

Introduced by Mr. Curran.
Senate Bill No. 63.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

*This Act in the order of its
approval is*

Examined by Committee on Printed Bills:

Number 441



McCune
James H. Sharps

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his

approval this *9th* day of *April* 1924

at o'clock, M.

E. Plancher
Secretary.

CHAPTER *327*


AN ACT to propose an amendment to Section 34 of Article 3 of the Constitution of the State of Maryland, title "Legislative Department", for the purpose of permitting the State to pledge its credit for the raising of such funds as may be needed for the aid or compensation of those citizens of the State who during the time of war have, with honor, served their Country and State, and providing for the submission of said amendment to the qualified voters of this State for adoption or rejection.

Filed April 10, 1924

1 SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Mary-*
2 *land, (three-fifths of all the members of each of the two Houses*
3 *concurring), That the following section be and the same is here-*
4 *by proposed as an amendment to Section 34 of Article 3 of*
5 *the Constitution of Maryland, title "Legislative Department",*
6 *the same if adopted by the legally qualified voters of the State,*
7 *as herein provided, to become Section 34 of Article 3 of the*
8 *Constitution of the State of Maryland.*

9 34. No debt shall be hereafter contracted by the General
10 Assembly unless such debt shall be authorized by a law pro-
11 viding for the collection of an annual tax or taxes sufficient to
12 pay the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to dis-
13 charge the principal thereof within fifteen years from the time
14 of contracting the same; and the taxes laid for this purpose
15 shall not be repealed or applied to any other object until the
16 said debt and interest thereon shall be fully discharged. The
17 credit of the State shall not in any manner be given, or loaned
18 to, or in aid of any individual association or corporation; nor
19 shall the General Assembly have the power in any mode to in-
20 volve the State in the construction of works of internal im-
21 provement, nor in granting any aid thereto which shall involve
22 the faith or credit of the State; nor make any appropriation
23 therefor, except in aid of the Construction of works of internal
24 improvement in the counties of St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert,
25 which have had no direct advantage from such works as have been
26 heretofore aided by the State; and provided that such aid, ad-
27 vances or appropriations shall not exceed in the aggregate the
28 sum of five hundred thousand dollars. And they shall not use
29 or appropriate the proceeds of the internal improvement com-
30 panies, or of the State tax, now levied, or which may hereafter
31 be levied, to pay off the public debt (or) to any other purpose
32 until the interest and debt are fully paid or the sinking fund
33 shall be equal to the amount of the outstanding debt; but
34 the General Assembly may, without laying a tax, borrow an
35 amount never to exceed fifty thousand dollars to meet tempo-
36 rary deficiencies in the Treasury, and may contract debts to

37 any amount that may be necessary for the defence of the State.
38 And provided further that nothing in this section shall be con-
39 strued to prohibit the raising of funds for the purpose of aid-
40 ing or compensating in such manner or way as the General
41 Assembly of the State shall deem proper, those citizens of the
42 State who have served, with honor, their Country and State in
43 time of War; provided, however, that such action of the Gen-
44 eral Assembly shall be effective only when submitted to and
45 approved by a vote of the people of the State at the General
46 Election next following the enactment of such legislation.



1 SEC. 2 *And be it further enacted* by the authority aforesaid,
2 that the said foregoing section hereby proposed as an amend-
3 ment to the Constitution, shall, at the next general election for
4 members of Congress held in this State, be submitted to the
5 legal and qualified voters of the State for adoption or rejection,
6 in pursuance of the directions contained in Article 14 of the
7 Constitution of this State, and at the said general election the
8 vote on the said proposed amendment to the Constitution shall
9 be by ballot, and upon each ballot there shall be printed the
10 following synopsis of said amendment under the caption of
11 "Constitutional Amendment Providing For Aid Or Adjusted
12 Compensation To War Veterans."

13 "This amendment removes the prohibition now in the State
14 Constitution which prevents the State from pledging its credit
15 for the raising of monies which could be used for the aid or as
16 adjusted compensation to those citizens of the State who, with
17 honor, served their Country or State in time of War; and upon
18 each ballot there shall also be printed the words "For the Con-
19 stitutional Amendment" and "Against the Constitutional
20 Amendment", as now provided by law, and immediately after
21 said election due returns shall be made to the Governor of the
22 vote for and against said proposed amendment, as directed by
23 said Fourteenth Article of the Constitution, and further pro-
24 ceedings had in accordance with said Article Fourteen.



APR 9 1924

Approved:

Alben W. Rutledge

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Governor.

David F. M. Lester

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President of the Senate.

Francis P. Carter

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.