

ACT NO. 218.

House Bill No. 263. By Mr. Byrne.
JOINT RESOLUTION.

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, requiring each parish and the City of New Orleans to levy annually a tax for the support of public schools in each parish and in the said city.

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 the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be proposed and submitted to the qualified electors of the State, for ratification or rejection, as follows, to-wit:

There shall be levied by the police jury of each parish on all the taxable property therein an annual tax of one and one-half mills on the dollar of assessed valuation for the support of the public schools in each parish, provided that where a parish school board shall certify to the police jury that a smaller levy will satisfy the needs of the schools, the police jury shall make the smaller levy recommended by the school board, except that in and for the parish of Orleans the Board of Directors of the Public Schools of the parish of Orleans, or its legal successor, shall levy an annual tax not exceeding two and three-fourths mills for the support, maintenance, construction, and repair of the public schools of the City of New Orleans; provided that this limitation on the City of New Orleans shall not be construed to prevent the people of the City of New Orleans from voting a special tax under Section 18 of Act No. 4 of 1916, authorizing the voting of special taxes by the people of the City of New Orleans at a special tax election. And provided further that the provisions of this Article shall not apply to cities and towns that, under existing laws, are exempt from the payment of parish taxes, and which, under legislative authority, conduct, maintain and support public schools open and free to the youth of the parish in which said city or town is located, and which levy, collect and expend annually for the conduct, maintenance and support of said schools an annual tax of at least one and one-half mills on the dollar of the assessed valuation of said city or town.

There shall be no overlapping school districts; nor subdistricts, except that if a parish-wide special school tax has been or may be voted, then there may be subdistricts, not overlapping, within such parish, provided that the total special taxes voted at special elections, whether parish-wide, or sub-district, or both, for public school support, under Article 232 of the Constitution, shall not exceed five mills on the dollar; and where there now exist any special taxes in excess of five mills, voted under said Article 232 of the Constitution for public school support, the same is hereby reduced to five mills.

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That this amendment be submitted to the duly qualified electors of the State of Louisiana, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, to be voted upon at the General Congressional Election to be held in November, 1918, and there shall be printed upon the ballots: "For the amendment to the Constitution requiring each parish and the City of New Orleans to levy one and one-half mills annual tax for the support of the public schools therein;" and "Against the amendment to the Constitution requiring each parish and the City of New Orleans to levy one and one-half mills annual tax for the support of public schools therein;" and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of this State, whether he votes for or against said amendment.

HEWITT BOUANCHAUD,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
FERNAND MOUTON,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved: July 11, 1918.

R. G. PLEASANT,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
JAMES J. BAILEY,
Secretary of State.

W.S.S.

ACT NO. 226.

House Bill No. 317. By Mr. Hamley.
JOINT RESOLUTION.

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, levying a special State tax not exceeding one and one-half mills on the dollar for the benefit of public education.

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 the Constitution of the State of Louisiana be proposed and submitted to the qualified electors of the State, for ratification or rejection, as follows, to-wit:

"There shall be levied on all the taxable property in the State of Louisiana an annual State tax of one and one-half mills on the dollar on its assessed valuation, for the support of the public schools; provided that of the amount derived from the levy on the City of New Orleans, fifty thousand dollars shall be paid annually by the State Treasurer to the Commission Council of the City of New Orleans for the support and maintenance of the Isaac Delgado Trade School of the City of New Orleans."

Section 2. Be it further resolved, etc., That this amendment shall be submitted to the duly qualified electors of the State of Louisiana, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution, to be voted upon at the General Congressional Election to be held in November, 1918, and there shall be printed upon the ballot: "For the amendment to the Constitution levying a special tax of one and one-half mills on the dollar for the support of the public schools;" and "Against the amendment to the Constitution levying a special tax of one and one-half mills on the dollar for the support of the public schools;" and each elector shall indicate, as provided in the general election laws of this State, whether he votes for or against said amendment.

HEWITT BOUANCHAUD,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
FERNAND MOUTON,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved: July 11, 1918.

