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State Commission Market

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File: 1920-5-3

State Commission
Ventura Co

ALL ELECTIONS

Twenty six
July
D. Randall

INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE ELECTORS.

PROVIDING FOR STATE COMMISSION MARKETS.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA, }
 County of *Ventura* } ss.

TO THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA:

We, the undersigned, registered qualified electors of the State of California, residents of *Ventura* County, present to the Secretary of State this petition and request that there be submitted to the voters of the State, for their approval or rejection at the next general election, or as provided by law, an act entitled:

STATE COMMISSION MARKET. Initiative Act. Creates State Commission Market department governed by board of three members appointed by the Governor, with \$5,000 annual salaries; declares purposes of act including the receiving of agricultural, fishery, dairy and farm products from producers and sale and disposition thereof on commission; defines duties of such board and authorizes it to establish and maintain depots as commission markets; creates State Commission Market fund, requires all fees and charges collected under act paid into such fund, and appropriates \$150,000 out of state treasury to accomplish purposes of act.

The full text of the Proposed Initiative Measure is:

The People of the State of California do enact as follows:

Section 1. A department to be known as the State Commission Market is hereby created for the following purposes:

(a) To carry on the business of receiving from the producers, the agricultural, fishery, dairy and farm products of the State, and selling and disposing of the same on commission as herein provided.

(b) To encourage the organization of co-operative associations for improving the relations and services among producers and consumers of any such products and to protect and conserve the interests of the producers and consumers of such products.

(c) To foster and encourage co-operation between producers and consumers of any such products, in the interest of the general public of the State of California, and in addition thereto to improve, broaden and extend in every practical way the distribution and sale of any such California products throughout the world.

(d) To act on the behalf of the producers and consumers of any such products in conserving and protecting their interests in every possible way.

(e) To gather and disseminate impartial information concerning supply, demand, prevailing prices and commercial movements, including common and cold storage of any such products.

(f) To present each year to the governor a report of the conditions of food production and supply in this State, together with such recommendations as are for the interest of the people of the State.

(g) To call to the attention of the governor, as often as such violations may come under their notice, every violation of any such law of this State relating to the production and sale of any food product.

Section 2. The State Commission Market shall be under the management and control of a governing board of three members, to be known as the board of directors of the State Commission Market, hereinafter called the board. Each member shall be appointed by the governor, shall hold office during the pleasure of the governor, shall receive a salary of five thousand dollars per annum, and before entering upon the duties of his office, shall make and execute to the people of the State of California an official bond in the sum of fifty thousand dollars for the faithful performance of the duties of his office. No person who holds stock, membership or any other interest whatsoever in any produce commission business is eligible to the office of director.

Section 3. The board shall have jurisdiction and power:

(a) To adopt a seal bearing the inscription, "State Commission Market of California," which seal shall be affixed to such instruments as the board may require.

(b) To sue and be sued in all the courts of the State in all actions arising out of the administration of the business of the State Commission Market, without liability on the part of the State beyond the amount of the State Commission Market fund.

(c) To appoint a secretary, who shall hold office during the pleasure of the board, at a compensation of thirty-six hundred dollars per annum, and who shall perform such duties as the board may prescribe.

(d) To rent, lease, occupy and use all such lands and buildings as may be needed in the business of the State Commission Market or any of its branches.

(e) To make all necessary rules and regulations, and change the same when necessary, for the operation and carrying on of the State Commission Market, and to print the rules for free distribution to all persons who wish to avail themselves of the privileges of the market, whether as buyers or sellers. All buyers and sellers shall conform to such rules and regulations in order to claim any right or privilege under the provisions of this act.

(f) To appoint, fix the compensation and prescribe the duties of such officers and employes as may be needed properly to administer the provisions hereof.

(g) To require of the officers and employes such bonds for the faithful performances of their duties as in the judgment of the board may be necessary.

(h) And it shall be its duty to make and submit to the governor, on or before the first day of December of each year, a report containing a full and complete account of its transactions and proceedings for the preceding fiscal year, together with such facts, suggestions and recommendations as may be deemed of value to the people of the State.

(i) To do and perform all other acts and things not herein specifically enumerated that may be necessary to carry out the provisions hereof.

Section 4. The board shall establish and maintain an executive office or headquarters at Sacramento, and shall establish and maintain in cities and towns in the State where the conditions are most suitable, depots or stations to be used as commission markets, for the receipt, care, sale and distribution of the agricultural, fishery, dairy and farm products of California. Before establishing a system of State Commission Markets, two such markets shall be established, one in San Francisco and one in Los Angeles, and made successful and self-sustaining before another shall be created.

Section 5. All producers of agricultural, dairy or farm products, or products manufactured or processed therefrom, or fishery products, which shall have been grown, raised, produced, processed or manufactured within the State of California, or caught in the territorial waters thereof, shall have the right to consign and deliver such products to the State Commission Market, at any of its depots or branches, for sale and distribution.

Section 6. The State Commission Market shall receive and care for all products consigned and delivered to it under the provisions of this act, and shall sell and distribute to dealers, consumers and all buyers such products to the best possible advantage of the producer, to the end that the State Commission Market shall become self-supporting, the board shall charge a commission for the handling of all products in such amount as in the judgment of the board shall be just and reasonable. Sufficient commission for the handling of produce shall be charged to gradually build up a sufficient revolving fund to be used as required in the operation or extension of the market. All settlements with producers shall be made once a month or oftener, and the market shall retain the commission charged.

Section 7. The board shall establish and maintain a bureau of correspondence for gathering and disseminating information on all subjects relating to the marketing of California products, shall issue bulletins thereon, and by every practicable means shall keep producers informed of the supply and demand and at what market their products would best be handled.

Section 8. The salaries of all officers and employes of the State Commission Market shall be paid monthly from the State Commission Market fund in the same manner as the salaries of other State officers are paid. All expenses, including actual and necessary traveling expenses and other disbursements of the directors and other officers and employes of the market, incurred in carrying out the provisions hereof, shall be paid from the State Commission Market fund in the same manner.

Section 9. A fund in the State treasury is hereby created to be known as the State Commission Market fund. All fees, charges and costs collected by the State Commission Market under the provisions hereof shall be paid into the State treasury to the credit of this fund. The appropriation made herein and all legislative appropriations hereafter made for the use of the market shall also be placed to the credit of this fund. All expenses of whatsoever nature, including salaries, incurred by the market under the provisions hereof shall be paid from this fund after approval of the board of directors and audited and approved by the board of control. This fund, after a reasonable time, during which the market may establish a business, shall become neither more nor less than self-supporting.

Section 10. The sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State treasury not otherwise appropriated to be expended in accordance with law by the board in carrying out the provisions hereof.