CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Passed by the General Assembly

Of the State of Louisiana.

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ACT NO 24.

House Bill No. 61. By Mr Edwards.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Providing an amendment to Section 5 of Article 197 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to registration of voters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds (2-3) of the members elected to each House concurring, that Section 5 of the Article 197 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be so amended as to read as follows:

Section 5. No male person who was on January 1st 1867 or at any date prior thereto entitled to vote under the Constitution or Statutes of any State of the United States wherein he then resided, and no son or grandson of any such person, not less than 21 years of age on the 1st day of May 1912, and no male person of foreign birth who was naturalized prior to the 1st day of January, 1898, shall be denied the right to register and vote in this State by reason of his failure to possess the educational or property qualifications prescribed by this Constitution, provided he shall have resided in this State for five years next preceding the date at which he shall apply for registration and shall have registered in accordance with the terms of this Article prior to September 1st, 1913, and no person shall be entitled to register under this Section after said date.

Every person claiming the benefit of this Section shall make application to the proper registration officer or his deputy for registration, and he shall make oath before such registration officer or his deputy in the form following:

I am a citizen of the United States and of this State, over the age of twenty-one years; I have resided in this State for five years next preceding this date. I was on the ——— day of ——— entitled to vote under the Constitution or Statutes of the State of ——— wherein I then resided, (or am the son or grandson of ——— who was, on the ——— day of ——— entitled to vote under the Constitution or Statutes of the State of ——— wherein he then resided) and I desire to avail myself of the privileges conferred by Section 5 of Article 197 of the Constitution of this State.

Certificates of registration shall be given to persons registering on durable paper, and consecutively marked on the permanent register. A separate register of voters applying under this Section shall be made by the registration officer of every Parish, for this purpose the registration officer of every Parish shall keep his office open daily, Sundays and legal holidays excepted, until August 31st, 1913, inclusive, from 8 o'clock A M until 1 o'clock P M and from 2 o'clock P M until 6 o'clock P M.

The registration of voters under this Section shall close on the 31st day of August, 1913, and immediately thereafter the registration officer of every Parish shall make a sworn copy in duplicate of the list of persons registered under this Section, showing in detail, whether the applicant registered as a voter of 1867, or prior thereto, or as a son of such voter or as the grandson of such voter, and deposit one of said duplicates in the office of the Secretary of State, to be by him recorded and preserved, as a part of the permanent record of his office, and the other of said duplicates shall be by him filed in the office of the Clerk of the District Court of the Parish, and, in the Parish of Orleans in the office of the Recorder of Mortgages there to remain a permanent record; provided, that upon the permanent register of all persons registered under this Section, the registration officer shall note in the top of column the age and color of the applicant, and under the head of remarks all distinguishing physical characteristics of the applicant, such as height, size, color of the hair and eyes, etc.

All persons whose names appear on said registration list shall be admitted to register for all the elections in this State without possessing the educational or property qualifications prescribed by this Constitution, unless otherwise disqualified, and all persons who do not by personal application claim exemption from the provisions of Sections 3 and 4 of this Article before September 1st, 1913, shall be forever denied the right to do so.

The names of the persons registering under and claiming the benefits of this Section shall be entered in a well-bound book, to be provided by each Parish for that purpose, and shall be known as the permanent register. Immediately on closing the registration under this Section, on August 31, 1913, it shall be the duty of the registration officer or his deputy in the different Parishes throughout the State, to make a sworn statement, in writing, of the number of voters, both white and colored, with the number of each, who have registered, and whose names appear on said permanent register herein provided for, and such sworn statement shall be published in the official journal or other newspaper published in the Parish in the next issue appearing after said date, the cost of the same to be paid by the Parish. Any registration officer violating the provisions of this Section or failing to comply with the provisions hereof, or shall make a false or incorrect statement of the number of voters registered under this Section, shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and on conviction thereof, shall be sentenced to imprisonment at hard labor for a term of not exceeding one year.

The manner in which the names of persons whose names appear on said registration list shall hereafter register may be different from that required of persons registered under other Sections of this Article, and shall be as now provided or hereafter provided by law; and the remedy and proceedings whereby, subsequently to the close of said registration, on August 31st, 1913, the names of any persons who may have obtained registration under this Section by false statement of facts or other fraud shall be stricken from said roll, shall be as now provided or hereafter provided by law.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the qualified voters of this State for adoption or rejection at the Congressional election to be held in November, 1912.

Section 3. Be it further resolved, etc., that on the official ballots to be used at said election there shall be printed the words: "For the proposed amendment of Section 5 of Article 197 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to registration of voters," and the words: "Against the proposed amendment to Section 5 of Article 197 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to registration of voters," and each elector shall indicate, as provided by the general election laws of this State, whether he votes for or against the proposed amendment.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Senate.
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved: June 25th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 132.

