

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
STATE OF ALABAMA,

AS ADOPTED BY THE
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, SEPTEMBER 3, 1901,
AND IN EFFECT NOVEMBER 28, 1901.

- WITH AMENDMENTS -

We, the people of the State of Alabama, in order to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, invoking the favor and guidance of Almighty God, do ordain and establish the following Constitution and form of government for the State of Alabama:

Article I

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

That the great, general, and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and established, we declare:

1. That all men are equally free and independent; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.
2. That all political power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority, and instituted for their benefit; and that, therefore, they have at all times an inalienable and indefeasible right to change their form of government in such manner as they may deem expedient.

3. That no religion shall be established by law; that no preference shall be given by law to any religious sect, society, denomination, or mode of worship; that no one shall be compelled by law to attend any place of worship; nor to pay any tithes, taxes, or other rate for building or repairing any place of worship, or for maintaining any minister or ministry; that no religious test shall be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under this State; and that the civil rights, privileges, and capacities of any citizen shall not be in any manner affected by his religious principles.

4. That no law shall ever be passed to curtail or restrain the liberty of speech or of the press; and any person may speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

5. That the people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and possessions from unreasonable seizure or searches, and that no warrants shall issue to search any place or to seize any person or thing without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation.

6. That in all criminal prosecutions, the accused has a right to be heard by himself and counsel, or either; to demand the nature and cause of the accusation; and to have a copy thereof; to be confronted by the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; to testify in all cases, in his own behalf, if he elects so to do; and, in all prosecutions by indictment, a speedy, public trial, by an impartial jury of the county or district in which the offense was committed; and he shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, except by due process of law; but the Legislature may, by a general law, provide for a change of venue at the instance of the defendant in all prosecutions by indictment, and such change of venue, on application of the defendant, may be heard and determined without the personal presence of the defendant so applying therefor; provided, that at the time of the application for the change of venue, the defendant is imprisoned in jail or some legal place of confinement.

7. That no person shall be accused or arrested, or detained, except in cases ascertained by law, and according to the form which the same has prescribed; and no person shall be punished but by virtue of a law established and promulgated prior to the offense and legally applied.

8. That no person shall, for any indictable offense, be proceeded against criminally, by information, except in cases arising in the militia and volunteer forces when in actual service, or when assembled under arms as a military organization, or, by leave of the court, for misfeasance, misdemeanor, extortion, and oppression in office, otherwise than is provided in the Constitution; provided, that in cases of misdemeanor, the Legislature may by law dispense with a Grand Jury and authorize such prosecutions and proceedings before Justices of the Peace or such other inferior courts as may be by law established.

9. That no person shall, for the same offense, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; but courts may, for reasons fixed by law, discharge juries from the consideration of any case, and no person shall gain an advantage by reason of such discharge of the jury.

10. That no person shall be barred from prosecuting or defending before any tribunal in this State, by himself or counsel, any civil cause to which he is a party.

11. That the right of trial by jury shall remain inviolate.

12. That in all prosecutions for libel or for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers or men in public capacity, or when the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence; and that in all indictments for libel, the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts under the direction of the court.

13. That all courts shall be open; and that every person, for any injury done him, in his lands, goods, person, or reputation, shall have a remedy by due process of law; and right and justice shall be administered without sale, denial, or delay.

14. That the State of Alabama shall never be made a defendant in any court of law or equity.

15. That excessive fines shall not be imposed, nor cruel or unusual punishment inflicted.

16. That all persons shall, before conviction, be bailable by sufficient sureties, except for capital offenses, when the proof is evident or the presumption great; and that excessive bail shall not in any case be required.

17. That the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended by the authorities of this State.

18. That treason against the State shall consist only in levying war against it, or adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort; and that no person shall be convicted of treason, except on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or his own confession in open court.

19. That no person shall be attainted of treason by the Legislature; and no conviction shall work corruption of blood or forfeiture of estate.

20. That no person shall be imprisoned for debt.

21. That no power of suspending laws shall be exercised except by the Legislature.

22. That no *ex post facto law*, nor any law, impairing the obligations of contracts, or making any irrevocable or exclusive grants of special privileges or immunities, shall be passed by the Legislature; and every grant or franchise, privilege, or immunity shall forever remain subject to revocation, alteration, or amendment.

23. That the exercise of the right of eminent domain shall never be abridged nor so construed as to prevent the Legislature from taking the property and franchises of incorporated companies, and subjecting them to public use in the same manner in which the property and franchises of individuals are taken and subjected; but private property shall not be taken for, or applied to, public use unless just compensation be first made therefor; nor shall private property be taken for private use, or for the use of corporations, other than municipal, without the consent of the owner; provided, however, the Legislature may by law secure to persons or corporations the right of way over the lands of other persons or corporations, and by general laws provide for and regulate the exercise by persons and corporations of the rights herein reserved; but just compensation shall, in all cases, be first made to the owner; and, provided, that the right of eminent domain shall not be so construed as to allow taxation or forced

subscription for the benefit of railroads or any other kind of corporations, other than municipal, or for the benefit of any individual or association.

24. That all navigable waters shall remain forever public highways, free to the citizens of the State and the United States, without tax, impost, or toll; and that no tax, toll, impost, or wharfage shall be demanded or received from the owner of any merchandise or commodity for the use of the shores or any wharf erected on the shores, or in or over the waters of any navigable stream, unless the same be expressly authorized by law.

25. That the citizens have a right, in a peaceable manner, to assemble together for the common good, and to apply to those invested with the power of government for redress of grievances or other purposes, by petition, address, or remonstrance.

26. That every citizen has a right to bear arms in defense of himself and the State.

27. That no standing army shall be kept up without the consent of the Legislature, and, in that case, no appropriation for its support shall be made for a longer term than one year; and the military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

28. That no soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor, in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

29. That no title of nobility or hereditary distinction, privilege, honor, or emolument shall ever be granted or conferred in this State; and that no office shall be created, the appointment to which shall be for a longer time than during good behavior.

30. That immigration shall be encouraged; emigration shall not be prohibited, and no citizen shall be exiled.

31. That temporary absence from the State shall not cause a forfeiture of residence once obtained.

32. That no form of slavery shall exist in this State; and there shall not be any involuntary servitude, otherwise than for the punishment of crime, of which the party shall have been duly convicted.

33. The privilege of suffrage shall be protected by laws regulating elections, and prohibiting, under adequate penalties, all undue influences from power, bribery, tumult, or other improper conduct.

34. Foreigners who are, or may hereafter become, bona fide residents of this State, shall enjoy the same rights in respect to the possession, enjoyment, and inheritance of property, as native born citizens.

35. That the sole object and only legitimate end of government is to protect the citizen in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property, and when the government assumes other functions it is usurpation and oppression.

36. That this enumeration of certain rights shall not impair or deny others retained by the people; and, to guard against any encroachments on the rights herein retained, we declare that

everything in this Declaration of Rights is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate.

Article II

State and County Boundaries

37. The boundaries of this State are established and declared to be as follows, that is to say: Beginning at the point where the thirty-first degree of north latitude crosses the Perdido river; thence east, to the western boundary line of the State of Georgia; thence along said line to the southern boundary line of the State of Tennessee; thence west, along the southern boundary line of the State of Tennessee, crossing the Tennessee river, and on to the second intersection of said river by said line; thence up said river to the mouth of Big Bear creek; thence by a direct line to the northwest corner of Washington county, in this State, as originally formed; thence southwardly, along the line of the State of Mississippi, to the Gulf of Mexico; thence eastwardly, including all islands within six leagues of the shore, to the Perdido river; thence up the said river to the beginning; provided, that the limits and jurisdiction of this State shall extend to and include any other land and territory hereafter acquired, by contract or agreement with other States or otherwise, although such land and territory are not included within the boundaries hereinbefore designated.

38. The boundaries of the several counties of this State, as they now exist, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

39. The Legislature may, by a vote of two-thirds of each House thereof, arrange and designate boundaries for the several counties of this State, which boundaries shall not be altered, except by a like vote; but no new county shall be formed hereafter of less extent than six hundred square miles, and no existing county shall be reduced to less than six hundred square miles; and no new county shall be formed unless it shall contain a sufficient number of inhabitants to entitle it to one Representative under the ratio of representation existing at the time of its formation, and leave the county or counties from which it is taken with the required number of inhabitants to entitle such county or counties, each, to separate representation; provided, that out of the counties of Henry, Dale, and Geneva a new county of less than six hundred square miles may be formed under the provisions of this article, so as to leave said counties of Henry, Dale, and Geneva with not less than five hundred square miles each.

40. No county line shall be altered or changed, or in the event of the creation of new counties shall be established, so as to run within seven miles of the county courthouse of any old county.

41. No courthouse or county site shall be removed except by a majority vote of the qualified electors of said county, voting at an election held for such purpose, and when an election has once been held no other election shall be held for such purpose until the expiration of four years; provided, that the county site of Shelby county shall remain at Columbiana, unless removed by a vote of the people, as provided for in an act entitled, "An act to provide for the permanent location of the county site of Shelby county, Alabama, by a vote of the qualified electors of said county," approved the 9th day of February, 1899, and the act amendatory thereof, approved the 20th day of February, 1899, or by an election held under the provisions of this article.

Article III

Distribution of Powers of Government

42. The powers of the government of the State of Alabama shall be divided into three distinct departments, each of which shall be confided to a separate body of magistracy, to wit: Those which are legislative, to one; those which are executive, to another; and those which are judicial, to another.

43. In the government of this State, except in the instances in this Constitution hereinafter expressly directed or permitted, the legislative department shall never exercise the executive and judicial powers, or either of them; the executive shall never exercise the legislative and judicial powers, or either of them; the judicial shall never exercise the legislative and executive powers, or either of them; to the end that it may be a government of laws and not of men.

Article IV

Legislative Department

44. The legislative power of this State shall be vested in a Legislature, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives.

45. The style of the laws of this State shall be: "Be it enacted by the Legislature of Alabama," which need not be repeated, but the act shall be divided into sections for convenience, according to substance, and the sections designated merely by figures. Each law shall contain but one subject, which shall be clearly expressed in its title, except general appropriation bills, general revenue bills, and bills adopting a code, digest, or revision of statutes; and no law shall be revived, amended, or the provisions thereof extended or conferred, by reference to its title only; but so much thereof as is revived, amended, extended, or conferred, shall be re-enacted and published at length.

46. Senators and Representatives shall be elected by the qualified electors on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November unless the legislature shall change the time of holding elections and in every fourth year thereafter. The terms of office of the Senators and Representatives shall commence on the day after the general election at which they are elected, and expire on the day after the general election held in the fourth year after their election, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution. At the general election in the year nineteen hundred and two all the Representatives, together with the Senators for the even numbered districts and for the Thirty-fifth district, shall be elected. The terms of those Senators who represent the odd numbered districts under the law in force prior to the ratification of this Constitution, are hereby extended until the day after the general election in the year nineteen hundred and six; and until the expiration of his term as hereinbefore extended, each such Senator shall represent the district established by this Constitution, bearing the number corresponding with that for which he was elected. In the year nineteen hundred and six, and in every fourth year thereafter, all the Senators and Representatives shall be elected. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in either House the Governor shall issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the term.

47. Senators shall be at least twenty-five years of age, and Representatives twenty-one years of age at the time of their election. They shall have been citizens and residents of this State for three years and residents of their respective counties or districts for one year next before their election, if such county or district shall have been so long established; but if not, then of the county or district from which the same shall have been taken; and they shall reside in their respective counties or districts during their terms of office.

48. The Legislature shall meet quadrennially at the Capitol in the Senate chamber, and in the Hall of the House of Representatives, on the second Tuesday in January next succeeding their election, or on such other day as may be prescribed by law; and shall not remain in session longer than sixty days at the first session held under the Constitution, nor longer than fifty days at any subsequent session. If at any time it should from any cause become impossible or dangerous for the Legislature to meet or remain at the Capitol or for the Senate to meet or remain in the Senate Chamber, or for the Representatives to meet or remain in the Hall of the House of Representatives, the Governor may convene the Legislature, or remove it after it has convened, to some other place, or may designate some other place for the sitting of the respective Houses, or either of them, as necessity may require.