R. G. PLEASANT,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
JAMES J. BAILEY,
Secretary of State.

ACT NO. 259.

Senate Bill No. 143. By Mr. Smith.
JOINT RESOLUTION.

Submitting to the people of the State of Louisiana, at the Congressional election to be held in November, 1918, an amendment to the Constitution of the State authorizing corporations formed or to be formed under the laws of this State for the purpose of constructing and operating canals for irrigation and navigation, as well as plants for the generation and distribution of hydro-electric power, to utilize the waters of the navigable streams of this State, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the State Board of Engineers, for such purposes; as well as to use the deserted beds of former navigable streams that may remain the property of the State as reservoirs in connection with such irrigation projects; and providing that, at the end of seventy (70) years from the completion of any system of canals and hydro-electric plants by corporations availing themselves of the authority so granted, their property and plants shall become the property of the State, to be operated by it for public revenue in such manner as the legislature shall direct; and providing that none of these provisions shall be construed to apply to canals in existence on or prior to July 1, 1918.

Whereas, The rice interests of large portions of this State have suffered great loss for want of fresh water; and,

Whereas, If water can be furnished for the irrigation of rice lands from navigable streams of the State, hundreds of thousands of acres of land now idle can be reclaimed and brought into cultivation, thus adding to the wealth and prosperity of the State; and,

Whereas, Canals can be constructed so as to provide irrigation, navigation and power, and it is the State's duty to encourage and promote the organization of such concerns;

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 be submitted to the qualified electors of the State for their adoption or rejection at the congressional election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month of November, 1918, as follows:

"Corporations formed or to be formed under the laws of this State for the purpose of constructing and operating canals for irrigation and navigation, as well as plants for the generation and distribution of hydro-electric power, shall have the right, under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the State Board of Engineers, to utilize for such purposes the waters of the navigable streams of this State, as well as the right to use as reservoirs or for the storing of water for such purposes the deserted beds of former navigable streams which may be the property of the State; provided that, at the end of seventy (70) years from the completion of any system of canals and hydro-electric plants by corporations availing themselves of the authority so granted, their property and plants shall become the property of the State, to be operated by it for public revenue in such manner as the legislature shall direct; and provided further that none of these provisions shall be construed to apply to canals in existence prior to July 1, 1918."

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 of the State of Louisiana authorizing the use of the waters of the navigable streams of the State, under such regulations as the State Board of Engineers shall prescribe, as well as the use of deserted river beds the property of the State for reservoir purposes in connection with such canals, by corporations formed or to be formed under the laws of this state; and providing that at the end of seventy (70) years from the completion of the systems, such canals and hydro-electric plants shall become the property of the State, to be operated for public revenue;" And each elector shall indicate as provided in the general election laws of the State whether he votes for or against the proposed amendment.

FERNAND MOUTON,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.
HEWITT BOUANCHAUD,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved: July 11, 1918.

R. G. PLEASANT,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
JAMES J. BAILEY,
Secretary of State.

W.S.S.

ACT NO. 271.

Senate Bill No. 199. By Mr. Thoele.
AN ACT.

To amend and re-enact Act No. 32 of the Extra Session of 1917, entitled "A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, exempting persons in the military service from the payment of poll taxes."

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, That the title to Act No. 32 of the Extra Session of 1917 be amended and re-enacted so as to read as follows:

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Article 198 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana, exempting persons in the military service from the payment of poll taxes; and authorizing them to participate in primaries and other nominating elections without registration or the payment of poll taxes.

Section 2. Be it further enacted, etc., That Section 1 of said Act be amended and re-enacted so as to read as follows: Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, two-thirds of all the members elected to each House concurring, That at the election for members of Congress to be held in this State on the 7th day of November, 1918, there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the State, for their approval or rejection, the following amendment to the Constitution:

"Art. 198. No person less than sixty years of age shall be permitted to vote at any election in the State who shall not, in addition to the qualifications above described, have paid on or before the 31st day of December of each year for the two years preceding the year in which he offers to vote, a poll tax of one dollar per annum, to be used exclusively in aid of the public schools of the parish in which such tax shall have been collected; which tax is hereby imposed on every male resident of this State, be-

tween the ages of twenty-one and sixty years. Poll taxes shall be a lien only upon assessed property, and no process shall issue to enforce the collection of the same except against assessed property."

