilities incurred in construction and reconstruction of highways and bridges, the cost of construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair of public highways and bridges under the direction and supervision of a state department having jurisdiction over such highways and bridges and expense for state enforcement of traffic laws and shall not be diverted for any purpose, provided that these limitations shall not apply

to revenue from an excise tax on motor vehicles imposed in lieu of personal property tax.'

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 held on a 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, limiting to highway purposes the use of revenues derived from the taxation of vehicles used on public highways and fuels used for propulsion of such vehicles?"

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.