49. The pay of the members of the Legislature shall be four dollars per day, and ten cents per mile in going to and returning from the seat of government, to be computed by the nearest usual route traveled.

50. The Legislature shall consist of not more than thirty-five Senators, and not more than one hundred and five members of the House of Representatives, to be apportioned among the several districts and counties, as prescribed in this Constitution; provided that in addition to the above number of representatives, each new county hereafter created shall be entitled to one Representative.

51. The Senate, at the beginning of each regular session, and at such other times as may be necessary, shall elect one of its members president pro tem. thereof, to preside over its deliberations in the absence of the Lieutenant-Governor; and the House of Representatives, at the beginning of each regular session, and at such other times as may be necessary, shall elect one of its members as Speaker; and the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall hold their offices respectively, until their successors are elected and qualified. In case of the temporary disability of either of said presiding officers, the House to which he belongs may elect one of its members to preside over that House and to perform all the duties of such officer during the continuance of his disability; and such temporary officer, while performing duty as such, shall receive the same compensation to which the permanent officer is entitled by law, and no other. Each House shall choose its own officers and shall judge of the election, returns, and qualifications of its members.

52. A majority of each House shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day and compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each House may provide.

53. Each House shall have power to determine the rules of its proceedings and to punish its members and other persons, for contempt or disorderly behavior in its presence; to enforce obedience to its processes; to protect its members against violence, or offers of bribes or corrupt solicitation; and with the concurrence of two-thirds of the House, to expel a member,

but not a second time for the same offense; and the two Houses shall have all the powers necessary for the Legislature of a free State.

54. A member of the Legislature, expelled for corruption, shall not thereafter be eligible to either House, and punishment for contempt or disorderly behavior shall not bar an indictment for the same offense.

55. Each House shall keep a Journal of its proceedings and cause the same to be published immediately after its adjournment, excepting such parts as, in its judgment, may require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either House on any question shall, at the request of one-tenth of the members present, be entered on the Journal. Any member of either House shall have liberty to dissent from or protest against any act or resolution which he may think injurious to the public, or to an individual, and have the reason for his dissent entered on the Journal.

56. Members of the Legislature shall, in all cases, except treason, felony, violation of their oath of office, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either House shall not be questioned in any other place.

57. The doors of each House shall be opened except on such occasions as, in the opinion of the House, may require secrecy, but no person shall be admitted to the floor of either House while the same is in session, except members of the Legislature, the officers and employees of the two Houses, the Governor and his secretary, representatives of the press, and other persons to whom either House, by unanimous vote, may extend the privileges of its floor.

58. Neither House shall, without consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which they may be sitting except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

59. No Senator or Representative shall, during the term for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any office of profit under this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments of which shall have been increased during such term, except such offices as may be filled by election by the people.

60. No person convicted of embezzlement of the public money, bribery, perjury, or other infamous crime, shall be eligible to the Legislature, or capable of holding any office of trust or profit in this State.

61. No law shall be passed except by bill, and no bill shall be so altered or amended on its passage through either House as to change its original purpose.

62. No bill shall become a law until it shall have been referred to a standing committee of each House, acted upon by such committee in session, and returned therefrom, which facts shall affirmatively appear upon the Journal of each House.

63. Every bill shall be read on three different days in each House, and no bill shall become a law, unless on its final passage it be read at length, and the vote be taken by yeas and nays, the names of the members voting for and against the same be entered upon the Journals, and a

majority of each House be recorded thereon as voting in its favor, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

64. No amendment to bills shall be adopted except by a majority of the House wherein the same is offered, nor unless the amendment with the names of those voting for and against the same shall be entered at length on the Journal of the House in which the same is adopted, and no amendment to bills by one House shall be concurred in by the other, unless a vote be taken by yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for and against the same be recorded at length on the Journal; and no report of a committee of conference shall be adopted in either House, except upon a vote taken by yeas and nays, and entered on the Journal, as herein provided for the adoption of amendments.

65. The Legislature shall have no power to authorize lotteries or gift enterprises for any purposes, and shall pass laws to prohibit the sale in this State of lottery or gift enterprise tickets, or tickets in any scheme in the nature of a lottery; and all acts, or parts of acts heretofore passed by the Legislature of this state, authorizing a lottery or lotteries, and all acts amendatory thereof, or supplemental thereto, are hereby avoided.

66. The presiding officer of each House shall, in the presence of the House over which he presides, sign all bills and joint resolutions passed by the Legislature, after the same shall have been publicly read at length immediately before signing, and the fact of reading and signing shall be entered upon the Journal; but the reading at length may be dispensed with by a two-thirds vote of a quorum present, which fact shall also be entered on the Journal.

67. The Legislature shall prescribe by law the number, duties, and compensation of the officers and employees of each House, and no payment shall be made from the State Treasury or be in any way authorized to any person except to an acting officer or employee elected or appointed in pursuance of law.

68. The Legislature shall have no power to grant or to authorize or require any county or municipal authority to grant, nor shall any county or municipal authority have power to grant any extra compensation, fee, or allowance to any public officer, servant, or employee, agent or contractor, after service shall have been rendered or contract made, nor to increase or decrease the fees and compensation of such officers during their terms of office; nor shall any officer of the State bind the State to the payment of any sum of money but by authority of law; provided this section shall not apply to allowances made by commissioners' courts or boards of revenue to county officers for ex-officio services, nor prevent the Legislature from increasing or diminishing at any time the allowance to sheriffs or other officers for feeding, transferring, or guarding prisoners.

69. All stationery, printing, paper, and fuel used in the legislative and other departments of government shall be furnished and the printing, binding, and distribution of laws, Journals, department reports, and all other printing, binding, and repairing and furnishing the halls and rooms used for the meeting of the Legislature and its committees, shall be performed under contract, to be given to the lowest responsible bidder below a maximum price, and under such regulations as shall be prescribed by law; no member or officer of any department of the government shall be in any way interested in such contract, and all such contracts shall be subject to the approval of the Governor, Auditor, and Treasurer.

70. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives. The Governor, Auditor, and Attorney General shall, before each regular session of the Legislature, prepare a general revenue bill to be submitted to the Legislature, for its information, and the Secretary of State shall have printed for the use of the Legislature a sufficient number of copies of the bill so prepared, which the Governor shall transmit to the House of Representatives as soon as organized, to be used or dealt with as that House may elect. The Senate may propose amendments to revenue bills. No revenue bill shall be passed during the last five days of the session.

71. The general appropriation bill shall embrace nothing but appropriations for the ordinary expenses of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial departments of the State, for interest on the public debt, and for the public schools. The salary of no officer or employe shall be increased in such bill, nor shall any appropriation be made therein for any officer or employe unless his employment and the amount of his salary have already been provided for by law. All other appropriations shall be made by separate bills, each embracing but one subject.

72. No money shall be paid out of the Treasury except upon appropriations made by law, and on warrant drawn by the proper officer in pursuance thereof; and a regular statement and account of receipts and expenditures of all public moneys shall be published annually, in such manner as may be by law directed.

73. No appropriation shall be made to any charitable or educational institution not under the absolute control of the State, other than normal schools established by law for the professional training of teachers for the public schools of the State, except by a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each House.

74. No act of the Legislature shall authorize the investment of any trust fund by executors, administrators, guardians, or other trustees in the bonds or stock of any private corporation; and any such acts now existing are avoided, saving investments heretofore made.

75. The power to change the venue in civil and criminal causes is vested in the courts, to be exercised in such manner as shall be provided by law.

76. When the Legislature shall be convened in special session, there shall be no legislation upon subjects other than those designated in the proclamation of the Governor calling such session, except by a vote of two-thirds of each house. Special sessions shall be limited to thirty days.

77. No State office shall be continued or created for the inspection or measuring of any merchandise, manufacture, or commodity, but any county or municipality may appoint such officers when authorized by law.

78. No act of the Legislature changing the seat of government of the State shall become a law until the same shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of the State at a general election, and approved by a majority of such electors voting on the same; and such act shall specify the proposed new location.

79. A member of the Legislature who shall solicit, demand, or receive, or consent to receive, directly or indirectly, for himself or for another, from any company, corporation, association, or person, any money, office, appointment, employment, reward, thing of value, or

enjoyment, or of personal advantage or promise thereof, for his vote or official influence, or for withholding the same; or with an understanding, expressed or implied, that his vote or official action shall be in any way influenced thereby; or who shall solicit or demand any such money or other advantage, matter, or thing aforesaid, for another as the consideration for his vote, or influence, or for withholding the same; or shall give or withhold his vote or influence in consideration of the payment or promise of such money, advantage, matter, or thing to another, shall be guilty of bribery within the meaning of this Constitution; and shall incur the disabilities and penalties provided thereby for such offense, and such additional punishment as is or shall be provided by law.

80. Any person who shall, directly or indirectly, offer, give, or promise any money, or thing of value, testimonial, privilege, or personal advantage, to any executive or judicial officer or member of the Legislature to influence him in the performance of any of his public or official duties, shall be guilty of bribery, and be punished in such manner as may be provided by law.

81. The offense of corrupt solicitation of members of the Legislature or of public officers of this state or of any municipal division thereof, and any occupation or practice of solicitation of such members or officers, to influence their official action, shall be defined by law, and shall be punished by fine and imprisonment in the penitentiary; and the Legislature shall provide for the trial and punishment of the offenses enumerated in the two preceding sections, and shall require the judges to give the same specially in charge to the grand juries in all the counties of this State.

82. A member of the Legislature who has a personal or private interest in any measure or bill proposed or pending before the Legislature, shall disclose the fact to the House of which he is a member, and shall not vote thereon.

83. In all elections by the Legislature the members shall vote viva voce, and the votes shall be entered on the Journal.

84. It shall be the duty of the Legislature to pass such laws as may be necessary and proper to decide differences by arbitrators to be appointed by the parties who may choose that mode of adjustment.

85. It shall be the duty of the Legislature, at its first session after the ratification of this Constitution, and within every subsequent period of twelve years, to make provision by law for revising, digesting, and promulgating the public statutes of this State, of a general nature, both civil and criminal.

86. The Legislature shall pass such penal laws as it may deem expedient to suppress the evil practice of dueling.

87. It shall be the duty of the Legislature to regulate by law the cases in which deduction shall be made from the salaries or compensation of public officers for neglect of duty in their official capacities, and the amount of such deduction.

88. It shall be the duty of the Legislature to require the several counties of this state to make adequate provision for the maintenance of the poor.

89. The Legislature shall not have power to authorize any municipal corporation to pass any laws inconsistent with the general laws of this State.

90. In the event of the annexation of any foreign territory to this State, the Legislature shall enact laws extending to the inhabitants of the acquired territory all the rights and privileges which may be required by the terms of acquisition not inconsistent with this Constitution. Should the State purchase such foreign territory, the Legislature, with the approval of the Governor, shall be authorized to expend any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, and, if necessary, to provide also for the issuance of State bonds, to pay for the purchase of such foreign territory.

91. The legislature shall not tax the property, real or personal, of the State, counties, or other municipal corporations, or cemeteries; nor lots in incorporated cities and towns, or within one mile of any city or town to the extent of one acre, nor lots one mile or more distant from such cities or towns to the extent of five acres, with the buildings thereon, when same are used exclusively for religious worship, for schools, or for purposes purely charitable.

92. The Legislature shall by law prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary to ascertain the value of real and personal property exempted from sale under legal process by this Constitution, and to secure the same to the claimant thereof as selected.

93. The State shall not engage in works of internal improvement, nor lend money or its credit in aid of such; nor shall the State be interested in any private or corporate enterprise, or lend money or its credit to any individual, association, or corporation.

94. The Legislature shall not have power to authorize any county, city, town, or other subdivision of this State to lend its credit, or to grant public money or thing of value in aid of, or to any individual, association, or corporation whatsoever, or to become a stockholder in any such corporation, association, or company, by issuing bonds or otherwise.

95. There can be no law of this State impairing the obligation of contracts by destroying or impairing the remedy for their enforcement; and the Legislature shall have no power to revive any right or remedy which may have become barred by lapse of time, or by any statute of this State. After suit has been commenced on any cause of action, the Legislature shall have no power to take away such cause of action, or destroy any existing defense to such suit.