Every person liable for such tax shall, before being allowed to vote, exhibit to the Commissioners of Election his poll tax receipts for two years, issued on the official form, or duplicate thereon, in the event of loss or proof of payment of such poll taxes may be made by a certificate of the tax collector, which shall be sent to the commissioners of the several voting precincts, showing a list of those who have paid said two years' poll taxes as above provided, and the dates of payment. It is hereby declared to be forgery, and punishable as such, for any tax collector or other person, to antedate, or alter a poll tax receipt. Any person who shall pay the poll tax of another or advance him money for that purpose, in order to influence his vote, shall be guilty of bribery and punished accordingly. The provisions of this article as to the payment of poll taxes shall not apply to persons who are deaf and dumb, or blind, nor to persons under twenty-three years of age who have paid all poll taxes assessed against them; nor to persons in the military service of the State or of the United States, during a time of war; nor to persons who entered the military service, as aforesaid, after the first day of January, 1916, and who have since been honorably discharged, provided that such persons shall pay all poll taxes assessed against them after said discharge; provided, that any person in the military or naval service of the United States shall, during the war, without either registration or the payment of poll taxes, be permitted to vote in all primary elections, to sign nominating papers, for State and Congressional candidates; provided that if such person were not in such service he would be otherwise qualified to participate in such elections.

This amendment, if adopted, shall validate any legislation enacted at the regular session of 1918, authorizing military electors to vote, where such legislation would be invalid without this amendment. Section 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That the official ballot to be used in such election shall have printed thereon the words: "For the proposed amendment to the Constitution, exempting soldiers and sailors from the payment of poll taxes;" and the words: "Against the amendment to the Constitution exempting soldiers and sailors from the payment of poll taxes."

FERNAND MOUTON,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

HEWITT BOUANCHAUD,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Approved: July 11, 1918.

R. G. PLEASANT,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
JAMES J. BAILEY,
Secretary of State.

W.S.S.

SPECIAL SESSION, 1918.

ACT NO. 18.

House Bill No. 5. By Mr. Alexander.
AN ACT.

To provide for the laying out, construction and maintenance of the Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways; to provide a revenue for carrying out the objects and purposes of this Act; to authorize the funding of said revenue into bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness; to define the duties of the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt of the State of Louisiana, the State Highway Engineer, the State Treasurer, the Secretary of State and the State Auditor in connection therewith; and to provide for a fiscal agent to whom the funds shall be let for deposit; and an act whereas it is intended to have this act ratified by an amendment to the Constitution of the State.

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana, That the Highway Engineer of the State of Louisiana is hereby authorized to let contracts for the construction and completion of the Chief Menteur Road, commencing at Peoples Avenue, in the Parish of Orleans, and extending to a place in the Parish of St. Tammany at the boundary line between the States of Louisiana and Mississippi, opposite, or nearly opposite, to Logtown, in the State of Mississippi, which said road has already been begun and contracted for, and has been designated as a State Highway by the Highway Department of the State of Louisiana; and for the construction of all such bridges as may be necessary for said road; and for the construction and completion of a model State Highway, on such route as the State Highway Department of the State of Louisiana has designated or may deem wise to designate, to extend approximately parallel to the Illinois Central Railroad from Hammond into New Orleans, and in the construction of the necessary bridges upon said highway; provided, that in the construction of the said Hammond-New Orleans Highway no natural drain shall in any way be in the least manner obstructed; and provided further, that said Hammond-New Orleans Highway shall be provided with culverts or other engineering outlet of passing the same volume of water as is now passed or in the future shall be passed by the culverts or other engineering outlets in the roadbed of the Illinois Central Railroad parallel to said Hammond-New Orleans Highway.

That before any such contract is let as herein provided, same shall be approved by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt of the State of Louisiana.

