

memorial for Robert M. La Follette and to report thereon to the legislature of 1931 at its regular session.

[Jt. Res. No. 61, A.]

[Published Aug. 22, 1929.]

No. 74, 1929.

JOINT RESOLUTION

To amend section 3 of article XI of the constitution, relating to indebtedness secured by public utility and other income producing property of municipalities.

Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring, That section 3 of article XI of the constitution be amended to read: (Article XI) Section 3. (As amended November, 1874, November, 1912, and November, 1924.) Cities and villages organized pursuant to state law are hereby empowered, to determine their local affairs and government, subject only to this constitution and to such enactments of the legislature of state-wide concern as shall with uniformity affect every city or every village. The method of such determination shall be prescribed by the legislature. No county, city, town, village, school district, or other municipal corporation shall be allowed to become indebted in any manner or for any purpose to any amount, including existing indebtedness, in the aggregate exceeding five per centum on the value of the taxable property therein, to be ascertained by the last assessment for state and county taxes previous to the incurring of such indebtedness. Any county, city, town, village, school district, or other municipal corporation incurring any indebtedness as aforesaid, shall, before or at the time of doing so, provide for the collection of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal thereof within twenty years from the time of contracting the same; except that when such indebtedness is incurred in the acquisition of lands by cities, or by counties having a population of one hundred fifty thousand or over, for public, municipal purposes, or for the permanent improvement thereof, the city or county incurring the same shall, before or at the time of so doing, provide for the collection of a direct annual

tax sufficient to pay the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal thereof within a period not exceeding fifty years from the time of contracting the same. *Providing, that an indebtedness created for the purpose of purchasing, acquiring, leasing, constructing, extending, adding to, improving, conducting, controlling, operating or managing a public utility of a town, village or city, and secured solely by the property or income of such public utility, and whereby no municipal liability is created, shall not be considered an indebtedness of such town, village or city, and shall not be included in arriving at such five per centum debt limitation.* Be it further

Resolved, That this proposed amendment be and is hereby referred to the legislature to be chosen at the next general election and that the same be published for three months preceding the time of holding such election.

[Jt. Res. No. 69, S.]

[Deposited Aug. 22, 1929.]

No. 75, 1929.

JOINT RESOLUTION

Relating to uniformity in the rate schedules for electric light, heat and power, and to an investigation of the reasonableness of the spread in rates between different classes of consumers.

WHEREAS, There is at present a great multiplicity of rate schedules and rate bases for electric current furnished for light, heat and power purposes by different companies and in different communities, and sometimes even by the same company and in the same community; and

WHEREAS, Such varying and complex rate schedules render well-nigh impossible any comparisons of electric rates between different communities and also make it difficult for consumers to check their bills; and

WHEREAS, There is at present a very wide difference between the rates charged various classes of consumers, with the highest rates in all cases being charged to the domestic lighting and farm users; and