96. The Legislature shall not enact any law not applicable to all the counties in the State, regulating costs and charges of courts, or fees, commissions or allowances of public officers.

97. The Legislature shall not authorize payment to any person of the salary of a deceased officer beyond the date of his death.

98. The Legislature shall not retire any officer on pay, or part pay, or make any grant to such retiring officer.

99. Lands belonging to or under the control of the State shall never be donated, directly or indirectly, to private corporations, associations, or individuals, or railroad companies; nor shall such lands be sold to corporations or associations for a less price than that for which they are subject to sale to individuals; provided, that nothing contained in this section shall prevent the Legislature from granting a right of way, not exceeding one hundred and twenty-five feet

in width, as a mere easement, for railroads or telegraph or telephone lines across State land, and the Legislature shall never dispose of the land covered by such right of way except subject to such easement.

100. No obligation or liability of any person, association, or corporation held or owned by this State, or by any county or other municipality thereof, shall ever be remitted, released, or postponed, or in any way diminished, by the Legislature; nor shall such liability or obligation be extinguished except by payment thereof; nor shall such liability or obligation be exchanged or transferred except upon payment of its face value; provided, that this section shall not prevent the Legislature from providing by general law for the compromise of doubtful claims.

101. No State or county official shall, at any time during his term of office, accept, either directly or indirectly, any fee, money, office, appointment, employment, reward, or thing of value, or of personal advantage, or the promise thereof, to lobby for or against any measure pending before the Legislature, or to give or withhold his influence to secure the passage or defeat of any such measure.

102. The Legislature shall never pass any law to authorize or legalize any marriage between any white person and a negro, or descendant of a negro.

103. The Legislature shall provide by law for the regulation, prohibition, or reasonable restraint of common carriers, partnerships, associations, trusts, monopolies, and combinations of capital, so as to prevent them or any of them from making scarce articles of necessity, trade, or commerce, or from increasing unreasonably the cost thereof to the consumer, or preventing reasonable competition in any calling, trade, or business.

Local Legislation.

104. The Legislature shall not pass a special, private, or local law in any of the following cases:

1. Granting a divorce;
2. Relieving any minor of the disabilities of nonage;
3. Changing the name of any corporation, association, or individual;
4. Providing for the adoption or legitimizing of any child;
5. Incorporating a city, town, or village;
6. Granting a charter to any corporation, association, or individual;
7. Establishing rules of descent or distribution;
8. Regulating the time within which a civil or criminal action may be begun;
9. Exempting any individual, private corporation, or association from the operation of any general law;
10. Providing for the sale of the property of any individual or estate;
11. Changing or locating a county seat;
12. Providing for a change of venue in any case;
13. Regulating the rate of interest;
14. Fixing the punishment of crime;
15. Regulating either the assessment or collection of taxes, except in connection with the readjustment, renewal, or extension of existing municipal indebtedness created prior to the ratification of the Constitution of eighteen hundred and seventy-five;
16. Giving effect to an invalid will, deed, or other instrument;

17. Authorizing any county, city, town, village, district, or other political subdivision of a county, to issue bonds or other securities unless the issuance of said bonds or other securities shall have been authorized before the enactment of such local or special law, by a vote of the duly qualified electors of such county, township, city, town, village, district, or other political subdivision of a county, at an election held for such purpose, in the manner that may be prescribed by law; provided, the Legislature may, without such election, pass special laws to refund bonds issued before the date of the ratification of this Constitution;
18. Amending, confirming, or extending the charter of any private or municipal corporation, or remitting the forfeiture thereof; provided, this shall not prohibit the Legislature from altering or rearranging the boundaries of the city, town, or village;
19. Creating, extending, or impairing any lien;
20. Chartering or licensing any ferry, road, or bridge;
21. Increasing the jurisdiction and fees of justices of the peace or the fees of constables;
22. Establishing separate school districts;
23. Establishing separate stock districts;
24. Creating, increasing, or decreasing fees, percentages, or allowances of public officers;
25. Exempting property from taxation or from levy or sale;
26. Exempting any person from jury, road, or other civil duty;
27. Donating any lands owned by or under control of the State to any person or corporation;
28. Remitting fines, penalties, or forfeitures;
29. Providing for the conduct of elections or designating places of voting, or changing the boundaries of wards, precincts, or districts, except in the event of the organization of new counties, or the changing of the lines of old counties;
30. Restoring the right to vote to persons convicted of infamous crimes, or crimes involving moral turpitude;
31. Declaring who shall be liners between precincts or between counties.

104. The Legislature shall pass general laws for the cases enumerated in this section, provided that nothing in this section or article shall affect the right of the Legislature to enact local laws regulating or prohibiting the liquor traffic; but no such local law shall be enacted unless notice shall have been given as required in section 106 of this Constitution.

105. No special, private, or local law, except a law fixing the time of holding courts, shall be enacted in any case which is provided for by a general law, or when the relief sought can be given by any court of this State; and the courts, and not the Legislature, shall judge as to whether the matter of said law is provided for by a general law, and as to whether the relief sought can be given by any court; nor shall the Legislature indirectly enact any such special, private, or local law by the partial repeal of a general law.

106. No special, private, or local law shall be passed on any subject not enumerated in section 104 of this Constitution, except in reference to fixing the time of holding courts, unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall have been published, without cost to the State, in the county or counties where the matter or thing to be affected may be situated, which notice shall state the substance of the proposed law and be published at least once a week for four consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in such county or counties, or if there is no newspaper published therein, then by posting the said notice for four consecutive weeks at five different places in the county or counties prior to the introduction of the bill; and proof by affidavit that said notice has been given shall be exhibited to each house of the legislature, and

said proof spread upon the journal. The courts shall pronounce void every special, private, or local law which the journals do not affirmatively show was passed in accordance with the provisions of this section.

107. The legislature shall not, by a special, private, or local law, repeal or modify any special, private, or local law except upon notice being given and shown as provided in the last preceding section.

108. The operation of a general law shall not be suspended for the benefit of any individual, private corporation, or association; nor shall any individual, private corporation or association be exempted from the operation of any general law except as in this article otherwise provided.

109. The legislature shall pass general laws under which local and private interests shall be provided for and protected.

110. A general law within the meaning of this article is a law which applies to the whole state; a local law is a law which applies to any political subdivision or subdivisions of the state less than the whole; a special or private law within the meaning of this article is one which applies to an individual, association, or corporation.

111. No bill introduced as a general law in either house of the legislature shall be so amended on its passage as to become a special, private or local law.

Article V.

Executive Department

112. The executive department shall consist of a governor, lieutenant governor, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, commissioner of agriculture and industries, and a sheriff for each county.

113. The supreme executive power of this state shall be vested in a chief magistrate, who shall be styled "The Governor of the State of Alabama."

114. The governor, ant governor, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, and commissioner of agriculture and industries shall be elected by the qualified electors of the state at the same time and places appointed for the election of members of the legislature in the year nineteen hundred and two, and in every fourth year thereafter.

115. The returns of every election for Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, commissioner of agriculture and industries shall be sealed up and transmitted by the returning officers to the seat of government, directed to the speaker of the house of representatives, who shall, during the first week of the session to which such returns shall be made, open and publish them in the presence of both houses of the legislature in joint convention; but the speaker's duty and the duty of the joint convention shall be purely ministerial. The result of the election shall be ascertained and declared by the speaker from the face of the returns without delay. The person having the highest number of votes for any one of said offices shall be declared duly elected;

but if two or more persons shall have an equal and the highest number of votes for the same office, the legislature by joint vote, without delay, shall choose one of said persons for said office. Contested elections for governor, lieutenant governor, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, and commissioner of agriculture and industries, shall be determined by both houses of the legislature in such manner as may be prescribed by law.

116. The governor, lieutenant governor, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, commissioner of agriculture and industries, elected after the ratification of this Constitution, shall hold their respective offices for the term of four years from the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January next succeeding their election, and until their successors shall be elected and qualified. After the first election under this Constitution, no one of said officers shall be eligible as his own successor; and the governor shall not be eligible to election or appointment to any office under this state, or to the senate of the United States, during his term, and within one year after the expiration thereof.

117. The governor and lieutenant governor shall each be at least thirty years of age when elected, and shall have been citizens of the United States ten years and resident citizens of this state at least seven years next before the date of their election. The lieutenant governor shall be ex officio president of the senate, but shall have no right to vote except in the event of a tie.

118. The governor, lieutenant governor, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, and commissioner of agriculture and industries, shall receive compensation to be fixed by law, which shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which they shall have been elected, and shall, except the lieutenant governor, reside at the state capital during the time they continue in office, except during epidemics. The compensation of the lieutenant governor shall be the same as that received by the speaker of the house, except while serving as governor, during which time his compensation shall be the same as that allowed the governor.

119. If the legislature, at the session next after the ratification of this Constitution, shall enact a law increasing the salary of the governor, such increase shall become effective and apply to the first governor elected after the ratification of this Constitution, if the legislature shall so determine.

120. The governor shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed.

121. The governor may require information in writing, under oath, from the officers of the executive department, named in this article, or created by statute, on any subject, relating to the duties of their respective offices, and he may at any time require information in writing, under oath, from all officers and managers of state institutions, upon any subject relating to the condition, management and expenses of their respective offices and institutions. Any such officer or manager who makes a willfully false report or fails without sufficient excuse to make the required report on demand, is guilty of an impeachable offense.

122. The governor may, by proclamation, on extraordinary occasions, convene the legislature at the seat of government, or at a different place if, since their last adjournment, that shall have become dangerous from an enemy, insurrection, or other lawless outbreak, or from any

infectious or contagious disease; and he shall state specifically in such proclamation each matter concerning which the action of that body is deemed necessary.

123. The governor shall, from time to time, give to the legislature information of the state of the government, and recommend for its consideration such measures as he may deem expedient; and at the commencement of each regular session of the legislature, and at the close of his term of office, he shall give information by written message of the condition of the state; and he shall account to the legislature, as may be prescribed by law, for all moneys received and paid out by him or by his order; and at the commencement of each regular session he shall present to the legislature estimates of the amount of money required to be raised by taxation for all purposes.

124. The governor shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by law; and, after conviction, to grant reprieves, paroles, commutations of sentence, and pardons, except in cases of impeachment. The attorney-general, secretary of state, and state auditor shall constitute a board of pardons, who shall meet on the call of the governor, and before whom shall be laid all recommendations or petitions, for pardon, commu{ {{3}} } commu or parole, in cases of felony; and the board shall hear them in open session, and give their opinion thereon in writing to the governor, after which or on the failure of the board to advise for more than sixty days, the governor may grant or refuse the commutation, parole, or pardon, as to him seems best for the public interest. He shall communicate to the legislature at each session every remission of fines and forfeitures, and every reprieve, commutation, parole, or pardon, with his reasons therefor, and the opinion of the board of pardons in each case required to be referred, stating the name and crime of the convict, the sentence, its date, and the date of reprieve, commutation, parole, or pardon. Pardons in cases of felony and other offenses involving moral turpitude shall not relieve from civil and political disabilities, unless approved by the board of pardons and specifically expressed in the pardon.