Senate Bill No. 137. By Mr. Beale.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to Article (281) two eighty-one of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to the incurring of debt and issuing bonds for work of public improvement, and to the validation, and refunding of bonds issued for such improvements, by municipal corporations, parishes and school, drainage, sewerage and other districts (the City of New Orleans excepted), and the assessment of special taxes and forced contributions to pay for same.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds (2-3) of all the members elected to each House concurring, That Article two hundred and eighty-one (281) of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be so amended as to read as follows:—

ARTICLE 281.

Paragraph 1. Municipal corporations, parishes and school, drainage, sub-drainage, road, subroad, navigation, or sewerage districts, City of New Orleans excepted, hereinafter referred to as subdivisions of the State, when authorized by a vote of a majority, in number and amount of the property taxpayers qualified to vote under the Constitution and laws of this State, who vote at an election held for that purpose, after due notice of said election has been published for thirty days in the official journal of the municipal corporation or parish or where there is no official journal, in a newspaper published therein, may, through their respective governing authorities incur debt and issue negotiable bonds therefor, and each year while any bonds thus issued are outstanding, the governing authorities of such subdivisions shall impose and collect annually, in excess of all other taxes, a tax sufficient to pay the interest, annually or semi-annually, and the principal falling due each year, or such amount as may be required for any sinking fund necessary to retire said bonds at maturity; provided that such special taxes, for all purposes as above set forth shall not in any year exceed ten mills on the dollar of assessed valuation of the property in such subdivisions.

No bonds shall be issued for any other purpose than that stated in the submission of the proposition to the taxpayer, and published for thirty (30) days as aforesaid, or for a greater amount than therein mentioned; nor shall such bonds be issued for any other purposes than for constructing, improving and maintaining public roads and highways, paving and improving streets, roads and alleys, purchasing and constructing systems of waterworks, sewerage, drainage, navigation, lights, public parks and buildings, together with all necessary equipments and furnishing, bridges and other works of public improvement, the title to which shall rest in the subdivision creating the debt, as the case may be, nor shall such bonds run for a longer period than forty (40) years from their date or bear a greater rate of interest than five per centum (5) per annum, or be sold for less than par. The total issue of bonds by any subdivision for all purposes shall never exceed ten per centum (10) of the assessed valuation of the property in such subdivisions. Municipal councils are granted the authority to create within their limits one or more sewerage districts.

Paragraph 2. Police juries in any parish or parishes may in accordance with law create drainage districts, which in addition to the powers hereinabove granted, shall have further power and authority to provide and maintain drainage systems and the governing authorities of such districts, when authorized by a majority in number and amount of the property taxpayers of said district qualified to vote under the Constitution and laws, who vote at an election held for that purpose, may impose and collect for a period not exceeding forty years forced contributions or acreage taxes not exceeding fifty cents per acre per year on every acre of land in the subdivision where such an election is held. The governing authority of such subdivision when authorized as set forth, may incur debt and issue negotiable bonds to represent same, secured by the taxes above described, provided that the total amount of debts thus incurred or bonds issued, shall never exceed in principal and interest the aggregate amount to be raised by said annual contributions or acreage taxes during the period for which the same are imposed and that no such bonds shall be issued for any other purpose than that for which said contributions or acreage taxes were voted, run for a longer period than forty years, bear a greater rate of interest than five per centum per annum and be sold for less than par. All bond issues heretofore authorized by taxpayers in any subdivision at any election not contested on any ground of fraud, are hereby recognized and validated.

Paragraph 3. When the character of any land is such that it must be leveed and pumped in order to be drained and reclaimed, the Board of Drainage Commissioners of the District in which the land is situated, shall, upon the petition of not less than a majority in acreage of the property taxpayers, resident and non-resident, in the area to be affected, ascertain the cost of drainage, and reclaiming said land and incur debt against said land for an amount sufficient to drain and reclaim it, and issue for such debt negotiable bonds running not longer than forty (40) years from their date and bearing interest at the rate not exceeding five per centum per annum payable annually or semi-annually, which bonds shall not be sold for less than par; and said Board of Drainage Commissioners shall levy annually upon said land forced contributions or acreage taxes in an amount sufficient to maintain the drainage of said land, to pay the interest annually or semi-annually, and the principal falling due each year, or such amount as may be required for any sinking fund provided for payment of said bonds at maturity, provided, that such forced contributions or acreage taxes, for all purposes shall never exceed Three Dollars and Fifty Cents ($3.50) per acre per annum.

Paragraph 4. The police juries of the various parishes throughout the State, for the purpose of constructing highways and public buildings for the parish, and the governing authorities of municipal corporations, for the purpose of paving or improving streets or alleys, and for all municipal improvements, after making provision for the payment of all statutory and ordinary charges, may fund into bonds running for a period not exceeding ten (10) years, and bearing interest at a rate not exceeding five (5) per centum per annum, which bonds shall not be sold for less than par, the avails of the residue of the ten (10) mill tax authorized by Article 232 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

Paragraph 5. Should any of the subdivisions of the State neglect or fail for any reason to impose or collect the taxes provided for in the foregoing sections, any person in interest may by summary proceedings in the district court having jurisdiction, enforce the imposition or collection of such taxes, or both, and such proceedings shall be filed and triable free of any cost to the litigant.

