

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Managers Plan of County Government

Submitted by the Twenty-fifth Session of the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota, being House Concurrent Resolution No. 356.

The full text of which proposed Constitutional Amendment is as follows, to-wit:

Concurrent Resolution for an Amendment to the Constitution of the State of North Dakota Providing for a Managers Plan of County Government in Certain Counties.

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of North Dakota, the Senate Concurring:

That the following amendment to the Constitution of North Dakota is agreed to and shall be submitted to the qualified electors of North Dakota for approval or rejection in accordance with the provisions of Section 202 of said Constitution:

In any County having a population of eight thousand or less as determined by the last Federal census, 25% of the qualified electors of said County may petition the Board of County Commissioners of that County to submit to the electors of said County at a special election to be held not more than ninety days immediately following the filing of said petition the question of adopting for said County the Managers Plan of Government. If a majority of the electors of said County voting upon such question shall be in favor of said Managers Plan, the Board of County Commissioners shall appoint a manager whose duties it shall be to perform either personally, or by agent, which agent he may appoint, all duties required by law to be performed by the Register of Deeds, County Auditor, County Treasurer, Sheriff, County Judge, Clerk of District Court, Superintendent of Schools, Assessors, and he may hire an attorney at law to perform the duties of States Attorney for that County, and all persons appointed to perform such duties shall be removable at will by the manager, who shall be bonded by the State Bonding Fund in such amount as the Board of County Commissioners may fix, and he shall receive such salary as may be determined by the Board of County Commissioners. The said manager shall be accountable to and subject to removal with or without cause by the Board of County Commissioners. The manager so appointed, or the person appointed by him therefor performing the duties of County Treasurer, Sheriff and County Superintendent of Schools shall not be subject to any term limitation or to any educational qualifications as now provided by the constitution or by the laws of this State, and the Board of County Commissioners of said County shall continue to function as now provided by statute and the constitution, and to perform all duties now enjoined upon them under the laws of this State. The legislative assembly may by law provide additional qualifications, duties and grant additional powers to the manager so appointed and fix his salary, but it may not abolish the said office of manager in Counties having adopted the Managers Plan of County Government. The Managers Plan herein provided of County government once adopted as herein provided shall remain in force in the County adopting the same until the majority of the voters at any special or general election called for that purpose by the Board of County Commissioners on petition signed by like number of electors as required to establish said plan shall vote to discontinue said plan, and which election it shall be the duty of the Board of County Commissioners to call within ninety days from the date of filing of said petition asking for the discontinuance of the plan.

If the plan is voted upon and approved at any election other than a general election in that County, the elected officers above named of said County shall continue to perform their duties until the expiration of their respective terms of office, and at the following general election no person shall be elected to any of the County offices above name[d], except to the office of member of the Board of County Commissioners; and

if the said plan is voted upon and approved at a general election, the said County offices shall be regarded as discontinued for all purposes at the expiration of the term of the incumbent of each of said offices; provided that after a change has been made in the form of County government, that the question of changing back to the former system of government shall not be submitted to election within six years.

Filed March 5, 1937.

Election, Terms, County Officers

Submitted by the Twenty-fifth Session of the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota, being Senate Concurrent Resolution H,

The full text of which proposed Constitutional Amendment is as follows, to-wit:

A Concurrent Resolution Providing for the Amendment of Article 48 of the Constitution of North Dakota.

Be It Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives Concurring:

That the following proposed amendment of Article 48 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota, is agreed to and that the same be submitted to the qualified electors of the State of North Dakota for approval or rejection, in accordance with the provisions of Section 202 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota as amended.

Sec. 1. AMENDMENT.) That Article 48 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota, is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 173. At the first general election held after the adoption of this amendment, and every two years thereafter, there shall be elected in each organized County in the State, a Register of Deeds, County Auditor, Treasurer, Sheriff, State's Attorney, County Judge and a Clerk of the District Court, who shall be electors in the County in which they are elected and who shall hold their office until their successors are elected and qualified; provided in Counties having twelve thousand (12,000) population, or less, the County Judge shall also be the Clerk of the District Court. Provided further, that in Counties having a population of six thousand (6,000), or less, the Register of Deeds shall also be Clerk of the District Court and County Judge. The Legislative Assembly shall provide by law for such other County, township and district officers as may be deemed necessary, and shall prescribe the duties and compensation of all County, township and district officers.