125. Every bill which shall have passed both houses of the legislature, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, shall be presented to the governor; if he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it with his objections to the house in which it originated, which shall enter the objections at large upon the journal and proceed to reconsider it. If the governor's message proposes no amendment which would remove his objections to the bill, the house in which the bill originated may proceed to reconsider it, and if a majority of the whole number elected to that house vote for the passage of the bill, it shall be sent to the other house, which shall in like manner reconsider, and if a majority of the whole number elected to that house vote for the passage of the bill, the same shall become a law, notwithstanding the governor's veto. If the governor's message proposes amendment, which would remove his objections, the house to which it is sent may so amend the bill and send it with the governor's message to the other house, which may adopt, but can not amend, said amendment; and both houses concurring in the amendment, the bill shall again be sent to the governor and acted on by him as other bills. If the house to which the bill is returned refuses to make such amendment, it shall proceed to reconsider it; and if a majority of the whole number elected to that house shall vote for the passage of the bill, it shall be sent with the objections to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by a majority of the whole number elected to that house, it shall become a law. If the house to which the bill is returned makes the amendment, and the other house declines to pass the same, that house shall proceed to reconsider it, as though the bill had originated therein, and such proceedings shall be taken thereon as above provided. In every such case the vote of both houses shall be determined by

yeas and nays, and the names of the members voting for or against the bill shall be entered upon the journals of each house, respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the governor within six days, Sunday excepted, after it shall have been presented, the same shall become a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the legislature, by its adjournment, prevent the return, in which case it shall not be a law; but when return is prevented by recess, such bill must be returned to the house in which it originated within two days after the reassembling, otherwise it shall become a law, but bills presented to the governor within five days before the final adjournment of the legislature may be approved by the governor at any time within ten days after such adjournment, and if approved and deposited with the secretary of state within that time shall become law. Every vote, order, or resolution to which concurrence of both houses may be necessary, except on questions of adjournment and the bringing on of elections by the two houses, and amending this Constitution, shall be presented to the governor; and, before the same shall take effect, be approved by him; or, being disapproved, shall be repassed by both houses according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

126. The governor shall have power to approve or disapprove any item or items of any appropriation bill embracing distinct items, and the part or the parts of the bill approved shall be the law, and the item or items disapproved shall be void, unless repassed according to the rules and limitations prescribed for the passage of bills over the executive veto; and he shall in writing state specifically the item or items he disapproves, setting the same out in full in his message, but in such case the enrolled bill shall not be returned with the governor's objection.

127. In case of the governor's removal from office, death or resignation, the lieutenant governor shall become governor. If both the governor and lieutenant governor be removed from office, die or resign more than sixty days prior to the next general election, at which any state officers are to be elected, a governor and lieutenant governor shall be elected at such election for the unexpired term, and in the event of a vacancy in the office, caused by the removal from office, death or resignation of the governor and lieutenant governor, pending such vacancy and until their successors shall be elected and qualified, the office of governor shall be held and administered by either the president pro tem. of the senate, speaker of the house of representatives, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, or state treasurer in the order herein named. In case of the impeachment of the governor, his absence from the state for more than twenty days, unsoundness of mind, or other disability, the power and authority of the office shall, until the governor is acquitted, returns to the state, or is restored to his mind, or relieved from other disability, devolve in the order herein named, upon the lieutenant governor, president pro tem. of the senate, speaker of the house of representatives, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, and state treasurer. If any of these officers be under any of the disabilities herein specified, the office of the governor shall be administered in the order named by such of these officers as may be free from such disability. If the governor shall be absent from the state over twenty days, the secretary of state shall notify the lieutenant governor, who shall enter upon the duties of governor; if both the governor and lieutenant governor shall be absent from the state over twenty days, the secretary of state shall notify the president pro tem. of the senate, who shall enter upon the duties of governor, and so on, in case of such absence, he shall notify each of the other officers named in their order, who shall discharge the duties of the office until the governor or other officer entitled to administer the office in succession to the governor returns. If the governor-elect fail or refuse from any cause to qualify, the lieutenant governor-elect shall qualify and exercise the duties of governor until the governor-elect qualifies; and in the event both the governor-elect and the lieutenant governor-elect from any cause fail to qualify, the president pro tem. of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of

state, and state treasurer, shall, in like manner, in the order named, administer the office until the governor-elect or lieutenant governor-elect qualifies.

128. If the governor or other officer administering the office shall appear to be of unsound mind, it shall be the duty of the supreme court of Alabama, at any regular term, or at any special term, which it is hereby authorized to call for that purpose, upon request in writing, verified by their affidavits, of any two of the officers named in section 127 of this Constitution, not next in succession to the office of governor, to ascertain the mental condition of the governor or other officer administering the office, and if he is adjudged to be of unsound mind, to so decree, a copy of which decree, duly certified, shall be filed in the office of the secretary of state; and in the event of such adjudication, it shall be the duty of the officer next in succession to perform the duties of the office until the governor or other officer administering the office is restored to his mind. If the incumbent denies that the governor or other person entitled to administer the office has been restored to his mind, the supreme court, at the instance of any officer named in section 127 of this Constitution, shall ascertain the truth concerning the same, and if the officer has been restored to his mind, shall so adjudge and file a duly certified copy of its decree with the secretary of state; and in the event of such adjudication, the office shall be restored to him. The supreme court shall prescribe the method of taking testimony and the rules of practice in such proceedings, which rules shall include a provision for the service of notice of such proceedings on the governor or person acting as governor.

129. The lieutenant governor, president pro tem. of the senate, speaker of the house, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, or state treasurer, while administering the office of governor, shall receive like compensation as that prescribed by law for the governor, and no other.

130. No person shall, at the same time, hold the office of governor and any other office, civil or military, under this state, or the United States, or any other state or government, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

131. The governor shall be commander-in-chief of the militia and volunteer forces of this state, except when they shall be called into the service of the United States, and he may call out the same to execute the laws, suppress insurrection, and repel invasion, but need not command in person unless directed to do so by resolution of the legislature; and when acting in the service of the United States, he shall appoint his staff, and the legislature shall fix his rank.

132. No person shall be eligible to the office of attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, or commissioner of agriculture and industries unless he shall have been a citizen of the United States at least seven years, and shall have resided in this state at least five years next preceding his election, and shall be at least twenty-five years old when elected.

133. There shall be a seal of the state, which shall be used officially by the governor, and the seal now in use shall continue to be used until another shall have been adopted by the legislature. The seal shall be called "The Great Seal of the State of Alabama."

134. The secretary of state shall be the custodian of the great seal of the state, and shall authenticate therewith all official acts of the governor, except his approval of laws,

resolutions, appointments to office, and administrative orders. He shall keep a register of the official acts of the governor, and when necessary, shall attest them, and lay copies of same together with copies of all papers relative thereto, before either house of the legislature, when required to do so, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by law.

135. All grants and commissions shall be issued in the name and by the authority of the state of Alabama, sealed with the great seal of the state, signed by the governor and countersigned by the secretary of state.

136. Should the office of attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, or commissioner of agriculture and industries become vacant from any cause, the governor shall fill such vacancy until the disability is removed or a successor elected and qualified. In case any of said officers shall become of unsound mind, such unsoundness shall be ascertained by the supreme court upon the suggestion of the governor.

137. Duties generally and restrictions on receipt of fees, etc., by attorney general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education and commissioner of agriculture and industries; annual reports by state treasurer and state auditor; attorney general may be required to defend suits against state, political subdivisions, officers, etc.

The attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, and commissioner of agriculture and industries shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by law. The state treasurer and state auditor shall, every year, at a time fixed by the legislature, make a full and complete report to the governor, showing the receipts and disbursements of every character, all claims audited and paid out, by items, and all taxes and revenues collected and paid into the treasury, and the sources thereof. They shall make reports oftener upon any matters pertaining to their offices, if required by the governor or the legislature. The attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, and commissioner of agriculture and industries shall not receive to their use any fees, costs, perquisites of office or other compensation than the salaries prescribed by law, and all fees that may be payable for any services performed by such officers shall be at once paid into the state treasury.

138. A sheriff shall be elected in each county by the qualified electors thereof, who shall hold office for a term of four years, unless sooner removed, and he shall be ineligible to such office as his own successor; provided, that the terms of all sheriffs expiring in the year nineteen hundred and four are hereby extended until the time of the expiration of the terms of the other executive officers of this state in the year nineteen hundred and seven, unless sooner removed. Whenever any prisoner is taken from jail, or from the custody of any sheriff or his deputy, and put to death, or suffers grievous bodily harm, owing to the neglect, connivance, cowardice, or other grave fault of the sheriff, such sheriff may be impeached under section 174 of this Constitution. If the sheriff be impeached, and thereupon convicted, he shall not be eligible to hold any office in this state during the time for which he had been elected or appointed to serve as sheriff.

Article VI

Judicial Department

139. The judicial power of the state shall be vested in the senate sitting as a court of impeachment, a supreme court, circuit courts, chancery courts, courts of probate, such courts of law and equity inferior to the supreme court, and to consist of not more than five members, as the legislature from time to time may establish, and such persons as may be by law invested with powers of a judicial nature; but no court of general jurisdiction, at law or in equity, or both, shall hereafter be established in and for any one county having a population of less than twenty thousand, according to the next preceding Federal census, and property assessed for taxation at a less valuation than three million five hundred thousand dollars.

140. Except in cases otherwise directed in this Constitution, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction only, which shall be coextensive with the State, under such restrictions and regulations, not repugnant to this Constitution, as may from time to time be prescribed by law, except where jurisdiction over appeals is vested in some inferior court, and made final therein; provided, that the Supreme Court shall have power to issue writs of injunction, habeas corpus, quo warranto, and such other remedial and original writs as may be necessary to give it a general superintendence and control of inferior jurisdictions.

141. The Supreme Court shall be held at the seat of government, but if that shall become dangerous from any cause, it may convene at or adjourn to another place.

142. Except as otherwise authorized in this article, the State shall be divided into convenient circuits. For each circuit there shall be chosen a judge, who shall for one year next preceding his election and during his continuance in office, reside in the circuit for which he is elected.

143. The Circuit Court shall have original jurisdiction in all matters civil and criminal within the State not otherwise excepted in this Constitution; but in civil cases, other than suits for libel, slander, assault and battery, and ejectment, it shall have no original jurisdiction except where the matter or sum in controversy exceeds fifty dollars.

144. A Circuit Court, or a court having the jurisdiction of the Circuit Court, shall be held in each county in the state at least twice in every year, and judges of the several courts mentioned in this section may hold court for each other when they deem it expedient, and shall do so when directed by law. The judges of the several courts mentioned in this section shall have power to issue writs of injunction, returnable to the Courts of Chancery, or courts having the jurisdiction of Courts of Chancery.

145. The Legislature shall have power to establish a Court or Courts of Chancery, with original and appellate jurisdiction, except as otherwise authorized in this article. The state shall be divided by the legislature into convenient Chancery divisions; each division shall be divided into districts, and for each division there shall be a chancellor, who shall have resided in the division for which he shall be elected or appointed, for one year next preceding his election or appointment, and shall reside therein during his continuance in office.

146. A Chancery Court, or a court having the jurisdiction of the Chancery Court, shall be held in each district, at a place to be fixed by law, at least twice in each year, and the chancellors may hold court for each other when they deem it necessary, and shall do so when directed by law.

147. Any county having a population of twenty thousand or more, according to the next preceding federal census, and also taxable property of three million five hundred thousand

dollars or more in value, according to the next preceding assessment of property for state and county taxation, need not be included in any circuit or chancery division; but if the value of its taxable property shall be reduced below that limit, or if its population shall be reduced below that number, the legislature shall include such county in a circuit and chancery division, or either, embracing more than one county. No circuit or chancery division shall contain less than three counties, unless there be embraced therein a county having a population of twenty thousand or more, and taxable property of three million five hundred thousand dollars or more in value.

148. The legislature may confer upon the circuit court or the chancery court the jurisdiction of both of said courts. In counties having two or more courts of record, the legislature may provide for the consolidation of all or any such courts of record, except the probate court, with or without separate divisions, and a sufficient number of judges for the transaction of the business of such consolidated court.

149. The legislature shall have power to establish in each county a court of probate, with general jurisdiction of orphans' business and with power to grant letters testamentary and of administration; provided, that whenever any court having equity powers has taken jurisdiction of the settlement of any estate, it shall have power to do all things necessary for the settlement of such estate, including the appointment and removal of administrators, executors, guardians, and trustees and including action upon the resignation of either of them.

150. The justices of the supreme court, chancellors, and the judges of the circuit courts and other courts of record, except probate courts, shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation which shall not be diminished during their official terms; they shall receive no fees or perquisites, nor hold any office, except judicial offices, of profit or trust under this state or the United States, or any other government, during the term for which they have been elected or appointed.

151. The supreme court shall consist of one chief justice and such number of associate justices as may be prescribed by law.

152. The chief justice and associate justices of the supreme court, judges of the circuit courts, judges of probate courts, and chancellors shall be elected by the qualified electors of the state, circuits, counties, and chancery divisions, for which such courts may be established, at such times as may be prescribed by law, except as herein otherwise provided.

153. The judges of such inferior courts of law and equity as may be by law established, shall be elected or appointed in such mode as the legislature may prescribe.

154. Chancellors and judges of all courts of record shall have been citizens of the United States and of this state for five years next preceding their election or appointment, and shall be not less than twenty-five years of age, and, except judges of probate courts, shall be learned in the law.