Paragraph 6. Municipal corporations, parishes and school, drainage, sub-drainage, road, subroad, navigation and sewerage districts (the City of New Orleans excepted), hereinafter referred to as subdivisions, when authorized to do so in the manner herein provided, may, for the purpose of readjusting, refunding, extending or unifying their bonded indebtedness, issue new bonds, covering any particular issue or issues of bonds or the whole outstanding bonding indebtedness incurred by such subdivision for the purposes specified in Paragraph 1 of this article or any issue of refund issue bonds or renewal or refunding bonds issued by such subdivision in novation or renewal and any bonds, heretofore or hereafter issued for the purposes specified in said Paragraph 1 of this Article. No bonds issued under this paragraph shall run for more than forty (40) years from their date, nor shall bear a greater rate of interest than five per centum per annum, payable semi-annually or annually and shall not be sold by such subdivision issuing the same for less than par. Any bonds issued under this Article may be either in whole or in part, exchanged value for value for bonds issued under Article 281, or to be issued under said Paragraph 1 of this Article, or sold and the proceeds thereof used for the purpose of purchasing outstanding bonds. Before any bonds shall be issued under this paragraph the issuance thereof shall be authorized by a vote of a majority in number and amount of the property taxpayers qualified to vote under the Constitution and laws of this State who vote on the proposition at an election held for that purpose, after due notice of said election has been published, for thirty days, in the official journal of the parish or parishes in which said subdivisions are located, or where there is no official journal, in any newspaper published in such parish or parishes, provided, however, that the governing body of any such subdivision may in their discretion and without a vote of the property taxpayers, issue refunding or renewal bonds under this paragraph, if the bonds to be refunded or renewed thereby have been or shall be issued for any of the purposes specified in said Paragraph 1 of this article, or in novation or renewal of any bonds issued or to be issued for the said purposes specified in paragraph 1 of this article, and such issue or issues so refunded or renewed have been or shall be authorized by a vote of a majority in number and amount of the property taxpayers qualified by a vote under the Constitution and laws of this State who voted or shall vote on the proposition at an election held for that purpose. When the bonds of any outstanding issue shall have been obtained either by purchase or exchange, the tax levy to pay for such bonds shall at once cease and such bonds be canceled. Each year while any refunding bonds issued under this paragraph are outstanding, the governing authorities of such subdivision shall levy and collect annually in excess of all other taxes, a tax sufficient to pay the interest, annually or semi-annually, and the principal falling due or such amount as may be required for a sinking fund for the payment of said bonds at maturity, provided that such special ad valorem tax for all purposes shall not in any year exceed ten mills on the dollar of the assessed valuation of the property in such subdivision.

The governing body of any such subdivision shall have full power to adopt and pass all ordinances and resolutions necessary to carry the provisions of this paragraph into effect. An election may be held under the provisions of this paragraph at the same times and places and by the same election officers as an election on the question of incurring debt and issuing bonds under the provisions of said Paragraph 1 of this Article.

Where bonds of any subdivision have been heretofore issued for any of the purposes specified in Paragraph 1 of this Article, and such issue has been authorized by the vote of a majority in number and amount of the property taxpayers qualified to vote under the Constitution and laws of this State who voted upon the proposition to issue such bonds at an election held for that purpose and where such bonds have been issued and sold by such subdivision for not less than par value thereof, the said bonds or any refund issue bonds or renewal or refunding bonds issued in novation or renewal of bonds issued for said purposes specified in Paragraph 1 of Article two hundred and eighty-one (281) are hereby validated, ratified and confirmed; provided that such bonds did not at the time of their issue exceed ten per centum of the assessed valuation of the property in such subdivision, and such bonds hereby ratified, approved and confirmed shall be deemed to be the valid and incontestable obligations of such subdivision and a tax for the payment of the principal and interest thereof and to create a sinking fund for the redemption shall be levied and collected in the manner and within the limits prescribed by said Paragraph 1 of this Article. The entire Article is to be considered a full grant of power to the subdivisions of the State as set forth therein.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That this proposed amendment shall be submitted to the qualified voters of this State for adoption or rejection at the Congressional election to be held in November, 1912, and, if adopted, the same shall take effect immediately thereafter.

Section 3. Be it further resolved, etc., That on the official ballots to be issued at said election there shall be placed the words: "For the proposed amendment to Article Two Hundred and Eighty-one of the Constitution of Louisiana," and the words "Against the proposed amendment to Article Two Hundred and Eighty-one of the Constitution of Louisiana," and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State, which of the propositions, "For" or "Against," he votes.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 9th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 133.

Senate Bill No. 1.

By Mr. Geo. Wesley Smith.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to Article 223 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all members elected to each House concurring, That an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be submitted to the qualified electors of the State for their approval or rejection, as required by Article 321 of the Constitution, at the Congressional election to be held on the first Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 1912, amending and re-enacting Article 223 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana so as to read as follows:

ARTICLE 223.