Filed March 8, 1937.

Sale of School and Public Lands

Submitted by the Twenty-fifth Session of the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota, being Senate Concurrent Resolution P.

The full text of which proposed Constitutional Amendment is as follows, to-wit:

A Concurrent Resolution Providing for the Amendment of Section 158 of Article 9 of the Constitution of North Dakota as Amended by Article 13 of the Amendments Thereof, Relating to School and Public Lands, and for Resale to Original Purchaser.

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of North Dakota, the Senate Concurring:

That the following proposed amendment to Section 158 of Article 9 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota as amended by Article 13 of the Amendments thereof, is agreed to and that the same be submitted to the qualified electors of the

State for approval or rejection in accordance with the provisions of Section 202 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota, as amended.

Sec. 1. AMENDMENT.) That Section 158 of Article 9 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota, as amended by Article 13 of the Amendments thereof, is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 158. No land shall be sold for less than the appraised value and in no case be sold for less than ten dollars (\$10.00) per acre. The purchaser shall pay one-fifth of the price in cash, and the remaining four-fifths as follows:

One-fifth in five years, one-fifth on or before the expiration of ten years, one-fifth on or before the expiration of fifteen years, and one-fifth on or before the expiration of twenty years, with interest at the rate of not less than three per cent per annum, payable annually; provided that when payments are made before due they shall be made at an interest paying date. All sales shall be held at the County seat of the County in which the land to be sold is situated, and shall be at public auction and to the highest bidder, after sixty days advertisement of the same in a newspaper of general circulation in the vicinity of the land to be sold, and one at the seat of government. Such lands as shall not have been specially subdivided shall be offered in tracts of one quarter section, and those subdivided in the smallest subdivisions. All lands designated for sale and not sold within two years after appraisal shall be reappraised before they are sold. No grant or patent for such lands shall issue until payment is made for the same; provided that the land contracted to be sold by the State shall be subject to taxation from the date of contract. In case the taxes assessed against any of said lands for any year remain unpaid until the first Monday in October of the following year, then thereupon the contract of sale for such land shall, if the Board of University and School Lands so determine, become null and void. Any lands under the provision of Section 158 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota that have heretofore been sold, may be paid for, except as to interest as provided; provided further, that any school or institutional lands that may be required for town-site purposes, school house sites, church sites, cemetery sites, sites for other educational or charitable institutions, public parks, fair grounds, public highways, railroad right of way or for other railroad uses and purposes, reservoirs for the storage of water for irrigation, drain ditches, and lands that may be required for any of the purposes over which the right of eminent domain may be exercised under the Constitution and the laws of the State of North Dakota, may be sold under the provisions of this Act, and shall be paid for, principal and interest, in full in advance at the time of the sale, or at any time thereafter, and patent issued therefor, when principal and interest are paid. Any of the said lands, including lands held in trust for any purpose, may, with the approval of the Board of University and School Lands, be exchanged for lands of the United States, as the Legislature may provide, and the lands so acquired shall be subject to the trust, if any, to which the lands exchanged therefor were subject, and the State shall reserve all mineral and water and water power rights in lands so transferred by the State.

Provided, further, that, when land has been sold on contract as hereinbefore provided, and the purchases [purchaser] or his heirs or assigns, has been unable, at least in part by reason of successive crop failures, to pay for the land purchased within twenty years after the date of purchase and such contract is in default and subject to cancellation, the Board of University and School Lands, may, if so requested by such purchaser or his heirs, or assigns, after declaring such contract terminated, resell the land described in such contract to such purchaser, or his heirs or assigns for the amount of the unpaid principal of the original purchase price plus the amount of unpaid accrued interest, but in no case shall the resale price be more than the original sale price, such contract of resale to be upon the same terms as said original contract excepting that the contract of resale may provide that the purchaser may pay the first one-fifth of the resale price in five equal successive annual installments, the first installment to be paid at the time of execution of the resale contract, and that such resale contract shall bear interest at the rate of three per cent per annum payable annually; and provided further, that this Section shall be deemed self-executing insofar as provision is made herein for resale of lands sold to the original purchaser or to his heirs or assigns.

Filed March 6, 1937.

An Act Prohibiting Members of the Legislative Assembly from Receiving or Accepting State Employment.