155. Except as otherwise provided in this article, the chief justice and associate justices of the supreme court, circuit judges, chancellors, and judges of probate, shall hold office for the term of six years, and until their successors are elected or appointed, and qualified; and the right of such judges and chancellors to hold their offices for the full term hereby prescribed shall not

be affected by any change hereafter made by law in any circuit, division, or county, or in the mode or time of election.

156. The chief justice and associate justices of the supreme court shall be chosen at an election to be held at the time and places fixed by law for the election of members of the house of representatives of the congress of the United States, until the legislature shall by law change the time of holding such election. The term of office of the chief justice, who shall be elected in the year nineteen hundred and four, shall be as provided in the last preceding section. The successors of two of the associate justices elected in the year nineteen hundred and four shall be elected in the year nineteen hundred and six, and the successors of the other two associate justices elected in nineteen hundred and four shall be elected in the year nineteen hundred and eight. The associate justices of said court elected in the year nineteen hundred and four shall draw or cast lots among themselves to determine which of them shall hold office for the terms ending, respectively, in the years nineteen hundred and six and nineteen hundred and eight, and until their respective successors are elected or appointed and qualified. The result of such determination shall be certified to the governor, by such associate justices, or a majority of them, prior to the first day of January, nineteen hundred and five, and such certificate shall be entered upon the minutes of the court. In the event of the failure of said associate justices to make and certify such determination, the governor shall designate the terms for which they shall respectively hold office, as above provided, and shall issue his proclamation accordingly. In the event of an increase or reduction by law of the number of associate justices of the supreme court, the legislature shall, as nearly as may be, provide for the election, each second year, of one-third of the members of said court.

157. All judicial officers within their respective jurisdictions shall, by virtue of their offices, be conservators of the peace.

158. Vacancies in the office of any of the justices of the supreme court or judges who hold office by election, or chancellors of this state, shall be filled by appointment by the governor. The appointee shall hold his office until the next general election for any state officer held at least six months after the vacancy occurs, and until his successor is elected and qualified; the successor chosen at such election shall hold office for the unexpired term and until his successor is elected and qualified.

159. Whenever any new circuit or chancery division is created the judge or chancellor therefor shall be elected at the next general election for any state officer for a term to expire at the next general election for circuit judge and chancellors; provided, that if said new circuit or chancery division is created more than six months before such general election for any state officer, the governor shall appoint some one as judge or chancellor, as the case may be, to hold the office until such election.

160. If in any case, civil or criminal, pending in any circuit court, chancery court, or in any court of general jurisdiction having any part of the jurisdiction of a circuit and a chancery court, or either of them in this state, the presiding judge or chancellor shall, for any legal cause, be incompetent to try, hear, or render judgment in such case, the parties, or their attorneys of record, if it be a civil case, or the solicitor or prosecuting officer, and the defendant or defendants, if it be a criminal case, may agree upon some disinterested person practicing in the court and learned in the law, to act as a special judge or chancellor to sit as a court, and to hear, decide, and render judgment in the same manner and to the same effect as such incompetent chancellor or judge could have rendered but for such incompetency. If the

case be a civil one, and the parties or their attorneys of record do not agree; or if it be a criminal one, and the prosecuting officer and the defendant or defendants do not agree upon a special judge or chancellor, or if either party in a civil cause is not represented in court, the register in chancery or the clerk of such circuit or other court in which said cause is pending, shall appoint a special judge or chancellor, who shall preside, try, and render judgment as in this section provided. The legislature may prescribe other methods for supplying special judges in such cases.

161. The legislature shall have power to provide for the holding of chancery and circuit courts, and for the holding of courts having the jurisdiction of circuit and chancery courts, or either of them, when the chancellors or judges thereof fail to attend regular terms.

162. No judge of any court of record in this state shall practice law in any of the courts of this state or of the United States.

163. Registers in chancery shall be appointed by the chancellors of the respective divisions, and shall have been at least twelve months before their appointment, and shall be at the time of their appointment and during their continuance in office, resident citizens of the district for which they are appointed. They shall hold office for the term for which the chancellor making such appointment was elected or appointed. Such registers shall receive as compensation for their services only such fees and commissions as may be specifically prescribed by law, which fees shall be uniform throughout the state.

164. The clerk of the supreme court shall be appointed by the judges thereof, and shall hold office for the term of six years; and the clerks of such inferior courts as may be established by law shall be selected in such manner as the legislature may provide.

165. Clerks of the circuit court shall be elected by the qualified electors in each county for the term of six years, and may, when appointed by the chancellor, also fill the office of register in chancery. Vacancies in such office of clerk shall be filled by the judge of the circuit court for the unexpired term.

166. The clerk of the supreme court and registers in chancery may be removed from office by the justices of the supreme court, and by the chancellors, respectively, for cause, to be entered at length upon the minutes of the court.

167. A solicitor for each judicial circuit or other territorial subdivision prescribed by the legislature, shall be elected by the qualified electors of those counties in such circuit or other territorial subdivision in which such solicitor prosecutes criminal cases, and such solicitor shall be learned in the law, and shall at the time of his election and during his continuance in office, reside in a county (in the circuit) in which he prosecutes criminal cases, or other territorial subdivision for which he is elected, and his term of office shall be for four years, and he shall receive no other compensation than a salary, to be prescribed by law, which shall not be increased during the term for which he was elected; provided, that this article shall not operate to abridge the term of any solicitor now in office; and, provided further, that the solicitors elected in the year nineteen hundred and four shall hold office for six years, and until their successors are elected and qualified; and, provided further, that the legislature may provide by law for the appointment by the governor or the election by the qualified electors of a county of a solicitor for any county.

168. In each precinct not lying within, or partly within, any city or incorporated town of more than fifteen hundred inhabitants, there shall be elected by the qualified electors of such precinct not exceeding two justices of the peace, and one constable. Where one or more precincts lie within, or partly within, a city or incorporated town having more than fifteen hundred inhabitants, the legislature may provide by law for the election of not more than two justices of the peace and one constable, for each of such precincts, or an inferior court for such precinct or precincts, in lieu of all justices of the peace therein. Justices of the peace, and the inferior courts in this section provided for, shall have jurisdiction in all civil cases where the amount in controversy does not exceed one hundred dollars, except in cases of libel, slander, assault and battery, and ejectment. The legislature may provide by law what fees may be charged by justices of the peace and constables, which fees shall be uniform throughout the state. The right of appeal from any judgment of a justice of the peace, or from any inferior court authorized by this section, without the prepayment of costs, and also the term of office of such justices, and of the judges of such inferior courts, and of notaries public, shall be provided for by law. The governor may appoint notaries public without the powers of a justice of the peace, and may, except where otherwise provided by an act of the legislature, appoint not more than one notary public with all of the powers and jurisdiction of a justice of the peace for each precinct in which the election of justices of the peace shall be authorized.

169. In all prosecutions for rape and assault with intent to ravish, the court may, in its discretion, exclude from the courtroom all persons, except such as may be necessary in the conduct of the trial.

170. The style of all processes shall be "The State of Alabama," and all prosecutions shall be carried on in the name and by the authority of the same, and shall conclude "against the peace and dignity of the state."

171. The legislature shall have the power to abolish any court, except the supreme court and the probate courts, whenever its jurisdiction and functions have been conferred upon some other court.

172. Nothing in this article shall be so construed as to abridge the term of office of any officer now in office.

Article VII

Impeachments

173. The governor, lieutenant-governor, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, commissioner of agriculture and industries, and justices of the supreme court may be removed from office for willful neglect of duty, corruption in office, incompetency, or intemperance in the use of intoxicating liquors or narcotics to such an extent, in view of the dignity of the office and importance of its duties, as unfits the officer for the discharge of such duties, or for any offense involving moral turpitude while in office, or committed under color thereof, or connected therewith, by the senate sitting as a court of impeachment, under oath or affirmation, on articles or charges preferred by the house of representatives. When the governor or lieutenant-governor is impeached, the chief justice, or if he be absent or disqualified, then one of the associate justices of the supreme court, to be selected by it, shall preside over the senate when sitting as a court of impeachment. If at any time when the legislature is not in session, a majority of all the

members elected to the house of representatives shall certify in writing to the secretary of state their desire to meet to consider the impeachment of the governor, lieutenant-governor, or other officer administering the office of governor, it shall be the duty of the secretary of state immediately to notify the speaker of the house, who shall, within ten days after receipt of such notice, summon the members of the house, by publication in some newspaper published at the capitol, to assemble at the capitol on a day to be fixed by the speaker, not later than fifteen days after the receipt of the notice to him from the secretary of state, to consider the impeachment of the governor, lieutenant-governor, or other officer administering the office of governor. If the house of representatives prefer articles of impeachment, the speaker of the house shall forthwith notify the lieutenant-governor, unless he be the officer impeached, in which event he shall notify the secretary of state, who shall summon, in the manner herein above provided for, the members of the senate to assemble at the capitol on a day to be named in said summons, not later than ten days after receipt of the notice from the speaker of the house, for the purpose of organizing as a court of impeachment. The senate, when thus organized, shall hear and try such articles of impeachment against the governor, lieutenant-governor, or other officer administering the office of governor, as may be preferred by the house of representatives.

174. The chancellors, judges of the circuit courts, judges of the probate courts, and judges of other courts from which an appeal may be taken directly to the supreme court, and solicitors and sheriffs, may be removed from office for any of the causes specified in the preceding section or elsewhere in this Constitution, by the supreme court, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law. The legislature may provide for the impeachment or removal of other officers than those named in this article.

175. The clerks of the circuit courts, or courts of like jurisdiction, and of criminal courts, tax collectors, tax assessors, county treasurers, county superintendents of education, judges of inferior courts created under authority of section 168 of this Constitution, coroners, justices of the peace, notaries public, constables, and all other county officers, mayors, intendants, and all other officers of incorporated cities and towns in this state, may be removed from office for any of the causes specified in section 173 of this Constitution, by the circuit or other courts of like jurisdiction or a criminal court of the county in which such officers hold their office, under such regulations as may be prescribed by law; provided, that the right of trial by jury and appeal in such cases shall be secured.

176. The penalties in cases arising under the three preceding sections shall not extend beyond removal from office, and disqualifications from holding office, under the authority of this state, for the term for which the officer was elected or appointed; but the accused shall be liable to indictment and punishment as prescribed by law.

Article VIII

Suffrage and Elections

177. Every male citizen of this state who is a citizen of the United States, and every male resident of foreign birth, who, before the ratification of this Constitution, shall have legally declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, twenty-one years old or upwards, not laboring under any of the disabilities named in this article, and possessing the qualifications required by it, shall be an elector, and shall be entitled to vote at any election by the people; provided, that all foreigners who have legally declared their intention to become

citizens of the United States, shall, if they fail to become citizens thereof at the time they are entitled to become such, cease to have the right to vote until they become such citizens.

178. To entitle a person to vote at any election by the people, he shall have resided in the state at least two years, in the county one year, and in the precinct or ward three months, immediately preceding the election at which he offers to vote, and he shall have been duly registered as an elector, and shall have paid on or before the first day of February next preceding the date of the election at which he offers to vote, all poll taxes due from him for the year nineteen hundred and one, and for each subsequent year; provided, that any elector who, within three months next preceding the date of the election at which he offers to vote, has removed from one precinct or ward to another precinct or ward in the same county, incorporated town, or city, shall have the right to vote in the precinct or ward from which he has so removed, if he would have been entitled to vote in such precinct or ward but for such removal.

179. All elections by the people shall be by ballot, and all elections by persons in a representative capacity shall be viva voce.

180. The following male citizens of this state, who are citizens of the United States, and every male resident of foreign birth who, before the ratification of this Constitution, shall have legally declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and who shall not have had an opportunity to perfect his citizenship prior to the twentieth day of December, nineteen hundred and two, twenty-one years old or upwards, who, if their place of residence shall remain unchanged, will have, at the date of the next general election the qualifications as to residence prescribed in section 178 of this Constitution, and who are not disqualified under section 182 of this Constitution, shall, upon application, be entitled to register as electors prior to the twentieth day of December, nineteen hundred and two, namely:

First. - All who have honorably served in the land or naval forces of the United States in the war of 1812, or in the war with Mexico, or in any war with the Indians, or in the war between the states, or in the war with Spain, or who honorably served in the land or naval forces of the Confederate States, or of the State of Alabama in the war between the states; or,

Second. - The lawful descendants of persons who honorably served in the land or naval forces of the United States in the war of the American Revolution, or in the war of 1812, or in the war with Mexico, or in any war with the Indians, or in the war between the states, or in the land or naval forces of the Confederate States, or of the State of Alabama in the war between the states; or,

Third. - All persons who are of good character and who understand the duties and obligations of citizenship under a republican form of government.