Section 1. Upon the recommendation of the Auditor of the Police Jury of any parish, the Governor may suspend any officer charged with the collection or custody of public funds when in arrears.

Section 2. Any officer of this State, or of any district, judicial or otherwise, and any officer of any parish or ward thereof, and any officer of any municipality or ward thereof (except the judges of all of the courts of record of this State, the judges of the various city courts throughout the State, and the justices of the peace) holding office by virtue of having been elected thereto by the legally qualified voters of this State, or of any district, judicial or otherwise, or of any parish or ward thereof, or of any municipality or ward thereof, shall be subject to recall from such office by the qualified voters of this State, or of any district, judicial or otherwise, or of any parish or ward thereof, or of any municipality or ward thereof, at any election throughout the State, district, judicial or otherwise, or of any parish or ward thereof, or of any municipality or ward thereof, by a majority of the legally qualified voters participating in such election. Such recall election shall be held when petitioned for by such a number of the legally qualified voters of the State, district, judicial or otherwise, or of any parish or ward thereof, or of any municipality or ward thereof, as will equal thirty per cent of the total number of registered voters qualified to vote at the last preceding general election for the office the incumbent of which is sought to be recalled. Notice of intention to circulate such petition together with a statement of the reasons why the recall of such officers is sought shall be given to such officers in such manner as may be provided by law. The General Assembly shall by appropriate legislation, prescribe the form of petition, the manner of verification and ascertainment that the requisite number of legally qualified voters has signed same, and also the manner and method of calling such election and the promulgations of the returns thereof. Such ballot shall contain the specific question, "Shall (naming the officer and giving his official title) be recalled," and opposite the question shall be two squares, in one of which shall be printed "Yes" and in the other shall be printed "No," and no ballot shall be considered at such election unless the voter shall have voted either "yes" or "no" upon such question. No officer shall be subject to recall until after he has been in office one year, and should his recall be defeated by the electors, then he shall not again, during that term of office, be subject to recall. At least three months, but not more than five months, shall elapse from the time that the necessary number of petitioners has asked for the recall election before same shall be held. A successor, for the remainder of the term, to the officer sought to be recalled shall be elected at the same time the recall election is held, and should the majority of the voters participating in such election be in favor of the recall of such officer, then immediately after the promulgation of the returns of such election, the successor so elected shall qualify. The General Assembly shall provide by law how candidates to succeed the officer sought to be recalled may have their names placed on the recall ballot of the State, district, judicial or otherwise, parish or ward thereof, or of any municipality, or ward thereof, by petition signed by qualified voters to the number of not less than thirty per cent of the total number of registered voters qualified to vote at the last preceding general election for the office the incumbent of which is sought to be recalled. All voters may express a first choice and a second choice, and the candidate who is the first choice of the greatest number of voters shall be declared to be elected. If the election has to be recalled. The officer sought to be recalled shall not be a candidate at such recall election.

Section 3. Be it further resolved, etc., That the official ballot to be used at said election shall have printed thereon the words: "For the proposed amendment to Article 223 of the Constitution providing for the recall of certain officers elected by the people." And the words: "Against the proposed amendment to Article 223 of the Constitution providing for the recall of certain officers elected by the people."

Section 4. Be it further resolved, etc., That if adopted at the said election in November, 1912, this amendment shall go into effect and be operative on and after the first day of January, 1913.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 9th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 139.

Senate Bill No. 174. By Mr. [illegible]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the people of the State of Louisiana at the Congressional election held in November, 1912, an amendment to the Constitution of the State as amended by Act No. 279 of the Acts of 1910 ratified by the people at the November election of 1910, so as to extend the time for the organization of the steamship companies therein provided for until January 1, 1916.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each branch thereof concurring, That at the Congressional election to be held in this State on the first Tuesday next following the first Monday in November 1912 the following amendment to the amendment submitted by Act No. 279 of Acts of 1910, ratified by the people at the November election of 1910, shall be submitted to the electors of the State, to-wit:

"The time granted for the organization of the steamship companies under this amendment to the Constitution shall be extended from January 1, 1915, to January 1, 1916."

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That the official ballot to be used at said election shall have printed thereon the words:

"For the proposed amendment to the Constitution extending the time for the organization of steamship companies under the Constitutional amendment proposed by Act 279 of 1910 from January 1, 1915, to January 1, 1916."

And the words:

"Against the proposed amendment to the Constitution extending the time for the organization of steamship companies under the Constitutional amendment proposed by Act No. 279 of 1910 from January 1, 1915, to January 1, 1916."

And each elector shall indicate on said ballot as provided in the general election law whether he votes for or against the proposed amendment.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 10th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 147.

Senate Bill No. 157.

By Senate Judiciary Committee, Section "B." Substitute for Senate Bill No. 35.

AN ACT

Proposing an amendment to Article 109, of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to District Courts.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring, That the following amendment to the Constitution of Louisiana shall be submitted to the electors of the State, at the Congressional election to be holden on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1912, and if approved and ratified by a majority of said electors, voting in said election, the same to become a part of the Constitution, to-wit:

That Article 109, of the Constitution of Louisiana be amended so as to read as follows:

ARTICLE 109.