Section 2. Be it enacted, etc., That in order to provide funds for the construction, completion and maintenance of the above mentioned highways, the Secretary of State from and after the first day of January, 1919, shall, as soon after collection as practicable, deposit with the State Treasurer for the account of the Highway Department of the State of Louisiana all motor vehicle licenses collected under the provisions of Act No. 160 of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana for the year 1914, approved July 9, 1914, from the Parishes of Jefferson, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, Tangipahoa, St. Tammany and Orleans, and the licenses so collected shall be paid by the State Treasurer into a special fund to be known as "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways;" and in addition to the motor vehicle licenses paid into said "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways" from the Parishes above enumerated, the

State Treasurer shall likewise pay into said fund such portion or sufficient amount out of the Special Road Tax collected under Article 291 of the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1913 from the Parish of Orleans as may be necessary to create and maintain in said fund a sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars per year, which said special fund is hereby set apart and dedicated for the purpose of paying any and all contracts heretofore made and hereafter to be made, and pay any and all bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness made or issued by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt of the State of Louisiana to provide moneys for the costs of constructing said highways.

Section 3. Be it further enacted, etc., That in order to provide ready funds for the payment of the contracts provided for in Section 1 of this Act, the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt of Louisiana shall have authority to issue bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness in anticipation of the collection and receipt of the taxes, licenses and revenues set apart and dedicated to the said "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways," payable exclusively from the said special fund, which said special fund is hereby set apart and dedicated to the payment, principal and interest, of any bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness.

Section 4. Be it further enacted, etc., That the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt of the State of Louisiana shall have power to borrow money for the purpose of financing the construction and completion of the said Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans Highways hereinafore referred to, and to that end may issue bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness in any amount not to exceed the sum of Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars, in such sums and denominations as the said Board shall prescribe, not less than Five Hundred Dollars each, may be registered bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness, or payable to bearer, as may be preferred, and shall be designated as Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highway Bonds, or Notes or Certificates of Indebtedness; that at the discretion of said Board all or any part of said bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness shall be payable from one to twenty years. Said bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness may contain such provisions as may be deemed expedient for registration in the name of the holder, or for the release thereof from registration; shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding five per centum per annum, payable at such time or times as the Board may prescribe and the place or places of payment of principal and interest shall be fixed by the said Board. Said bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness shall be sold to the highest bidder at public sale at not less than par, after thirty days advertisement by the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt of the State of Louisiana in New Orleans, Chicago, and New York; and the money arising from the sale thereof shall be paid to the State Treasurer to the account of the Highway Department of the State of Louisiana, and to the credit of the "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways," and only paid out on the warrant of the State Highway Engineer approved by the President of the Board of State Engineers. Said bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness shall be signed by the Governor, the Auditor and the Treasurer of the State. Any coupons attached thereto shall bear the fac-simile signature of the Treasurer of the State. Any bonds, notes, certificates of indebtedness issued by virtue hereof, shall be and are hereby declared to have the qualities of negotiable paper under the law merchant, and shall not be invalid for any irregularity or defect in the proceedings for the issue and sale thereof, and shall be incontestable in the hands of bona fide purchasers or holders thereof. No proceedings in respect to the issue of any such bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness shall be necessary, except such as are required by this Act.

Section 5. Be it further enacted, etc., That the funds collected annually and directed to be set apart and paid into "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways," under the provisions of this Act, and by this Act directed to be applied to the construction of the said Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways, are hereby pledged to pay the principal and interest on said bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness as the same shall become due and payable, and it shall be the duty of the Treasurer of the State of Louisiana to transfer from said "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highway" to the credit of a special account to be known as the "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highway Bonds, Interest and Redemption Account," out of the first funds collected and received for said "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways," a sum sufficient to pay the principal and interest upon any bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness issued hereunder, that may have been sold and delivered for the period of one year ensuing, and to maintain in said special accounts styled "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highway Bonds, Interest and Redemption Account," at all times from said source, a sum equal to one year's principal and interest upon the said bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness, and also sufficient to pay all bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness issued hereunder which shall become due and payable during the year next ensuing. After any bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness authorized hereby shall have been issued and delivered, no part of said "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways," shall be applied to any of

the purposes authorized herein until the said "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highway Bonds, Interest and Redemption Account" shall have been created, and the State Treasurer shall have transferred into it, the funds hereby directed to be transferred.

