

CHAPTER 747—S. F. No. 91

[Not Coded]

An act proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Article IV, Section 5, pertaining to the distribution of the excise tax on petroleum products.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota :

Section 1. The following amendments to the Constitution of the State of Minnesota, Article IV, Section 5, is hereby proposed to the people of the state for their approval or rejection, which section, when amended, shall read as follows :

Sec. 5. Proposed amendment to Minnesota Constitution, Article IX, Section 5. For the purpose of defraying extraordinary expenditures, the state may contract public debts, but such debts shall never, in the aggregate, exceed two hundred and fifty thousand dollars; every such debt shall be authorized by law, for some single object, to be distinctly specified therein; and no such law shall take effect until it shall have been passed by the vote of two-thirds of the members of each branch of the legislature, to be recorded by yeas and nays on the journals of each house respectively; and every such law shall levy a tax annually sufficient to pay the annual interest of such debt, and also a tax sufficient to pay the principal of such debt within ten years from the final passage of such law, and shall specially appropriate the proceeds of such taxes to the payment of such principal and interest; and such appropriation and taxes shall not be repealed, postponed, or diminished, until the principal and interest of such debt shall have been wholly paid. The state shall never contract any debts for works of internal improvements, or be a party in carrying on such works, except as authorized by Section 16 of Article 9, and by Article 16 of this Constitution, but it may levy an excise tax upon any substance, material, fluid, force or other means or instrumentality, or the business of dealing in, selling or producing any or all thereof, used or useful, in producing or generating power for propelling motor or other vehicles used on the public highways of this state, and shall place *one-half* of the proceeds of such tax in the Trunk Highway Fund provided for in Section 2 of said Article 16, *apportion for road and street purposes on the basis of population 6% thereof to cities of over 100,000 population,*

according to the latest available federal census, and 44% thereof to the State Road and Bridge Fund, and further, except in cases where grants of land or other property shall have been made to the State, especially dedicated by the grant to specific purposes, and in such cases the state shall devote thereto the avails of such grants, and may pledge or appropriate the revenues derived from such works in aid of their completion.

Sec. 2. Submission. *The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the voters of the state for their approval or rejection at the general election for the year 1950 in the manner provided by law for the submission of amendments to the constitution. The ballots used at the election on the proposed amendment shall have printed thereon:*

Shall the Constitution, Article IX, Sec 5, be amended so as to provide that the proceeds of the excise tax on petroleum products be apportioned as follows:

Of the proceeds of such tax, one-half thereof in Trunk Highway Fund, 6% thereof for road and street purposes on the basis of population among cities of over 100,000 population, and 44% thereof in the State Road and Bridge Fund.

Approved April 25, 1949.