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APPORTIONING STATE TAXES TO FIREMEN'S FUNDS

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2 **APPORTIONING STATE TAXES TO FIREMEN'S FUNDS. Senate Constitutional Amendment 27.** Adds Section 19 to Article XIII of constitution. Requires biennial legislation, distributing not exceeding half of state taxes on premiums of fire insurance companies among firemen's pension, relief, health, life and accident insurance funds of counties, municipalities and political subdivisions, in proportion that each fund bears to aggregate thereof at distribution time; permitting distribution of portion thereof to any said subdivision having no such fund and maintaining paid or volunteer fire department. Authorizes legislation permitting local authorities to apply distributions hereunder toward procuring such insurance and paying firemen's pensions.

YES

NO

(For full text of Measure see page 4, Part II)

Argument in Favor of Senate Constitutional Amendment No. 27

California for years has held the enviable reputation among her sister States as being one of the leading commonwealths in possessing people of broad vision, with a humanitarian trend of all their legislation. Our statutes and laws in the past, have been the vanguard in the march toward enlightened legislation of other States; our industrial, commercial and compensatory laws, for example, have served as patterns for other states.

In one sphere of legislation we have neglected the assumption of leadership; and Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Utah and Wisconsin, have surpassed us.

You, as a voter of California, have an opportunity, by voting "YES" upon this Constitutional Amendment to regain our prestige in this particular department and place California into an equal position with these other States upon this question.

All of the above named States, with the remaining States seriously considering the proposition, have provided in their Constitutions or Statutes like or similar provisions as contained in this Amendment, which furnishes monetary assistance for local Firemen's Pension Funds.

This constitutional Amendment is very clear in its construction and provides for the allocation of a sum from the State Treasury, equal to not more than one-half of the money derived from the tax upon gross fire insurance premiums, to be distributed proportionately by the Legislature, amongst all local firemen's pension funds; and to the compensatory relief of those firemen who are not protected by such local funds; *with not one cent additional tax to anyone of any kind or character whatsoever.*

It is altogether fitting and proper that the State should assist all of the communities of our State, both large and small, in this necessary sphere of governmental protection to those who safeguard and protect both the lives and property of the commonwealth. When Fire-

men insure protection for all people and property, why not the State aid the communities and municipalities in their pension and compensatory relief, when it costs not an extra dollar for taxation? This is the least we can do to show our appreciation for this hazardous, but essential work.

If you vote for this amendment it will enable your State Legislature to stimulate adequate assistance for all localities in giving proper protection and relief to Firemen in their constant and dangerous work of preserving our physical and economic safety.

The allocation provided here applies to volunteer as well as paid Firemen, and will encourage more of our citizens to volunteer as Firemen for our mutual protection.

Let us place California again in the front ranks, with those States that have already concluded, by proper laws, that their duty, as well as advantage, is better served by protecting those of its citizenry who risk their life and limb in protecting the State and its subdivisions.

Vote "YES" on Proposition No. 2.

GEORGE W. ROCHESTER,
Senator Thirty-seventh District.

JOSEPH L. PEDROTTI,
Senator Twenty-ninth District.

Argument Against Senate Constitutional Amendment No 27

This Amendment if adopted will eventually increase State Taxes.

It requires the Legislature, "notwithstanding any other provisions of this constitution," to biennially distribute among the various firemen's pension relief, health and accident insurance funds of any municipality or political subdivision of the State one-half of the revenue received by the State from the taxation of fire insurance premiums, the sums to be used for strictly local purposes in which the citizens of the State as a whole have no interest, and over which the State has no control.

This Amendment to the Constitution is an attempt to introduce into that instrument :

departure from the established policy of the State as now found in that Constitution. That is, the Amendment seeks to take from the State part of the State's revenues now used for the purpose of administering the affairs of the State and transfer this part of the State's revenues to certain municipalities and subdivisions of the State for purely local purposes.

Under the provisions of the Amendment the Legislature is required to allocate the fund to be so distributed to the various municipal beneficiaries on the basis of the size of the fund created under the local charters. A city could by raising its own contribution to its pension fund automatically increase the amount it would receive from the State, an unhealthy incentive to municipalities to compete against each other for increased percentages from this fund. This means that a few large centers in the State will receive practically all of the funds so distributed. Taxpayers of these municipalities today provide very generously for firemen's pensions, and the distribution by the State to them means either an increase in these pensions or

special relief to the taxpayers of these municipalities.

The payment of firemen's pensions is in no sense a State affair, but is purely of local concern, and this Amendment is, as has been pointed out, the first step in changing our Constitution so that the State will be contributing out of the revenues realized for State purposes sums of money in aid of local government.

If the Amendment should be adopted it is certain that other groups seeking increase of pensions in municipalities will attempt to amend the Constitution to meet their desires by having the State contribute part of its revenues to municipalities for purely local purposes.

If not voted down Amendment No. 27 will involve the State of California in an endless chain of contribution to the expenses of municipal governments in the State of California.

Vote "NO."

WALTER H. DUVAL,
Senator, Twenty-fifth District.