181. After the first day of January, nineteen hundred and three, the following persons, and no others, who, if their place of residence shall remain unchanged, will have, at the date of the next general election, the qualifications as to residence prescribed in section 178 of this article, shall be qualified to register as electors; provided, they shall not be disqualified under section 182 of this Constitution.

First. - Those who can read and write any article of the Constitution of the United States in the English language, and who are physically unable to work; and those who can read and write

any article of the Constitution of the United States in the English language, and who have worked or been regularly engaged in some lawful employment, business, or occupation, trade or calling, for the greater part of the twelve months next preceding the time they offer to register; and those who are unable to read and write, if such inability is due solely to physical disability; or,

Second. - The owner in good faith in his own right, or the husband of a woman who is the owner in good faith, in her own right, of forty acres of land situate in this state, upon which they reside; or the owner in good faith in his own right, or the husband of any woman who is the owner in good faith, in her own right, of real estate situate in this state, assessed for taxation at the value of three hundred dollars or more, or the owner in good faith, in his own right, or the husband of a woman who is the owner in good faith, in her own right, of personal property in this state assessed for taxation at three hundred dollars or more; provided, that the taxes due upon such real or personal property for the year next preceding the year in which he offers to register shall have been paid, unless the assessment shall have been legally contested and is undetermined.

182. The following persons shall be disqualified both from registering, and from voting, namely:

All idiots and insane persons; those who shall by reason of conviction of crime be disqualified from voting at the time of the ratification of this Constitution; those who shall be convicted of treason, murder, arson, embezzlement, malfeasance in office, larceny, receiving stolen property, obtaining property or money under false pretenses, perjury, subornation of perjury, robbery, assault with intent to rob, burglary, forgery, bribery, assault and battery on the wife, bigamy, living in adultery, sodomy, incest, rape, miscegenation, crime against nature, or any crime punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary, or of any infamous crime or crime involving moral turpitude; also, any person who shall be convicted as a vagrant or tramp, or of selling or offering to sell his vote or the vote of another, or of buying or offering to buy the vote of another, or of making or offering to make a false return in any election by the people or in any primary election to procure the nomination or election of any person to any office, or of suborning any witness or registrar to secure the registration of any person as an elector.

183. No person shall be qualified to vote, or participate in any primary election, party convention, mass meeting, or other method of party action of any political party or faction, who shall not possess the qualifications prescribed in this article for an elector, or who shall be disqualified from voting under the provisions of this article.

184. No person, not registered and qualified as an elector under the provisions of this article, shall vote at the general election in nineteen hundred and two, or at any subsequent state, county, or municipal election, general, local, or special; but the provisions of this article shall not apply to any election held prior to the general election in the year nineteen hundred and two.

185. Any elector whose right to vote shall be challenged for any legal cause before an election officer, shall be required to swear or affirm that the matter of the challenge is untrue before his vote shall be received, and anyone who willfully swears or affirms falsely thereto, shall be guilty of perjury, and upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary for not less than one nor more than five years.

186. The legislature shall provide by law for the registration, after the first day of January, nineteen hundred and three, of all qualified electors. Until the first day of January, nineteen hundred and three, all electors shall be registered under and in accordance with the requirements of this section, as follows:

First - Registration shall be conducted in each county by a board of three reputable and suitable persons resident in the county, who shall not hold any elective office during their term, to be appointed, within sixty days after the ratification of this Constitution, by the governor, auditor, and commissioner of agriculture and industries, or by a majority of them acting as a board of appointment. If one or more of the persons appointed on such a board of registration shall refuse, neglect, or be unable to qualify or serve, or if a vacancy or vacancies occur in the membership of the board of registrars from any cause, the governor, auditor, and commissioner of agriculture and industries, or a majority of them, acting as a board of appointment, shall make other appointments to fill such board. Each registrar shall receive two dollars per day, to be paid by the state, and disbursed by the several judges of probate, for each entire day's attendance upon the session of the board. Before entering upon the performance of the duties of his office, each registrar shall take the same oath required of the judicial officers of the state, which oath may be administered by any person authorized by law to administer oaths. The oath shall be in writing and subscribed by the registrar, and filed in the office of the judge of probate of the county.

Second - Prior to the first day of August, nineteen hundred and two, the board of registrars in each county shall visit each precinct at least once, and oftener if necessary, to make a complete registration of all persons entitled to register, and shall remain there at least one day from eight o'clock in the morning until sunset. They shall give at least twenty days' notice of the time when, and the place in the precinct where, they will attend to register applicants for registration, by bills posted at five or more public places in each election precinct, and by advertisement once a week for three successive weeks in a newspaper, if there be one published in the county. Upon failure to give such notice, or to attend any appointment made by them in any precinct, they shall, after like notice, fill new appointments therein; but the time consumed by the board in completing such registration shall not exceed sixty working days in any county, except that in counties of more than nine hundred square miles in area, such board may consume seventy-five working days in completing the registration, and except that in counties in which there is any city of eight thousand or more inhabitants, the board may remain in session, in addition to the time hereinbefore prescribed, for not more than three successive weeks in each of such cities; and thereafter the board may sit from time to time in each of such cities not more than one week in each month, and except that in the county of Jefferson the board may hold an additional session of not exceeding five consecutive days' duration for each session, in each town or city of more than one thousand and less than eight thousand inhabitants. No person shall be registered except at the county site or in the precinct in which he resides. The registrars shall issue to each person registered a certificate of registration.

Third - The board of registrars shall not register any person between the first day of August, nineteen hundred and two, and the Friday next preceding the day of election in November, nineteen hundred and two. On Friday and Saturday next preceding the day of election in November, nineteen hundred and two, they shall sit in the courthouse of each county during such days, and shall register all applicants having the qualifications prescribed by section 180 of this Constitution and not disqualified under section 182, who shall have reached the age of twenty-one years after the first day of August, nineteen hundred and two, or who shall prove

to the reasonable satisfaction of the board that, by reason of physical disability or unavoidable absence from the county, they had no opportunity to register prior to the first day of August, nineteen hundred and two, and they shall not on such days register any other persons. When there are two or more courthouses in a county, the registrars may sit during such two days at the courthouse they may select, but shall give ten days' notice, by bills posted at each of the courthouses, designating the courthouse at which they will sit.

Fourth - The board of registrars shall hold sessions at the courthouse of their respective counties during the entire third week in November, nineteen hundred and two, and for six working days next prior to the twentieth day of December, nineteen hundred and two, during which sessions they shall register all persons applying who possess the qualifications prescribed in section 180 of this Constitution, and who shall not be disqualified under section 182. In counties where there are two or more courthouses the board of registrars shall divide the time equally between them. The board of registrars shall give notice of the time and place of such sessions by posting notices at each courthouse in their respective counties, and at each voting place and at three other public places in the county, and by publication once a week for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper, if one be published in the county; such notices to be posted and such publications to be commenced as early as practicable in the first week of November, nineteen hundred and two. Failure on the part of the registrars to conform to the provisions of this article as to the giving of the required notices shall not invalidate any registration made by them.

Fifth - The board of registrars shall have power to examine, under oath or affirmation, all applicants for registration, and to take testimony touching the qualifications of such applicants. Each member of such board is authorized to administer the oath to be taken by the applicants and witnesses, which shall be in the following form, and subscribed by the person making it, and preserved by the board, namely: "I solemnly swear (or affirm) that in the matter of the application of ... for registration as an elector, I will speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help me God." Any person who upon such examination makes any willfully false statement in reference to any material matter touching the qualification of any applicant for registration shall be guilty of perjury, and upon conviction thereof, shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary for not less than one nor more than five years.

Sixth - The action of the majority of the board of registrars shall be the action of the board, and a majority of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business. Any person to whom registration is denied shall have the right of appeal, without giving security for costs, within thirty days after such denial, by filing a petition in the circuit court or court of like jurisdiction held for the county in which he seeks to register, to have his qualifications as an elector determined. Upon the filing of the petition the clerk of the court shall give notice thereof to any solicitor authorized to represent the state in said county, whose duty it shall be to appear and defend against the petition on behalf of the state. Upon such trial the court shall charge the jury only as to what constituted the qualifications that entitled the applicant to become an elector at the time he applied for registration, and the jury shall determine the weight and effect of the evidence and return a verdict. From the judgment rendered an appeal will lie to the supreme court in favor of the petitioner, to be taken within thirty days. Final judgment in favor of the petitioner shall entitle him to registration as of the date of his application to the registrars.

Seventh - The secretary of state shall, at the expense of the state, have prepared and shall furnish to the registrars and judges of probate of the several counties, a sufficient number of

registration books and of blank forms of the oath, certificates of registration and notices required to be given by the registrars. The cost of the publication in newspapers of the notices required to be given by the registrars shall be paid by the state, the bills therefor to be rendered to the secretary of state and approved by him.

Eighth - Any person who registers for another, or who registers more than once, and any registrar who enters the name of any person on the list of registered voters, without such person having made application in person under oath on a form provided for that purpose, or who knowingly registers any person more than once, or who knowingly enters a name upon the registration list as the name of a voter, without any one of that name applying to register, shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary for not less than one nor more than five years.

187. County board of registrars to furnish list of registered voters to judges of probate by February 1, 1903; judges of probate to file list with secretary of state by March 1, 1903; term for which registration valid; certificate of registration to be furnished elector when place of residence changed.

The board of registrars in each county shall, on or before the first day of February, nineteen hundred and three, or as soon thereafter as practicable, file in the office of the judge of probate in their county, a complete list sworn to by them of all persons registered in their county, showing the age of such persons so registered, with the precinct or ward in which each of such persons resides set opposite the name of such persons, and shall also file a like list in the office of the secretary of state. The judge of probate shall, on or before the first day of March, nineteen hundred and three, or as soon thereafter as practicable, cause to be made from such list in duplicate, in the books furnished by the secretary of state, an alphabetical list by precincts of the persons shown by the list of the registrars to have been registered in the county, and shall file one of such alphabetical lists in the office of the secretary of state; for which services by the judges of probate compensation shall be provided by the legislature. The judges of probate shall keep both the original list filed by the registrars and the alphabetical list made therefrom as records in the office of the judge of probate of the county. Unless he shall become disqualified under the provisions of this article, any one who shall register prior to the first day of January, nineteen hundred and three, shall remain an elector during life, and shall not be required to register again unless he changes his residence, in which event he may register again on production of his certificate. The certificate of the registrars or of the judge of probate or of the secretary of state shall be sufficient evidence to establish the fact of such life registration. Such certificate shall be issued free of charge to the elector, and the legislature shall provide by law for the renewal of such certificate when lost, mutilated, or destroyed.

188. From and after the first day of January, nineteen hundred and three, any applicant for registration may be required to state under oath, to be administered by the registrar or by any person authorized by law to administer oaths, where he lived during the five years next preceding the time at which he applies to register, and the name or names by which he was known during that period, and the name of his employer or employers, if any, during such period. Any applicant for registration who refuses to state such facts, or any of them, shall not be entitled to register, and any person so offering to register, who willfully makes a false statement in regard to such matters or any of them, shall be guilty of perjury, and upon conviction thereof shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary for not less than one nor more than five years.

189. In the trial of any contested election, and in proceedings to investigate any election and in criminal prosecutions for violations of the election laws, no person other than a defendant in such criminal prosecutions shall be allowed to withhold his testimony on the ground that he may criminate himself or subject himself to public infamy; but such person shall not be prosecuted for any offense arising out of the transactions concerning which he testified, but may be prosecuted for perjury committed on such examination.

