

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.

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

34. No debt shall be hereafter contracted by the General Assembly unless such debt shall be authorized by a law providing for the collection of an annual tax or taxes sufficient to pay the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to discharge the principal thereof within fifteen years from the time of contracting the same; and the taxes laid for this purpose shall not be repealed or applied to any other object until the said debt and interest thereon shall be fully discharged. The credit of the State shall not in any manner be given, or loaned to, or in aid of any individual association or corporation; nor shall the General Assembly have the power in any mode to involve the State in the construction of works of internal improvement, nor in granting any aid thereto which shall involve the faith or credit of the State; nor make any appropriation therefor, except in aid of the Construction of works of internal improvement in the counties of St. Mary's, Charles and Calvert, which have had no direct advantage from such works as have been heretofore aided by the State; and provided that such aid, advances or appropriations shall not exceed in the aggregate the sum of five hundred thousand dollars. And they shall not use or appropriate the proceeds of the internal improvement companies, or of the State tax, now levied, or which may hereafter be levied, to pay off the public debt (or) to any other purpose until the interest and debt are fully paid or the sinking fund shall be equal to the amount of the outstanding debt; but