The District Courts, except in the Parish of Orleans, shall have original jurisdiction in all civil matters where the amount in dispute shall exceed fifty dollars ($50.00), exclusive of interest and in all cases where the title to real estate is involved, or to office or other public position, or civil or political rights, and all other cases where no specific amount is in contest, except such as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

They shall have unlimited and exclusive original jurisdiction in all criminal cases except such as may be vested in other courts authorized by this Constitution; and in all probate and succession matters, and where a succession is a party defendant, and in all cases where the State, parish, and municipality or other political corporation is a party defendant, regardless of the amount in dispute, and of all proceedings for the appointment of receivers or liquidators to corporations or partnerships; and said court shall have authority to issue all such writs, process and orders as may be necessary or proper for the purposes of the jurisdiction herein conferred upon them. There shall be one District Judge in each Judicial District, except in the First, Twenty-first and Fifteenth Judicial Districts where until otherwise provided by law there shall be two (2) District Judges, but Judges of the Twenty-first Judicial District shall not be residents of the same parish. And the Judges of the Fifteenth (15th) Judicial District shall not be residents of the same parish after the expiration of the terms of the first Judges elected under this Constitution.

District Judges shall be elected by a plurality of the qualified voters of their respective districts, in which they shall have been actual residents for two years next preceding their election. They shall be learned in the law, and shall have practiced law in this State five years previous to their election.

The first District Judges under this Constitution shall be elected at the general State election in 1900, and shall hold office until their successors are elected on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1904, at which time and every four years thereafter District Judges shall be elected for terms of four years. Vacancies occasioned by death, resignation, or otherwise, where the unexpired portion of the term is less than one year, shall be filled for the remainder of the term by appointment by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. In all cases where the unexpired portion of the term is one year or more, the vacancy shall be filled by special election, to be called by the Governor, and held within sixty days of the occurrence of the vacancy, under the general election laws of the State.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That the foregoing amendment to the Article of the Constitution of this State, if adopted, shall become operative on the first day of December, A. D. 1912, and the Governor of the State shall, within ten days thereafter, order an election to be held within the Fifteenth Judicial District of Louisiana, and conformity with existing election laws, for the purpose of electing the additional Judge herein provided for, for the Fifteenth Judicial District, who shall hold office until the next regular election for Judges under this Constitution and until his successor is elected and qualified.

Section 3. Be it further resolved, etc., That upon the official ballots to be used at said Congressional election shall be printed the words: "For the proposed amendment to Article 109 of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to District Courts," and the words: "Against the proposed amendment to Article 109 of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to District Courts," and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State, which of the propositions, "For" or "Against" he votes for.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 10th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 155.

House Bill No 298. By Mr. Butler.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to Article 303 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to pensions for Confederate Veterans as amended by Act No. 73 of the General Assembly of 1900, and Act No. 112 of the General Assembly of 1904, and Act No. 269 of the General Assembly of 1908, and for the purpose of providing a sufficient revenue for the carrying out of this Article of the Constitution.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all members elected to each House concurring, That Article 303 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, as amended by Act No. 73 of the General Assembly of 1900, and Act No. 112 of the General Assembly of 1904, and Act No. 269 of the General Assembly of 1908, be so amended as to read as follows:

Article 303. A pension not to exceed eight dollars ($8) per month shall be allowed to each Confederate soldier or sailor veteran who possesses all the following qualifications:

1. He shall have served honorably from the date of his enlistment until the close of the late Civil War, or until he was discharged or paroled, in some military organization regularly mustered into the Army or Navy of the Confederate States, and shall have remained true to the Confederate States until the surrender.

2. He shall not own property of more than one thousand dollars valuation and he shall not be physically able to earn a livelihood by his own labor.

3. He shall not be salaried or otherwise provided for by the State of Louisiana or by any other State or Government. In case he enlisted in any organization mustered into said service as a Louisiana organization, or in case at the date of his enlistment he resided in the State of Louisiana, he shall have resided in this State for at least five years prior to his application for pension. In case he resided elsewhere than in this State, and enlisted in an organization not mustered in from Louisiana, or in the Navy of the Confederate States, he shall have resided in this State for at least fifteen years prior to his application for such pension. A like pension shall be granted to the widow who shall not have married again, in indigent circumstances, of such soldier or sailor whose marriage to her was contracted prior to January 1, 1885; provided that if her deceased husband served in an organization mustered in from Louisiana, or if he resided in Louisiana at the date of his enlistment, then in order that such widow shall be entitled to the pension as herein provided, she shall have resided in this State for at least five years prior to her application therefor, and if her deceased husband enlisted elsewhere than in Louisiana, and served in an organization not mustered in from Louisiana, such widow shall, in order to entitle her to a pension as herein provided, have resided in this State for not less than fifteen years prior to her application for such pension; provided further, that pensions whether to veterans or to widows shall be allowed only from the date of application under this article, and the total appropriations for all pensions, in any one year shall be the proceeds of the annual one mill tax, provided said appropriations shall never be more than five hundred and fifty thousand dollars for any one year which is hereby levied on all taxable property in the State. Any accruing surplus from said tax fund shall be turned over to the common school fund and prohibiting the collection of any other tax or making any appropriation in excess of the amount of the one mill tax levied and collected and to be known as "Confederate Veteran Pension Fund" and to be used for no other purpose, and upon the adoption of this amendment same shall at once become self-operative and the funds derived therefrom immediately used for said purpose, and provided further that the Tax Collectors and Assessors shall receive no commissions for assessing and collecting said one mill tax herein provided. Provided that nothing in this Article shall be construed so as to prohibit the General Assembly from providing artificial limbs to disabled Confederate soldiers or sailors.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That this proposed amendment be submitted to the qualified voters of the State of Louisiana for adoption or rejection at the Congressional election to be held on the first Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 1912.

