

FOREWORD

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA:

This pamphlet has been edited and mailed to you under the provisions of Section 25 of the Constitution, as amended, reading as follows:

All measures submitted to the electors shall be published by the State as follows: "The Secretary of State shall cause to be printed and mailed to each elector a publicity pamphlet, containing a copy of each measure, together with its ballot title, to be submitted at any election. Any citizen, or the officers of any organization, may submit to the Secretary of State for publication in such pamphlet, arguments concerning any measure therein, upon first subscribing their names and addresses thereto and paying the fee therefor, which, until otherwise fixed by the Legislature, shall be the sum of Two Hundred Dollars per page."

Said Section also provides that, "In submitting measures to the electors, the Secretary of State and all other officials shall be guided by the election laws until additional legislation shall be provided."

Chapter 28, Special Session Laws, 1919, providing for the submission to the electors of proposed amendment relating to residence requirements of electors, directs that said amendment be submitted at the election held March 16th, 1920.

The acts proposing the other constitutional amendments which are to be voted upon at this time do not specify any election; I am therefore submitting them to the electors at the first statewide election, not a special election, after their enactment.

The proposed amendments and initiated measures appear in the same order in this pamphlet that they will on the official ballot. The complete text of the constitutional amendments will appear upon the ballot, but only the ballot title of the initiated measures.

While the time for printing and distributing this pamphlet is short, I trust that it will be received by the voters in time to enable them to become familiar with the measures and the arguments.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS HALL,

Secretary of State.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of North Dakota.

CHAPTER 93, SESSION LAWS 1919. (S. B. No. 168—Morkrid.)

ARTICLE OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS. A Concurrent Resolution for an Amendment to the Constitution of the State of North Dakota Providing for the Recall of Congressional, State, County, Judicial and Legislative Officers by the People.

To amend the Constitution of the State of North Dakota by adding the following article:

Article — The qualified electors of the state or of any county, or of any congressional, judicial or legislative district may petition for the recall any elective congressional, state, county, judicial or legislative officer by filing a petition with the officer with whom the petition for nomination to such office in the primary election is filed, demanding the recall of such officer. Such petition shall be signed by at least thirty per cent of the qualified electors who voted at the preceding election for the office of Governor in the state, county or district from which such officer is to be recalled. The petition with whom such petition is filed shall call a special election to be held not less than forty or more than forty-five days from the filing of such petition.

The officer against whom such petition has been filed shall continue to perform the duties of his office until the result of such special election shall have been officially declared. Other candidates for such office may be nominated in the manner as provided by law in primary elections. The candidate who shall receive the highest number of votes shall be deemed elected for the remainder of the term. The name of the candidate against whom the recall petition is filed shall go on the ticket unless he resigns within ten days after the filing of the petition. After one such petition and election, no further recall petition shall be filed against the same officer during the term for which he was elected. This article shall be self executing and all of its provisions shall be treated as mandatory. Laws may be enacted to facilitate its operation, but no law shall be enacted to hamper, restrict or impair the right of recall.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of North Dakota.

CHAPTER 96, SESSION LAWS, 1919. (S. B. No. 190—Mees.)

LEASING OF STATE LANDS. Amending the Constitution of the State of North Dakota by Providing for the Leasing of all State Lands for Pasturage and Meadow Purposes and the Leasing of Coal Lands for Agricultural Cultivation, and Fixing the Maximum Time for which Leases May be Given on Such Lands.

To amend Section 161 in Article 9 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota by adding the following words:

"Provided, further, that coal lands may also be leased for agricultural cultivation upon such terms and conditions and for such a period, not exceeding five years, as the legislature may provide;" so as to read as follows:

Sec. 161, Article 9. The legislative assembly shall have authority to provide by law for the leasing of lands granted to the state for educational and charitable purposes; but no such law shall authorize the leasing of said lands for a longer period than five years. Said lands shall only be leased for pasturage and meadow purposes and at a public auction after notice as heretofore provided in case of sale; provided, that all of said school lands now under cultivation may be leased, at the discretion of the Board of University and School Lands, for other than pasturage and meadow purposes until sold. All rents shall be paid in advance.

Provided, further, that coal lands may also be leased for agricultural cultivation upon such terms and conditions and for such a period, not exceeding five years as

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of North Dakota.

CHAPTER 26, SPECIAL SESSION LAWS, 1919. (S. B. No. 48—Ployhar.)

DEBT LIMIT OF POLITICAL SUB-DIVISIONS. Concurrent Resolution Amending and Re-enacting Chapter 91 of the Session Laws of 1919. Being a Concurrent Resolution, to Amend Section 183 of Article 12 of the Constitution of North Dakota, Providing for the Debt Limit of any County, Township, City, Town, School District and any other Political Subdivision.

To amend Section 183 of Article 12 by adding the following words, "and a school district by a majority vote may increase such indebtedness five per cent on such assessed value beyond said five per centum limit; provided also that any county or city by a majority vote may issue bonds upon any revenue producing utility owned by such county or city, or for the purchasing or acquiring the same or building or establishment thereof, in amounts not exceeding the physical value of such utility, industry or enterprise."

Also provides that in estimating indebtedness the amount of bonds upon revenue producing utilities shall not be included; amending said section so as to read as follows:

Section 183. The debt of any county, township, city, town, school district or any other political subdivision, shall never exceed five per centum upon the assessed value of the taxable property therein; provided that any incorporate city may, by a two-thirds vote, increase such indebtedness three per centum on such assessed value beyond said five per centum limit, and a school district, by a majority vote may increase such indebtedness five per cent on such assessed value beyond said five per centum limit; provided also that any county or city by a majority vote may issue bonds upon any revenue producing utility owned by such county or city, or for the purchasing or acquiring the same or building or establishment thereof, in amounts not exceeding the physical value of such utility, industry or enterprise.

In estimating the indebtedness which a city, county, township, school district or any other political subdivision may incur, the entire amount, exclusive of the bonds upon said revenue producing utilities, whether contracted prior or subsequent to the adoption of this constitution, shall be included; provided further that any incorporated city may become indebted in any amount not exceeding four per centum of such assessed value without regard to the existing indebtedness of such city for the purpose of constructing or purchasing waterworks for furnishing a supply of water to the inhabitants of such city, or for the purpose of constructing sewers, and for no other purposes whatever. All bonds and obligations in excess of the amount of indebtedness permitted by this Constitution, given by any city, county, township, town, school district, or any other political subdivision shall be void.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of the State of North Dakota.

CHAPTER 28, SPECIAL SESSION LAWS, 1919. (Concurrent Resolution.)

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS OF ELECTORS. Concurrent Resolution for an Amendment to the Constitution, Relating to Residence Required of an Elector.

To amend the Constitution of the State of North Dakota by adding the following article:

Amendment. Every qualified elector who shall have resided in the state one year, and in the county ninety days, and in the precinct thirty days next preceding any election, shall be entitled to vote at such election; provided, that where a qualified elector moves from one precinct to another within the same county, he shall be entitled to vote in the precinct from which he moved, until he establishes his residence in the precinct to which he moved.