Submitted by Initiative Petition:

The full text of which proposed Constitutional Amendment is as follows, to-wit:

An Act to Amend the Constitution of the State of North Dakota, Prohibiting Members of the Legislative Assembly from Receiving or Accepting Employment from the State During the Term for which They Are Elected.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of North Dakota:

Section 1. The Governor or any officer of this state, or any manager or executive head, or other person employed either directly or indirectly in any department, bureau, commission, institution, or industry of this state, or any member of any state board shall not appoint a member of the legislative assembly to any civil office or employment of any nature whatsoever, during the term for which said member of the legislative assembly shall have been elected. No member of the legislative assembly shall accept any such appointment to civil office or other employment during the term for which he was elected.

An Act Amending Section 82 of the State Constitution, to Provide for the Election of a Tax Commissioner on a No-Party Ballot, for a Four-Year Term.

Submitted by Initiative Petition:

The full text of which proposed Constitutional Amendment is as follows, to-wit:

An Act to Amend and Re-Enact Section 82 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota Relating to the Election of State Officials, and Providing for the Election on a No-Party Ballot of a Tax Commissioner for a Term of Four Years.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of North Dakota:

Section 82 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows:

There shall be chosen by the qualified electors of the State at the times and places of choosing members of the legislative assembly, a secretary, auditor, treasurer, superintendent of public instruction, commissioner of insurance, three commissioners of railroads, an attorney general, a commissioner of agriculture and labor, and a tax commissioner, who shall have attained the age of twenty-five years and shall have the qualifications of state electors. They shall severally hold their offices at the seat of government for the term of two years and until their successors are elected and duly qualified; but no person shall be eligible for the office of treasurer for more than two consecutive terms; provided, however, the tax commissioner shall hold his office for the term of four years and until his successor is elected and duly qualified.

The tax commissioner shall be elected on a no-party ballot and he shall be nominated and elected in the manner now provided for the nomination and election of the superintendent of public instruction.

The first election of a Tax Commissioner shall not occur until the year 1940.

An Act to Amend Section 186 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota Providing for the Payment of Public Money into the State Treasury, and Its Disbursement in Accordance with Legislative Appropriations:

Submitted by Initiative Petition:

The full text of which proposed Constitutional Amendment is as follows, to-wit:

An Act to Amend Section 186 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota, Providing for the Payment into the State Treasury of All Public Moneys, with the Exception of Funds Required in the Financial Transactions of the Bank of North Dakota, and those Required for the Payment of Duly Approved Losses Payable from the State Hail Insurance Fund, State Bonding Fund, and State Fire and Tornado Fund, and Those Required for the Payment of Duly Approved Claims Payable from the Workmen's Compensation Fund, and Those Required for Authorized Investments Made by the Board of University and School Lands, and Those Required in the Financial Operations of the State Mill and Elevator Association, and Those Required for the Payment of Principal and Interest of Fixed Obligations of the State, and Those Required for the Payment to Beneficiaries of the Teachers' Insurance and Retirement Fund, and Those Required for Funds under the Provisions of the Retail Sales Act, and the State Income Tax Law, and the State Gasoline Tax Law, and the Estate and Succession Tax Law, and the Income of State Institutions Derived from Permanent Trust Funds, and the Funds Allocated under the Law to the State Highway Department, and the Various Counties for Construction, Reconstruction and Maintenance of Public Roads, and Excepting Fees and Monies Received in Connection with the Licensing and Organization of Trades and Professions.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of North Dakota:

Section 186 of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota is hereby amended and re-enacted to read as follows:

Section 1. All public moneys, from whatever source derived, shall be paid over monthly by the public official, employee, agent, director, manager, board, bureau, or institution of the state receiving the same, to the State Treasurer, and deposited by him to the credit of the state, and shall be paid out and disbursed only pursuant to appropriation first made by the legislature; provided, however, that there is hereby appropriated the necessary funds required in the financial transactions of the Bank of North Dakota, and required for the payment of losses, duly approved, payable from the State Hail Insurance Fund, State Bonding Fund, and State Fire and Tornado Fund, and required for the payment of compensation to injured employees or death claims, duly approved, payable from the Workmen's Compensation Fund, and required for authorized investments made by the Board of University and School Lands, and required for the financial operations of the State Mill and Elevator Association, and required for the payment of interest and principal of bonds and other fixed obligations of the state, and required for payments required by law to be paid to beneficiaries of the Teachers' Insurance and Retirement Fund, and required for refunds made under the provisions of the Retail Sales Tax Act, and the State Income Tax Law, and the State Gasoline Tax Law, and the Estate and Succession Tax Law, and the income of any state institution derived from permanent trust funds, and the funds allocated under the law to the State Highway Department and the various counties for the construction, reconstruction, and maintenance of public roads.