That the official ballots to be used at said election shall have printed thereon the words: "For the proposed amendment to Article 303 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to pensions for Confederate Veterans," and the words: "Against the proposed amendment to Article 303 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to pensions for Confederate Veterans," and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State, whether he votes for or against the amendment.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 10th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 162.

House Bill No. 207. By Mr. Manion.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to Article 210 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, so as to permit women to hold any office connected with the educational system of the State, or of any political subdivision thereof, and with institutions of charity and correction.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring, That Article 210 of the Constitution be amended so as to read as follows:

Article 210. No person shall be eligible to any office, State, judicial, parochial, municipal or ward, who is not a citizen of this State and a duly qualified elector of the State, judicial district, parish, municipality or ward, wherein the functions of said office are to be performed; provided, that resident women over the age of twenty-five years shall be eligible to hold any office connected with the public educational system of the State, or of any ward, parish, or municipality in the State, and to hold any office in the State connected with institutions of charity or correction. And whenever any officer, State, judicial, parochial, municipal or ward, may change his residence from this State, or from the district, parish, municipality or ward in which he holds such office, the same shall thereby be vacated, any declaration of retention of domicile to the contrary notwithstanding.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That this proposed amendment be submitted to the electors of the State of Louisiana for their approval or rejection, as required by Article 321 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana and the general election laws of the State, at the next Congressional election to be held in this State in November, 1912.

Section 3. Be it further resolved, etc., That on the official ballots to be used at said election shall be placed the words: "For the proposed amendment to Article 210 of the Constitution relative to women," and the words "Against the proposed amendment to Article 210 of the Constitution relative to women," and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State, whether he votes for or against the said amendment.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 11th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 180.

House Bill No. 280. By Mr. Byrne.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to Article 157 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to the filling of vacancies in offices in the Parish of Orleans.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all members elected to each House concurring, That Article 157 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be amended so as to read as follows:

Article 157. Vacancies occurring from any cause in any of the judicial offices of the Parish of Orleans or the City of New Orleans or in any elective office in the Parish of Orleans, where the unexpired term is for a longer period than one year, shall be filled by a special election to be called by the proper legal authority and held within sixty (60) days of the occurrence of the vacancy under the general election laws of this State. Where the unexpired portion of the term is less than one year, the vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That the foregoing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be submitted to the electors of the State at the next election for Representatives in Congress to be holden on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1912, and on the official ballots to be used at said election shall be placed the words: "For the proposed amendment to Article 157 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana," and the words: "Against the proposed amendment to Article 157 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana;" and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State, which of the propositions, "for" or "against" he votes.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved July 11th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 203.

House Bill No. 4[illegible] By Mr. [illegible]

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, amending Article 46 of the Constitution of 1898, as amended by Act No. 303 of the Acts of 1910, ratified by the people at the November election of 1910, so as to authorize the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt to issue new bonds to retire or refund the State Bonded indebtedness due January 1st, 1914; to provide for a tax for the payment of the interest on said bonds and a sinking fund to retire the same, to provide for the payment out of the said sinking fund of an indebtedness due by the State to the United States, and of certain other claims against the State.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each house concurring, That an amendment to Article 46 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1898 as amended by Act No. 303 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana at its session held in the year 1910, ratified by the people at the November election of 1910, be submitted to the qualified electors of the State for their approval or rejection at the congressional election to be held on the first Tuesday next following the first Monday in November of 1912, said proposed amendment to read as follows:

"Article 46. The General Assembly shall have no power to contract or to authorize the contracting of any debt or liability on behalf of the State, or to issue bonds or other evidences of indebtedness thereof, except for the purpose of repelling invasion or for the suppression of insurrection. Provided, that for the purpose of retiring, liquidating or refunding the present State Bonded Indebtedness of Eleven Million, One Hundred and Eight Thousand, Three Hundred Dollars, maturing January 1st, 1914, and bearing four per centum per annum interest, the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt of Louisiana is given authority to issue Eleven Thousand, One Hundred and Eight new coupon bonds of the State of Louisiana of One Thousand Dollars each, to be numbered 'No. 1' to 'No. 11,108,' bearing a rate of interest not exceeding four per centum per annum, payable semi-annually, and to be due and paid in fifty years from January 1st, 1914. The form of said bonds shall be prescribed by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt and they shall be signed by the Governor, the auditor and the treasurer of the state. Said bonds shall be sold to the highest bidder at not less than par after three months of advertisement by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt in New Orleans, Chicago and New York; and in case said bonds cannot be sold they may be exchanged at par by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt for the bonds due January 1st, 1914. The excess of Three Hundred Dollars of the bonds due January 1st, 1914, over the bonds authorized by this article, shall be paid in cash out of the current interest funds of the State. The cost of engraving and advertising said bonds shall also be paid out of the said fund.

"In all other respects not herein specified, the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt is hereby given full power and authority to carry out the provisions of this amendment.

"Beginning with January 1st, 1914, there shall be and there is hereby levied on all property on which general state taxes are levied an annual tax of one and two-tenths mills, the net proceeds of which shall be devoted to the payment of the interest due on said bonds, to the payment of the interest due on the indebtedness of the State to the Free School Fund, to Seminary Fund and the Agricultural and Mechanical College Fund, to the payment of the proper expenses of the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt, and the residue to the constitution of a sinking fund to be applied annually except as hereinafter provided, to the purchase of said bonds by said Board at a price not to exceed One Hundred and Three and accrued interest. If bonds cannot be purchased as aforesaid, the sinking fund shall be invested by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt in sound, interest bearing securities, producing not less than four per centum per annum interest on the amount so invested, or deposited in solvent banks furnishing adequate security to the State, to be approved by the said Board, at a rate of interest not less than four per centum per annum. Said tax shall be levied until all of said bonds shall have been retired, but after the assessments of the State reach the sum of Six Hundred and Fifty Million Dollars, said tax shall be reduced to one mill and shall thereafter be reduced two-tenths of one mill for each One Hundred Million Dollars increase in assessments until the said tax shall be reduced to six-tenths of one mill. The said tax shall constitute a part of the six mills of taxation permitted to be levied by the Constitution.

In case the present system of taxation shall be changed before the said bonds shall have been paid, there shall be levied annually a tax sufficient to produce a gross sum of not less than Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars to take the place of said tax of one and two-tenths mills and its reductions.

"The Board of Liquidation of the State Debt shall have power to settle under the conditions and limitations hereinafter provided the following claims of indebtedness made by various persons against the State, to wit:

(1) The outstanding bonds known as Baby Bonds excluding all Baby Bonds fraudulently issued by any official of the State."

(2) "Auditor's Warrants issued for school, certificates of indebtedness under Act 126 of 1880.

(3) Certificates issued under Act 93 of 1880 for costs and fees due to the officers of the State.

(4) Warrants drawn prior to 1880 and fundable but not funded into Baby Bonds.

(5) Warrants drawn after January of 1880 against 1878 and previous years.

Provided, however, that the owners or the duly authorized trustees of the owners of said claims may prior to January 1st, 1915, but not thereafter, proceed against the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt by rule, solely and exclusively in the district court of the Parish of East Baton Rouge, to have the said claims examined and their validity and the indebtedness due thereon determined, which court is hereby given jurisdiction for that purpose.

This jurisdiction shall extend not only to the determination of the mere legal liability of the State on any of said claims, but also to the determination of any equitable liability of the State thereon and the extent of such equitable liability. Appeal shall lie in all cases, irrespective of the amounts involved, on the original record, to the Supreme Court of the State of Louisiana. The definitive decrees of said courts shall not have the effect of judgments against the State or the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt. The Board of Liquidation of the State Debt shall have the exclusive power to settle the claims, thus approved by the courts of the State, out of the sinking fund above provided for as funds are available, but they shall not be paid otherwise or out of any other fund.

Nothing in this amendment shall be construed as a recognition by the State of any liability, whether legal or equitable, to the owners or the holders of any of the said above designated bonds, warrants or claims, and the burden of proof shall rest throughout on each of such claimants to show such liability.

Out of the first surplus accruing in the sinking fund, there shall be paid in full the amount of principal and interest due on the bonds of the State, the face values of which aggregate Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars, and which are held by the United States as trustee for certain Indian funds.

"This article, as amended, shall be deemed to be self-acting and directly to confer the power and authority herein granted without an enabling act of the General Assembly."

Section 2. Be it further resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each house concurring, That the official ballot to be used at said election shall have printed thereon the words:

"For the proposed amendment to Article 46 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to the refunding and settlement of the indebtedness of the State."

and the words:

"Against the proposed amendment to Article 46 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, relative to the refunding and settlement of the indebtedness of the State."

And each elector shall indicate on said ballot, as provided in the General Election Law of the State, whether he votes for or against the proposed amendment.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved: July 11th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 238.