COMPENSATION OF STATE EXECUTIVE OFFICERS. Senate Constitutional Amendment 31. Amends Section 19 of Article V of Constitution. Declares Governor shall receive as annual compensation ten thousand dollars and Lieutenant-Governor four thousand dollars; Secretary of State, Controller, Treasurer, Attorney General, Surveyor
3 General and Superintendent of Public Instruction, shall each receive such compensation as is or shall be provided by law. Declares compensation of officers herein mentioned shall be in full for official services and they shall not receive for themselves fees or perquisites for performing any official duty. Authorizes Legislature, in its discretion, to abolish office of Surveyor General.

YES

NO

(For full text of Measure, see page 5, Part II)

Argument in Favor of Senate Constitutional Amendment No. 31

This amendment changes Section 19 of Article V of the Constitution, relating to the compensation of certain State officials. That section at present fixes the salaries to be received by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Controller, Treasurer, Attorney General, Surveyor General, and Superintendent of Public Instruction. This section was adopted in its present form in 1908 and changed conditions make it desirable that some of these salaries be altered. The amendment leaves the salaries of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor the same as at present, but, instead of fixing the salaries of the other officials enumerated above, provides that they shall receive such compensation as is now or shall hereafter be provided by law.

It seems to us better to permit the Legislature to fix such salaries than to actually set forth the amount in the Constitution for the reason that, if conditions change, it will be possible for the Legislature to alter these salaries, while, if the amount is fixed in the Constitution as at present, no change can be made

without adoption of a constitutional amendment. The Legislature now has the power to fix the salaries of many officials holding offices of perhaps as great an importance as the ones included in this amendment and receiving much larger salaries.

The amendment also takes out of the constitution a provision written into the Constitution many years ago, limiting the amount of salary which may be authorized by law for clerks employed in these offices. This change is also necessary because of changed conditions since the adoption of the amendment in 1908.

Any law which may be passed by the Legislature altering the compensation of these officials can, of course, be subjected to a referendum in the same manner as any other law in the event that it does not meet with the approval of the people.

For these reasons we urge an affirmative vote on Senate Constitutional Amendment Number 31.

H. J. EVANS,
State Senator, Thirty-fifth Senatorial District.

J. W. MCKINLEY,
State Senator, Thirty-eighth Senatorial District.

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ber, 1930, the costs of publication shall be paid out of the general fund, on controller's warrants duly drawn for that purpose and shall be refunded to the general fund out of the veterans' farm and home building fund. Said refund shall be made upon controller's warrants duly drawn against said fund

for said purpose upon demands audited by the state board of control.

Sec. 18. This act may be known and cited as the "Veterans welfare bond act of 1929."

Sec. 19. All acts and parts of acts in conflict with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

APPORIONING STATE TAXES TO FIREMEN'S FUNDS. Senate Constitutional Amendment 27.

Adds Section 19 to Article XIII of constitution. Requires biennial legislation distributing not exceeding half of state taxes on premiums of fire insurance companies among firemen's pension, relief, health, life and accident insurance funds of counties, municipalities and political subdivisions, in proportion that each fund bears to aggregate thereof at distribution time; permitting distribution of portion thereof to any said subdivision having no such fund and maintaining paid or volunteer fire department. Authorizes legislation permitting local authorities to apply distributions hereunder toward procuring such insurance and paying firemen's pensions.

	YES
	NO

Senate Constitutional Amendment No 27—A resolution to propose to the people of the State of California an amendment to the constitution of said state by adding a new section thereto to be known as and numbered section 19 of article thirteen, relating to revenue and taxation.

Resolved by the Senate, the Assembly concurring. That the Legislature of the State of California at its regular session commencing on the seventh day of January, 1929, two-thirds of the members elected to each of the two houses of said Legislature voting in favor thereof, hereby proposes to the people of the State of California that a new section to be known as and numbered section 19 be added to article thirteen of the constitution of this state and to read as follows:

(This proposed amendment does not expressly amend any existing section of the Constitution but adds a new section thereto; therefore the provisions thereof are printed in BLACK-FACED TYPE to indicate that they are NEW.)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION

19. Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution the Legislature shall biennially set aside and provide for the distribution among the various

firemen's pension, relief, health, life and accident insurance funds of any county, city and county, municipality or other political subdivision of a sum not to exceed one-half the revenues accruing from the taxation of premiums of fire insurance companies and associations for fire insurance premiums under the provision of subdivision (b) of section 14 of this article. The manner and amount of the moneys distributed under this section shall be determined by the Legislature but must be based upon the proportion that each particular pension, relief, health life and accident insurance fund bears to the aggregate of all such funds existing in the state at the time the biennial distribution is made; provided, however, that the Legislature may provide for the distribution of a portion of such fund to counties, cities and counties, municipalities or other political subdivisions maintaining a paid or volunteer fire department where no provision has been made for the creation of a pension, relief, health, life or accident insurance fund in such political subdivision.

The Legislature shall enact all laws necessary to carry out the provisions of this section and may grant authority to local boards and commissions to use and apply any moneys distributed under the provisions of this section for the procuring of firemen's relief, health, life and accident insurance and for the payment of pensions of firemen.