This constitutional amendment shall not be construed to apply to fees and moneys

received in connection with the licensing and organization of physicians and surgeons, pharmacists, dentists, osteopaths, optometrists, embalmers, barbers, lawyers, veterinarians, nurses, chiropractors, accountants, architects, hairdressers, chiropodists, and other similarly organized, licensed trades and professions; and this constitutional amendment shall not be construed to amend or repeal existing laws or acts amendatory thereof concerning such fees and moneys.

Section 2. No bills, claims, accounts, or demands against the state or any county or other political subdivision shall be audited, allowed, or paid until a full itemized statement in writing shall be filed with the officer or officers whose duty it may be to audit the same, and then only upon warrant drawn upon the treasurer of such funds by the proper officer or officers.

Section 3. This amendment shall become effective on July 1, 1939.

Constitutional Amendment Establishing a State Board of Higher Education.

Submitted by Initiative Petition:

The full text of which proposed Constitutional Amendment is as follows, to-wit:

A Measure Providing for the Amendment of the Constitution of the State of North Dakota, and Establishing a State Board of Higher Education, Prescribing Its Duties, and Providing for a Commissioner of Higher Education.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of North Dakota:

Section 1. A Board of Higher Education, to be officially known as the State Board of Higher Education, is hereby created for the control and administration of the following state educational institutions, to-wit:

- (1) The State University and School of Mines, at Grand Forks, with their substations.
- (2) The State Agricultural College and Experiment Station, at Fargo, with their substations.
- (3) The School of Science, at Wahpeton.
- (4) The State Normal Schools and Teachers Colleges, at Valley City, Mayville, Minot and Dickinson.
- (5) The Normal and Industrial School, at Ellendale.
- (6) The School of Forestry, at Bottineau.
- (7) And such other state institutions of higher education as may hereafter be established.

Section 2. (a) The State Board of Higher Education shall consist of seven (7) members, all of whom shall be qualified electors and taxpayers of the state, and who shall have resided in this state for not less than five (5) years immediately preceding their appointment, to be appointed by the Governor, by and with the consent of the Senate, from a list of names selected as hereinafter provided. There shall not be on said Board more than one (1) alumnus or former student of any one of the institutions under the jurisdiction of said State Board of Higher Education at any one time. No person employed by any institution under the control of the Board shall serve as a member of said Board, nor shall any employee of any such institution be eligible for membership on the State Board of Higher Education for a period of two (2) years following the termination of his employment.

On or before the 1st day of February, 1939, the Governor shall nominate from a list of three names for each position, selected by the unanimous action of the President of the North Dakota Educational Association, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and, with the consent of a majority of the members-elect of the Senate, shall appoint from such list as such State Board of Higher Education seven (7) members, whose terms shall commence on the 1st day of July, 1939, one of which terms shall expire on the 30th day of June, 1940, and one on the 30th day of June in each of the years 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, and 1946. The term of office of members appointed to fill vacancies at the expiration of said terms shall be for seven (7) years, and in the case of vacancies otherwise arising, appointments shall be made only for the balance of the term of the members whose places are to be filled.

(b) In the event any nomination made by the Governor is not consented to and confirmed by the Senate as hereinbefore provided, the Governor shall again nominate a candidate for such office, selected from a new list, prepared in the manner hereinbefore provided, which nomination shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation, and said proceedings shall be continued until such appointments have been confirmed by the Senate, or the session of the legislature shall have adjourned.