190. The legislature shall pass laws not inconsistent with this Constitution to regulate and govern elections and all such laws shall be uniform throughout the state; and shall provide by law for the manner of holding elections and of ascertaining the result of the same, and shall provide general registration laws not inconsistent with the provisions of this article for the registration of all qualified electors from and after the first day of January, nineteen hundred and three. The legislature shall also make provision by law, not inconsistent with this article, for the regulation of primary elections, and for punishing frauds at the same, but shall not make primary elections compulsory. The legislature shall by law provide for purging the registration list of the names of those who die, become insane, or convicted of crime, or otherwise disqualified as electors under the provisions of this Constitution, and of any names which may have been fraudulently entered on such list by the registrars; provided, that a trial by jury may be had on the demand of any person whose name is proposed to be stricken from the list.

191. It shall be the duty of the legislature to pass adequate laws giving protection against the evils arising from the use of intoxicating liquors at all elections.

192. Electors shall in all cases, except treason, felony, or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at elections, or while going to or returning therefrom.

193. Returns of elections for members of the legislature and for all civil officers who are to be commissioned by the governor, except the attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, and commissioner of agriculture and industries, shall be made to the secretary of state.

194. The poll tax mentioned in this article shall be one dollar and fifty cents upon each male inhabitant of the state, over the age of twenty-one years, and under the age of forty-five years, who would not now be exempt by law; but the legislature is authorized to increase the maximum age fixed in this section to not more than sixty years. Such poll tax shall become due and payable on the first day of October in each year, and become delinquent on the first day of the next succeeding February, but no legal process, nor any fee or commission shall be allowed for the collection thereof. The tax collector shall make returns of poll tax collections separate from other collections.

195. Any person who shall pay the poll tax of another, or advance him money for that purpose in order to influence his vote, shall be guilty of bribery, and upon conviction therefor shall be imprisoned in the penitentiary for not less than one nor more than five years.

196. If any section or subdivision of this article shall, for any reason, be or be held by any court of competent jurisdiction and of final resort to be invalid, inoperative, or void, the residue of this article shall not be thereby invalidated or affected.

Article IX

Representation

197. The whole number of senators shall be not less than one-fourth or more than one-third of the whole number of representatives.

198. The house of representatives shall consist of not more than one hundred and five members, unless new counties shall be created, in which event each new county shall be entitled to one representative. The members of the house of representatives shall be apportioned by the legislature among the several counties of the state, according to the number of inhabitants in them, respectively, as ascertained by the decennial census of the United States, which apportionment, when made, shall not be subject to alteration until the next session of the legislature after the next decennial census of the United States shall have been taken.

199. It shall be the duty of the legislature at its first session after the taking of the decennial census of the United States in the year nineteen hundred and ten, and after each subsequent decennial census, to fix by law the number of representatives and apportion them among the several counties of the state, according to the number of inhabitants in them, respectively; provided, that each county shall be entitled to at least one representative.

200. It shall be the duty of the legislature at its first session after taking of the decennial census of the United States in the year nineteen hundred and ten, and after each subsequent decennial census, to fix by law the number of senators, and to divide the state into as many senatorial districts as there are senators, which districts shall be as nearly equal to each other in the number of inhabitants as may be, and each shall be entitled to one senator, and no more; and such districts, when formed, shall not be changed until the next apportioning session of the legislature, after the next decennial census of the United States shall have been taken; provided, that counties created after the next preceding apportioning session of the legislature may be attached to senatorial districts. No county shall be divided between two districts, and no district shall be made up of two or more counties not contiguous to each other.

201. Should any decennial census of the United States not be taken, or if when taken, the same, as to this state, be not full and satisfactory, the legislature shall have the power at its first session after the time shall have elapsed for the taking of said census, to provide for an enumeration of all the inhabitants of this state, upon which it shall be the duty of the legislature to make the apportionment of representatives and senators as provided for in this article.

202. Until the legislature shall make an apportionment of representatives among the several counties, as provided in the preceding section, the counties of Autauga, Baldwin, Bibb, Blount, Cherokee, Chilton, Choctaw, Clay, Cleburne, Coffee, Colbert, Conecuh, Coosa, Covington, Crenshaw, Cullman, Dale, DeKalb, Escambia, Fayette, Franklin, Geneva, Greene, Lamar, Lawrence, Limestone, Macon, Marion, Marshall, Monroe, Pickens, Randolph, St. Clair, Shelby, Washington, and Winston, shall each have one representative; the counties of Barbour, Bullock, Butler, Calhoun, Chambers, Clarke, Elmore, Etowah, Hale, Henry, Jackson, Lauderdale, Lee, Lowndes, Madison, Marengo, Morgan, Perry, Pike, Russell, Sumter, Talladega, Tallapoosa, Tuscaloosa, Walker, and Wilcox, shall each have two representatives; the counties of Dallas and Mobile shall each have three representatives; the county of Montgomery shall have four representatives; and the county of Jefferson shall have seven representatives.

203. Until the legislature shall divide the state into senatorial districts, as herein provided, the senatorial districts shall be as follows:

First district, Lauderdale and Limestone; second district, Lawrence and Morgan; third district, Blount, Cullman, and Winston; fourth district, Madison; fifth district, Jackson and Marshall; sixth district, Etowah and St. Clair; seventh district, Calhoun; eighth district, Talladega; ninth district, Chambers and Randolph; tenth district, Tallapoosa and Elmore; eleventh district, Tuscaloosa; twelfth district, Fayette, Lamar and Walker; thirteenth district, Jefferson; fourteenth district, Pickens and Sumter; fifteenth district, Autauga, Chilton, and Shelby; sixteenth district, Lowndes; seventeenth district, Butler, Conecuh, and Covington; eighteenth district, Bibb and Perry; nineteenth district, Choctaw, Clarke, and Washington; twentieth district, Marengo; twenty-first district, Baldwin, Escambia, and Monroe; twenty-second district, Wilcox; twenty-third district, Dale and Geneva; twenty-fourth district, Barbour; twenty-fifth district, Coffee, Crenshaw, and Pike; twenty-sixth district, Bullock and Macon; twenty-seventh district, Lee and Russell; twenty-eighth district, Montgomery; twenty-ninth district, Cherokee and DeKalb; thirtieth district, Dallas; thirty-first district, Colbert, Franklin, and Marion; thirty-second district, Greene and Hale; thirty-third district, Mobile; thirty-fourth district, Cleburne, Clay, and Coosa; thirty-fifth district, Henry.

Article X

Exemptions

204. The personal property of any resident of this state to the value of one thousand dollars, to be selected by such resident, shall be exempt from sale or execution, or other process of any court, issued for the collection of any debt contracted since the thirteenth day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight or after the ratification of this Constitution.

205. Every homestead not exceeding eighty acres, and the dwelling and appurtenances thereon, to be selected by the owner thereof, and not in any city, town, or village, or in lieu thereof, at the option of the owner, any lot in a city, town, or village, with the dwelling and appurtenances thereon owned and occupied by any resident of this state, and not exceeding the value of two thousand dollars, shall be exempt from sale on execution or any other process from a court; for any debt contracted since the thirteenth day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, or after the ratification of this Constitution. Such exemption, however, shall not extend to any mortgage lawfully obtained, but such mortgage or other alienation of said homestead by the owner thereof, if a married man, shall not be valid without the voluntary signature and assent of the wife to the same.

206. The homestead of a family, after the death of the owner thereof, shall be exempt from the payment of any debts contracted since the thirteenth day of July, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, or after the ratification of this Constitution, in all cases, during the minority of the children.

207. The provisions of sections 204 and 205 of this Constitution shall not be so construed as to prevent a laborers' lien for work done and performed for the person claiming such exemption, or a mechanics' lien for work done on the premises.

208. If the owner of a homestead die, leaving a widow, but no children, such homestead shall be exempt, and the rents and profits thereof shall inure to her benefit.

209. The real and personal property of any female in this state, acquired before marriage, and all property, real and personal, to which she may afterwards be entitled by gift, grant, inheritance, or devise, shall be and remain the separate estate and property of such female, and shall not be liable for any debts, obligations, or engagements of her husband, and may be devised or bequeathed by her, the same as if she were a femme sole.

210. The right of exemption hereinbefore secured may be waived by an instrument in writing, and when such waiver relates to realty, the instrument must be signed by both the husband and the wife, and attested by one witness.

Article XI

Taxation

211. All taxes levied on property in this state shall be assessed in exact proportion to the value of such property, but no tax shall be assessed upon any debt for rent or hire of real or personal property, while owned by the landlord or hirer during the current year of such rental or hire, if such real or personal property be assessed at its full value.

212. The power to levy taxes shall not be delegated to individuals or private corporations or associations.

213. After the ratification of this Constitution, no new debt shall be created against, or incurred by this state, or its authority, except to repel invasion or suppress insurrection, and then only by a concurrence of two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature, and the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays and entered on the journals; and any act creating or incurring any new debt against this state, except as herein provided for, shall be absolutely void; provided, the governor may be authorized to negotiate temporary loans, never to exceed three hundred thousand dollars, to meet the deficiencies in the treasury, and until the same is paid no new loan shall be negotiated; provided, further, that this section shall not be so construed as to prevent the issuance of bonds for the purpose of refunding the existing bonded indebtedness of the state.

214. The legislature shall not have the power to levy in any one year a greater rate of taxation than sixty-five one-hundredths of one per centum on the value of the taxable property within this state.

215. No county in this state shall be authorized to levy a greater rate of taxation in any one year on the value of the taxable property therein than one-half of one per centum; provided, that to pay debts existing on the sixth day of December, eighteen hundred and seventy-five, an additional rate of one-fourth of one per centum may be levied and collected which shall be appropriated exclusively to the payment of such debts and the interest thereon; provided, further, that to pay any debt or liability now existing against any county, incurred for the erection, construction, or maintenance of the necessary public buildings or bridges or that may hereafter be created for the erection of necessary public buildings, bridges, or roads, any county may levy and collect such special taxes, not to exceed one-fourth of one per centum, as may have been or may hereafter be authorized by law, which taxes so levied and collected shall be applied exclusively to the purposes for which the same were so levied and collected.

216. No city, town, village, or other municipal corporation, other than as provided in this article, shall levy or collect a higher rate of taxation in any one year on the property situated therein than one-half of one per centum of the value of such property as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year; provided, that for the purpose of paying debts existing on the sixth day of December, eighteen hundred and seventy-five, and the interest thereon, a tax of one per centum may be levied and collected, to be appropriated exclusively to the payment of such indebtedness; and provided further, that this section shall not apply to the city of Mobile, which city may from and after the ratification of this Constitution, levy a tax not to exceed the rate of three-fourths of one per centum to pay the expenses of the city government, and may also levy a tax not to exceed three-fourths of one per centum to pay the debt existing on the sixth day of December, eighteen hundred and seventy-five, with interest thereon, or any renewal of such debt; and, provided further, that this section shall not apply to the cities of Birmingham, Huntsville, and Bessemer, and the town of Andalusia, which cities and town may levy and collect a tax not to exceed one-half of one per centum in addition to the tax of one-half of one per centum as hereinbefore allowed to be levied and collected, such special tax to be applied exclusively to the payment of interest on bonds of said cities of Birmingham, Huntsville, and Bessemer, and town of Andalusia, respectively, heretofore issued in pursuance of law, or now authorized by law to be issued and for a sinking fund to pay off said bonds at the maturity thereof; and, provided further, that this section shall not apply to the city of Montgomery, which city shall have the right to levy and collect a tax of not exceeding one-half of one per centum per annum upon the value of the taxable property therein, as fixed for state taxation, for general purposes, and an additional tax of not exceeding three-fourths of one per centum per annum upon the value of the property therein, as fixed for state taxation, to be devoted exclusively to the payment of its public debt, interest thereon, and renewals thereof, and to the maintenance of its public schools, and public conveniences; and, provided further, that this section shall not apply to Troy, Attalla, Gadsden, Woodlawn, Brewton, Pratt City, Ensley, Wylam, and Avondale, which cities and towns may from and after the ratification of this Constitution, levy and collect an additional tax of not exceeding one-half of one per centum; and, provided further, that this section shall not apply to the cities of Decatur, New Decatur, and Cullman, which cities may from and after the ratification of this Constitution, levy and collect an additional tax of not exceeding three-tenths of one per centum per annum; such special tax of said city of Decatur to be applied exclusively for the public schools, public school buildings, and public improvements; and such special tax of New Decatur and Cullman to be applied exclusively for educational purposes, and to be expended under their respective boards of public school trustees; but this additional tax shall not be levied by Troy, Attalla, Gadsden, Woodlawn, Brewton, Pratt City, Ensley, Wylam, Avondale, Decatur, New Decatur, or Cullman unless authorized by a majority vote of the qualified electors voting at a special election held for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not said tax shall be levied; and, provided further, that the purposes for which such special tax is sought to be levied shall be stated in such election call, and, if authorized, the revenue derived from such special tax shall be used for no other purpose than that stated; and, provided further, that the additional tax authorized to be levied by the city of Troy, when so levied and collected, shall be used exclusively in the payment of the bonds and interest coupons thereon, hereafter issued in the adjustment of the present bonded indebtedness of said city; and, provided further, that the additional tax authorized to be levied and collected by the city of Attalla shall, when so levied and collected, be used exclusively in the payment of bonds to the amount of not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars and the interest coupons thereon, hereafter to be issued in the adjustment of the present indebtedness of said city; provided further that the governing boards of said cities, which are authorized to levy an additional tax after the holding of an election as aforesaid, are hereby authorized to provide by

ordinance the necessary machinery for the holding of said election and declaring the result thereof.