Senate Bill No. [illegible] By Mr. [illegible]

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, providing for the exemption from taxation for a period of ten (10) years from the date of its completion, of all railroads or parts of railroads, constructed subsequently to June 1, 1912.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring therein, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be submitted to the electors of the State at the next election for Representatives in Congress, to be holden on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1912, to-wit: There shall be exempt from taxation for a period of ten years from the date of its completion, any railroad or part of railroad that shall have been constructed and completed subsequently to June 1, 1912, and prior to January 1, 1917. This exemption shall include and apply to all rights of way, roadbed, sidings, rails and other superstructures upon such rights of way, roadbed or sidings, and to all depots, station houses, buildings, erections and structures appurtenant to such railroads and the operation of the same; but shall not include the depots, warehouses, station houses and other structures and appurtenances nor the land upon which they are erected at terminal points, and for which franchises have been granted and obtained, whether same remain the property of the present owner or owners, or be transferred or assigned to any corporation or corporations, person or persons whomsoever, and provided further that this exemption shall not apply to double tracks, sidings, switches, depots or other improvements or betterments which may be constructed by railroads now in operation within the State, other than extensions or new lines constructed by such railroads. Provided, further that when aid has heretofore been or which may hereafter be voted by any parish, ward or municipality to any railroad, such railroad which not be entitled to the exemption from taxation herein established.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That the official ballots at said election shall have printed thereon the words: "For the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to exemption from taxation for ten years from the date of its completion, of all railroads or parts of railroads, constructed subsequently to January 1 1913," and the words: "Against the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to exemption from taxation for a period of ten years from date of its completion of all railroads or parts of railroads constructed subsequently to January 1, 1913," and each elector shall indicate as provided in the general election laws of the State whether he votes for or against ~~the amendment~~.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved: July 11th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 236.

Senate Bill No. 161. By Mr. ~~Mouton~~.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to Article 291 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana relative to taxes for the construction and maintenance of public roads.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all members elected to each House concurring, that Article 291 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be amended so as to read as follows:

Article 291. The Police Juries of this State may form their respective parishes into road districts; and in order to raise funds for the purpose of constructing, maintaining and repairing the public roads and bridges of their parishes, they are authorized to set aside at least one mill per annum of the taxes levied by them, and to impose a per capita tax not more than one dollar per annum upon each able bodied male inhabitant of the parish between the ages of eighteen and fifty-five years, and to levy an annual license of not less than twenty-five (25c) nor more than one dollar per annum upon each vehicle, including bicycles kept within said parishes or within a municipality thereof whether or not exempt in its charter from parochial taxation, and used for locomotion over public roads, in their respective parishes; which license shall be graduated. The provision of this article relative to the per capita tax, shall not be operative in incorporated towns and cities that maintain their own streets.

To carry into effect the provisions of this Article the Police Juries may enact such ordinances of a civil nature as may be necessary to enforce the property and license tax, and of a criminal nature to enforce the per capita tax.

Police Juries and municipal corporations in the several parishes of this State may levy other taxes for the construction and maintenance of public roads and bridges within the territorial limits of said parishes, and may incur debt, and issue negotiable bonds therefor in the manner and to extend authorized under provisions of Articles 232 and 281 of the Constitution and the Statutes adopted to carry them into effect. Other taxes may be levied by the Police Juries for road and bridge purposes not to exceed five mills for five years on the property of the Parish, or any ward thereof, whether the rate of taxation and the purpose thereof shall have been submitted to the property taxpayers of the said ward or parish entitled to vote under the election laws of the State, and a majority thereof in number and value of those voting at said election shall have voted in favor thereof. That this article shall be self operative.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That this proposed amendment shall be submitted to qualified voters of this State for adoption or rejection at the congressional election to be held in November, 1912, and, if adopted, the same shall take effect immediately thereafter.

Section 3. Be it further resolved, etc., That on the official ballots to be issued at said election there shall be placed the words: "For the proposed amendment to Article Two Hundred and Ninety-One of the Constitution of Louisiana," and the words: "Against the proposed amendment to Article Two Hundred and Ninety-one of the Constitution of Louisiana," and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of the State which of the propositions, "For" or "Against," he votes.

L. E. THOMAS,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
THOMAS C. BARRET,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
Approved: July 11th, 1912.
L. E. HALL,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.
A true copy:
ALVIN E. HEBERT,
Secretary of State.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

EXTRA SESSION 1912.

ACT NO. 4.

Senate Bill No. 2. By Mr. Voegtle.

Joint resolution submitting to the people of the State of Louisiana an amendment to the Constitution authorizing parishes and self-taxing municipalities to exempt new industrial enterprises and also improved value, inclusive of structures added to unimproved lands by immigrants into the State, who occupy said lands as homesteads from local taxation for a period not to exceed ten (10) years.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be and the same is hereby submitted to the qualified electors of the State at the congressional election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month of November of the year 1912, to-wit:

Every parish and self-taxing municipality shall have the right to exempt new industrial enterprises and also the improved value added to unimproved lands, including all structures thereon, by immigrants into the State, who occupy said lands as homesteads, from local taxes for a period not to exceed ten (10) years by the vote of