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Cooperatives

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File: 1934-c-3

PLUMERS

1934
 INITIATIVE TO THE
 REGISTRATION
 COOPERATIVE

FILED

the office of the Secretary of State
 OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
 DEC 20 1934

SECRETARY OF STATE
[Signature]

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CIRCULATING INITIATIVE PETITIONS

Caution: Under the law, you cannot circulate this petition unless you are a registered voter.

- 1—Do not circulate this petition or obtain signatures outside of the county in which you have registered.
- 2—Any registered voter of the county, male or female, can sign this petition. Others can not.
- 3—IT IS A FELONY FOR ANY PERSON TO WRITE ANY NAME IN THIS PETITION EXCEPT HIS OR HER OWN.
- 4—THE PETITION MUST BE SIGNED JUST AS THE SIGNER HAS REGISTERED AS A VOTER.
- 5—The SIGNER of the petition must write:
 - (a) In the first column—HIS OR HER NAME.
 - (b) In the second column—STREET AND NUMBER OF RESIDENCE, if such residence has street and number.

INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE PRESENTED TO THE LEGISLATURE

The Attorney General has summarized the proposed measure as follows:

"COOPERATIVES. Initiative Act to be presented to the Legislature. Declares it the duty of the State Relief Administrator to establish State Exchange Depots for disposition or exchange of surplus articles, and/or articles produced by cooperative groups operating under Act, control present cooperative self help groups, provide credit, factories, equipment and facilities for cooperative activity, undertake public work projects, employing thereon labor from such groups, and purchase commodities for distribution. Requires Administrator's cooperative activities be primarily toward production for consumption within cooperative groups. Declares such groups State Institutions and members thereof State employees exempt from civil service. Provides for appropriations."

STATE OF CALIFORNIA }
 COUNTY OF PLUMAS } 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 **---PLUMAS---** County (or City and County), present to the Secretary of State this petition and hereby propose that the laws of the State of California be amended by adding thereto the Act hereinafter set forth, and petition that the same be presented to the Legislature of the State of California at the commencement of its next session and/or as provided by law. Said proposed initiative act reads as follows:

AN ACT, to be known as the Rehabilitation Act, declaring the policy of the State of California in relieving hardship and destitution caused by unemployment one of rehabilitation by cooperative self help, production for consumption and exchange of labor for surplus commodities; prescribing duties of State Relief Administrator hereunder; providing funds for administration of relief hereunder; directing cooperative activity be non-competitive; fixing status of cooperative institutions and their members; fixing title to property hereunder; declaring this Act an emergency measure; providing for its constitutional construction; repealing conflicting laws.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. This Act shall be known as the Rehabilitation Act.

Sec. 2. It shall be the policy of the State of California in relieving hardship and destitution caused by unemployment, to provide for the industrial and social rehabilitation of its unemployed citizens and impoverished farmers by aid in a self help program to the end that cooperative production for consumption, and the exchange of human effort for wasting surplus commodities may supplant present direct relief methods. In administering this policy the emergency distress feature of the problem must be the first concern, to the end that eligible persons be provided with the necessaries of life pending the establishment of the rehabilitation program, but this emergency relief shall be gradually withdrawn when rehabilitation by cooperative self help shall become available under the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 3. The provisions of this Act shall be administered by the State Relief Administrator.

Sec. 4. The provisions of this Act shall be administered so as to conform to the policy set forth in Section 2 hereof. In addition to other duties prescribed by law, it shall be the duty of the Administrator:

A. To establish State Exchange Depots wherever necessary throughout the State of California, wherein available surplus articles and/or commodities and articles produced by cooperative groups operating under the provisions of this Act may be disposed of or exchanged, and to provide a credit means to facilitate such exchange or disposal.

B. To encourage the formation of cooperative self help groups; to consolidate present self help groups of a similar character; to unify and correlate their functions; to manage and control their activities; to stimulate their growth and extend their efforts in such diversified channels as will permit and encourage the production, consumption and exchange of the widest practical range of necessary commodities.

C. To provide factories, plants, facilities, tools, equipment and materials for cooperative activity.

D. To provide a technical personnel to aid, assist, supervise and direct cooperative activities hereunder.

E. To undertake public work projects wherein labor from cooperative groups operating under this Act may be employed, and to compensate such labor in cash or commodities or both, in his discretion.

F. To purchase commodities for distribution within the State of California, in the relief of hardship and destitution caused by unemployment.

G. To make rules and regulations under which all cooperative activities hereunder shall be governed, managed and controlled.

H. To appoint necessary subordinates. To fix their compensation, subject to the approval of the State Director of Finance.

I. To do any and all other acts necessary or proper in carrying out the letter and/or spirit of this Act and in furthering the policy of rehabilitation herein set forth.

Sec. 5. The following funds shall be available and are hereby appropriated for expenditure by the Administrator under the provisions of this Act.

A. Twenty-five per cent of all money received from the sale of the Unemployment Relief Bonds, voted November 6, 1934.

B. Twenty-five per cent of all funds allocated to the State of California by the Government of the United States for the purpose of relieving hardship and destitution caused by unemployment, provided such expenditure shall conform to the conditions prescribed by the Government of the United States; otherwise the maximum lesser sum conformable to such conditions.

C. All additional sums available from the sale of the Unemployed Relief Bonds aforesaid and from available funds allocated to the State of California by the Government of the United States which may hereafter be allocated by the State Relief Commission and the State Relief Administrator for expenditure hereunder.

D. Such other, further and additional funds as the Legislature may from time to time appropriate for that purpose.

Sec. 6. The Administrator shall not cause cooperative activities to compete with private industries except in so far as it shall be necessary to relieve hardship and destitution caused by unemployment and to obtain the safety and happiness of persons employed under the provisions of this Act. The Administrator shall direct cooperative activities primarily toward the production of commodities for consumption within cooperative groups and for direct exchange rather than for sale in a competitive market.

Sec. 7. Cooperative units or groups which shall hereafter conform to and comply with the rules and regulations of the Administrator and shall submit to his management and control, shall be institutions of the State of California while so managed and controlled. The Administrator shall certify such cooperative units or groups as institutions of the State of California, and may cancel or annul their said classification for failure to conform to or comply with the rules and regulations aforesaid.

Sec. 8. Members in good standing of each cooperative group which shall have been certified by the Administrator as an institution of the State of California and subject to its management and control, shall be employees of the State of California and shall not be classified as paupers or indigents, and shall not be subject to the requirements or provisions of the Act to provide for relief and aid of indigents approved June 5, 1933, Statutes 1933, page 2005.

Sec. 9. No person employed under the provisions hereof shall be included in the State Civil Service or be subject to the civil service laws of this State, but shall be exempt therefrom. The Administrator may compensate persons employed under the provisions hereof in cash or commodities or both in his discretion.

Sec. 10. Title to all property purchased or acquired by the Administrator under the provisions of this Act shall be and remain in the State of California, but may be sold, bartered or exchanged under his direction.

Sec. 11. An emergency is hereby declared to exist in the State of California because of hardship and destitution caused by unemployment. This Act is hereby declared to be an urgency measure and it is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety that it shall go into immediate effect.

Sec. 12. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Act is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Act. The Legislature hereby declares that it would have passed this Act, each section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more of the sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases be declared unconstitutional.

Sec. 13. Any Act, Statute or Law of this State, in conflict with the above provisions is to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.