(c) When any term expires or a vacancy occurs when the legislature is not in session, the Governor may appoint from a list selected as hereinbefore provided, a member who shall serve until the opening of the next session of the legislature, at which time his appointment shall be certified to the Senate for confirmation, as above provided; and if the appointment be not confirmed by the thirtieth legislative day of such session, his office shall be deemed vacant and the Governor shall nominate from a list selected as hereinbefore provided, another candidate for such office and the same proceedings shall be followed as are above set forth; provided further, that when the legislature shall be in session at any time within six (6) months prior to the date of the expiration of the term of any member, the Governor shall nominate his successor from a list selected as above set forth, within the first thirty (30) days of such session, and upon confirmation by the Senate such successor shall take office at the expiration of the term of the incumbent. No person who has been nominated and whose nomination the Senate has failed to confirm, shall be eligible for an interim appointment.

Section 3. The Members of the State Board of Higher Education may only be removed by impeachment for the offenses and in the manner and according to the procedure provided for the removal of the Governor by impeachment proceedings.

Section 4. The appointive members of the State Board of Higher Education shall receive seven dollars (\$7.00) per day and their necessary expenses for travel while attending meetings, or in the performances of such special duties as the Board may direct; provided, however, no member shall receive a total compensation, exclusive of expenses, to exceed Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) in any calendar year; and no member shall receive total expense money in excess of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) in any calendar year.

Section 5. The legislature shall provide adequate funds for the proper carrying out of the functions and duties of the State Board of Higher Education.

Section 6. (a) The State Board of Higher Education shall hold its first meeting at the office of the State Board of Administration at Bismarck, on the 6th day of July, 1939, and shall organize and elect one of its members as President of such Board for a term of one year. It shall also at said meeting, or as soon thereafter as may be practicable, elect a competent person as Secretary, who shall reside during his term of office in the City of Bismarck, North Dakota. Said Secretary shall hold office at the will of the Board. As soon as said Board is established and organized, it shall assume all the powers and perform all the duties now conferred by law upon the Board of Administration in connection with the several institutions hereinbefore mentioned, and the said Board of Administration shall immediately upon the organization of said State Board of Higher Education, surrender and transfer to said State Board of Higher Education all duties, rights, and powers granted to it under the existing laws of this state concerning the institutions hereinbefore mentioned, together with all property,

deeds, records, reports, and appurtenances of every kind belonging or appertaining to said institutions.

(b) The said State Board of Higher Education shall have full authority over the institutions under its control with the right, among its other powers, to prescribe, limit, or modify the courses offered at the several institutions. In furtherance of its powers, the State Board of Higher Education shall have the power to delegate to its employees details of the administration of the institutions under its control. The said State Board of Higher Education shall have full authority to organize or re-organize within constitutional and statutory limitations, the work of each institution under its control, and do each and everything necessary and proper for the efficient and economic administration of said state educational institutions.

(c) Said Board shall prescribe for all of said institutions standard systems of accounts and records and shall biennially, and within six (6) months immediately preceding the regular session of the legislature, make a report to the Governor, covering in detail the operations of the educational institutions under its control.

(d) It shall be the duty of the heads of the several state institutions hereinbefore mentioned, to submit the budget requests for the biennial appropriations for said institutions to said State Board of Higher Education; and said State Board of Higher Education shall consider said budgets and shall revise the same as in its judgment shall be for the best interests of the educational system of the state; and thereafter the State Board of Higher Education shall prepare and present to the State Budget Board and to the legislature a single unified budget covering the needs of all the institutions under its control. "Said budget shall be prepared and presented by the Board of Administration until the State Board of Higher Education organizes as provided in Section 6 (a)." The appropriations for all of said institutions shall be contained in one legislative measure.

(e) The said State Board of Higher Education shall have the control of the expenditure of the funds belonging to, and allocated to such institutions and also those appropriated by the legislature, for the institutions of higher education in this state; provided, however, that funds appropriated by the legislature and specifically designated for any one or more of such institutions, shall not be used for any other institution.

Section 7. (a) The State Board of Higher Education shall, as soon as practicable, appoint for a term of not to exceed three (3) years, a State Commissioner of Higher Education, whose principal office shall be at the State Capitol, in the City of Bismarck. Said Commissioner of Higher Education shall be responsible to the State Board of Higher Education and shall be removable by said Board for cause.

(b) The State Commissioner of Higher Education shall be a graduate of some reputable college or university, and who by training and experience is familiar with the problems peculiar to higher education.

(c) Such Commissioner of Higher Education shall be the chief executive officer of said State Board of Higher Education, and shall perform such duties as shall be prescribed by the Board.

Section 8. This constitutional provision shall be self-executing and shall become effective without the necessity of legislative action.