Section 6. Be it further enacted, etc., That the proceeds of the sale of all bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness issued hereunder shall be used first to pay for the construction and completion of the Chief Menteur Road and bridges in the Parishes of Orleans and St. Tammany, State of Louisiana, and second, on and after reserving and setting aside the amount necessary to pay for the completion of the Chief Menteur Road and for building all necessary bridges therefor, to pay for the construction of the said public highway from Hammond to New Orleans, and the building of all necessary bridges therefor.

Section 7. Be it further enacted, etc., That the Auditor of the State of Louisiana shall keep a record of all bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness sold or outstanding, and shall keep an accurate account of all such specially dedicated funds.

Section 8. Be it further enacted, etc., That the Board of Liquidation of the State Debt of the State of Louisiana shall let the privilege to become depository of the special funds provided for under this Act and said Board shall have the discretion to let such funds under such terms and conditions as will provide an advantageous negotiation of the bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness sold, and provide always ready funds for the payment of the principal and interest on such bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness. All funds collected under the provisions of this Act, which have been set apart and dedicated to the said "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways," or which may hereafter be set apart or dedicated for the construction and maintenance of the above mentioned highways, and all funds arising from the sale of said bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness, shall be deposited with the Treasurer of the State in a special fund as set forth to be paid out as herein provided, and the Treasurer of the State is hereby authorized to pay out of said fund, all interest coupons due upon the said bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness issued under the terms of this Act, and all bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness becoming due hereunder.

Section 9. Be it further enacted, etc., That the motor vehicle licenses from the Parishes of Jefferson, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist, Tangipahoa, St. Tammany and Orleans, collected after the bonds, notes or certificates of indebtedness provided for in this Act are fully paid, principal and interest, and after the highways shall have been completed with the funds dedicated for that purpose, shall then revert to said parishes, and shall be paid into their respective treasuries in the same manner as now provided for under Act No. 260 of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana for the year 1914, and in the same manner as the said motor vehicle licenses are turned over to the other Parishes of this State, and thereafter said Parishes shall provide out of said funds so reverting to them the proper maintenance of said highways; provided further, that any portion of the Special Road Tax of one-fourth of one mill on the dollar collected under Article 291 of the Constitution of 1913 from the Parish of Orleans, not set apart or dedicated to the "State Highway Fund No. 2, Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways," at the expiration of any fiscal year shall revert to the "State Highway Fund" as provided for in Act No. 49 of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana for the year 1916, and be applied in such manner as shall be now or hereafter provided by law.

Section 10. Be it further enacted, etc., That all laws inconsistent with or in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Section 11. Be it further enacted, etc., That at the next Congressional election to be held in this State on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of the month of November, 1918, there shall be submitted to the electors of the State the following amendment to the Constitution, to-wit:

The General Assembly shall provide for the laying out, construction, and maintenance of the Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways and shall provide, by bond issue or otherwise, the financing of the construction and completion of said highways. And all provisions of the Constitution in conflict herewith are to this extent repealed, and Act No. — of the Extra Session of the General Assembly of the State of Louisiana for the year 1918, entitled "An Act to provide for the laying out, construction and maintenance of the Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways, etc., etc., is ratified and approved."

Section 12. Be it further enacted, etc., That on the official ballots to be used in said election, shall be placed the words, "For the Amendment providing for the laying out, construction and maintenance of the Chief Menteur and Hammond-New Orleans State Highways," and each elector shall indicate his vote on the proposed amendment as provided by the General Assembly of this State.

HEWITT BOUANCHAUD,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
FERNAND MOUTON,
Lieutenant Governor and President of the Senate.

Approved: August 15, 1918.

R. G. PLEASANT,
Governor of the State of Louisiana.

A true copy:
R. H. FLOWER,
Assistant Secretary of State.