217. The property of private corporations, associations, and individuals of this state shall forever be taxed at the same rate; provided, this section shall not apply to institutions devoted exclusively to religious, educational, or charitable purposes.

218. The legislature shall not have the power to require counties or other municipal corporations to pay any charges which are now payable out of the state treasury.

219. The legislature may levy a tax of not more than two and one-half per centum of the value of all estates, real and personal, money, public and private securities of every kind in this state, passing from any person who may die seized and possessed thereof, or of any part of such estate, money, or securities, or interest therein, transferred by the intestate laws of this state, or by will, deed, grant, bargain, sale, or gift, made or intended to take effect in possession after death of the grantor, deviser, or donor, to any person or persons, bodies politic, or corporate, in trust or otherwise, other than to or for the use of the father, mother, husband, wife, brothers, sisters, children, or lineal descendants of the grantor, deviser, donor, or intestate.

Article XII

Corporations

220. No person, firm, association, or corporation shall be authorized or permitted to use the streets, avenues, alleys, or public places of any city, town, or village for the construction or operation of any public utility or private enterprise, without first obtaining the consent of the proper authorities of such city, town, or village.

221. The legislature shall not enact any law which will permit any person, firm, corporation, or association to pay a privilege, license, or other tax to the State of Alabama, and relieve him or it from the payment of all other privilege and license taxes in the state.

222. The legislature, after the ratification of this Constitution, shall have authority to pass general laws authorizing the counties, cities, towns, villages, districts, or other political subdivisions of counties to issue bonds, but no bonds shall be issued under authority of a general law unless such issue of bonds be first authorized by a majority vote by ballot of the qualified voters of such county, city, town, village, district, or other political subdivision of a county, voting upon such proposition. The ballot used at such election shall contain the words: "For ...bond issue," and "Against ... bond issue" (the character of the bond to be shown in the blank space), and the voter shall indicate his choice by placing a cross mark before or after the one or the other. This section shall not apply to the renewal, refunding, or reissue of bonds lawfully issued, nor to the issuance of bonds in cases where the same have been authorized by laws enacted prior to the ratification of this Constitution, nor shall this section apply to obligations incurred or bonds to be issued to procure means to pay for street and sidewalk improvements or sanitary or storm water sewers, the cost of which is to be assessed, in whole or in part, against the property abutting said improvements or drained by such sanitary or storm water sewers.

223. No city, town, or other municipality shall make any assessment for the cost of sidewalks or street paving, or for the cost of the construction of any sewers against property abutting on such street or sidewalk so paved, or drained by such sewers, in excess of the increased value of such property by reason of the special benefits derived from such improvements.

224. No county shall become indebted in an amount including present indebtedness, greater than three and one-half per centum of the assessed value of the property therein; provided, this limitation shall not affect any existing indebtedness in excess of such three and one-half per centum, which has already been created or authorized by existing law to be created; provided, that any county which has already incurred a debt exceeding three and one-half per centum of the assessed value of the property therein, shall be authorized to incur an indebtedness of one and a half per centum of the assessed value of such property in addition to the debt already existing. Nothing herein contained shall prevent any county from issuing bonds, or other obligations, to fund or refund any indebtedness now existing or authorized by existing laws to be created.

225. No city, town, or other municipal corporation having a population of less than six thousand, except as hereafter provided, shall become indebted in an amount including present indebtedness, exceeding five per centum of the assessed value of the property therein, except for the construction of or purchase of water works, gas, or electric lighting plants, or sewerage, or for the improvement of streets, for which purposes an additional indebtedness not exceeding three per centum may be created; provided, this limitation shall not affect any debt now authorized by law to be created, nor any temporary loans to be paid within one year, made in anticipation of the collection of taxes, not exceeding one-fourth of the annual revenues of such city or town. All towns and cities having a population of six thousand or more, also Gadsden, Ensley, Decatur, and New Decatur, are hereby authorized to become indebted in an amount including present indebtedness, not exceeding seven per centum of the assessed valuation of the property therein, provided that there shall not be included in the limitation of the indebtedness of such last described cities and towns the following classes of indebtedness, to wit: Temporary loans, to be paid within one year, made in anticipation of the collection of taxes, and not exceeding one-fourth of the general revenues, bonds, or other obligations already issued, or which may hereafter be issued for the purpose of acquiring, providing, or constructing school houses, water works, and sewers; and obligations incurred and bonds issued for street or sidewalk improvements, where the cost of the same, in whole or in part, is to be assessed against the property abutting said improvements; provided, that the proceeds of all obligations issued as herein provided, in excess of said seven per centum shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which said obligations were issued. Nothing contained in this article shall prevent the funding or refunding of existing indebtedness. This section shall not apply to the cities of Sheffield and Tuscumbia.

226. No city, town, or village, whose present indebtedness exceeds the limitation imposed by this Constitution, shall be allowed to become indebted in any further amount, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, until such indebtedness shall be reduced within such limit; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall prevent any municipality, except the city of Gadsden, from issuing bonds already authorized by law; provided, further, that this section shall not apply to the cities of Sheffield and Tuscumbia.

227. Any person, firm, association, or corporation, who may construct or operate any public utility along or across the public streets of any city, town, or village, under any privilege or

franchise permitting such construction or operation, shall be liable to abutting proprietors for the actual damage done to the abutting property on account of such construction or operation.

228. No city or town having a population of more than six thousand shall have authority to grant to any person, firm, corporation, or association the right to use its streets, avenues, alleys, or public places for the construction or operation of water works, gas works, telephone or telegraph line, electric light or power plants, steam or other heating plants, street railroads, or any other public utility, except railroads other than street railroads, for a longer period than thirty years.

229. The legislature shall pass no special act conferring corporate powers, but it shall pass general laws under which corporations may be organized and corporate powers obtained, subject, nevertheless, to repeal at the will of the legislature; and shall pass general laws under which charters may be altered or amended. The legislature shall, by general law, provide for the payment to the State of Alabama of a franchise tax by corporations organized under the laws of this state, which shall be in proportion to the amount of capital stock; but strictly benevolent, educational, or religious corporations shall not be required to pay such a tax. The charter of any corporation shall be subject to amendment, alteration, or repeal under general laws.

230. All existing charters, under which a bona fide organization shall not have taken place and business commenced in good faith within twelve months from the time of the ratification of this Constitution, shall thereafter have no validity.

231. The legislature shall not remit the forfeiture of the charter of any corporation now existing or alter or amend the same, nor pass any general or special law for the benefit of such corporation, other than in execution of a trust created by law or by contract, except upon condition that such corporation shall thereafter hold its charter subject to the provisions of this Constitution.

232. No foreign corporation shall do any business in this state without having at least one known place of business and an authorized agent or agents therein, and without filing with the secretary of state a certified copy of its articles of incorporation or association. Such corporation may be sued in any county where it does business, by service of process upon an agent anywhere in the state. The legislature shall, by general law, provide for the payment to the state of Alabama of a franchise tax by such corporation, but such franchise tax shall be based on the actual amount of capital employed in this state. Strictly benevolent, educational, or religious corporations shall not be required to pay such a tax.

233. No corporation shall engage in any business other than that expressly authorized in its charter or articles of incorporation.

234. No corporation shall issue stocks or bonds except for money, labor done, or property actually received; and all fictitious increase of stock or indebtedness shall be void. The stock and bonded indebtedness of corporations shall not be increased except in pursuance of general laws, nor without the consent of the persons holding the larger amount in value of stock, first obtained at a meeting to be held after thirty days' notice, given in pursuance of law.

235. Municipal and other corporations and individuals invested with the privilege of taking property for public use, shall make just compensation, to be ascertained as may be provided

by law, for the property taken, injured, or destroyed by the construction or enlargement of its works, highways, or improvements, which compensation shall be paid before such taking, injury, or destruction. The legislature is hereby prohibited from denying the right of appeal from any preliminary assessment of damages against any such corporations or individuals made by viewers or otherwise, but such appeal shall not deprive those who have obtained the judgment of condemnation from a right of entry, provided the amount of damages assessed shall have been paid into court in money, and a bond shall have been given in not less than double the amount of the damages assessed, with good and sufficient sureties, to pay such damages as the property owner may sustain; and the amount of damages in all cases of appeals shall on demand of either party, be determined by a jury according to law.

236. Dues from private corporations shall be secured by such means as may be prescribed by law; but in no case shall any stockholder be individually liable otherwise than for the unpaid stock owned by him or her.

237. No corporation shall issue preferred stock without the consent of the owners of two-thirds of the stock of said corporation.

238. The legislature shall have the power to alter, amend, or revoke any charter of incorporation now existing and revocable at the ratification of this Constitution, or any that may be hereafter created, whenever, in its opinion, such charter may be injurious to the citizens of this state, in such manner, however, that no injustice shall be done to the stockholders.

239. Any association or corporation organized for the purpose, or any individual, shall have the right to construct and maintain lines of telegraph and telephone within this state, and connect the same with other lines; and the legislature shall, by general law of uniform operation, provide reasonable regulations to give full effect to this section. No telegraph or telephone company shall consolidate with or hold a controlling interest in the stock or bonds of any other telegraph or telephone company owning a complete line, or acquire, by purchase or otherwise, any other competing line of telegraph or telephone.

240. All corporations shall have the right to sue, and shall be subject to be sued, in all courts in like cases as natural persons.

241. The term "corporation," as used in this article shall be construed to include all joint stock companies, and all associations having any of the powers or privileges of corporations, not possessed by individuals or partnerships.

Article Railroads and Canals.

242. All railroads and canals not constructed and used exclusively for private purposes, shall be public highways, and all railroad and canal companies shall be common carriers. Any association or corporation organized for the purpose shall have the right to construct and operate a railway between any points in this state, and connect at the state line, with railroads of other states. Every railroad company shall have the right with its road to intersect, connect with, or cross any other railroad, and each shall receive and transport the freight, passengers, and cars, loaded or empty, of the others, without delay or discrimination.

243. The power and authority of regulating railroad freight and passenger tariffs, the locating and building of passenger and freight depots, correcting abuses, preventing unjust discrimination and extortion and requiring reasonable and just rates of freight and passenger tariffs, are hereby conferred upon the legislature, whose duty it shall be to pass laws from time to time regulating freight and passenger tariffs, to prohibit unjust discrimination on the various railroads, canals, and rivers of the state, and to prohibit the charging of other than just and reasonable rates and enforce the same by adequate penalties.

244. No railroad or other transportation company or corporation shall grant free passes or sell tickets or passes at a discount, other than as sold to the public generally, to any member of the legislature or to any officer exercising judicial functions under the laws of this state; and any such member or officer receiving such a pass or ticket for himself, or procuring the same for another, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, shall be fined not exceeding five hundred dollars, and at the discretion of the court trying the case, in addition to such fine, may be imprisoned for a term not exceeding six months, and upon conviction, shall be subject to impeachment and removal from office. The courts having jurisdiction shall give this law specially in charge to the grand juries, and when the evidence is sufficient to authorize an indictment, the grand jury must present a true bill. The circuit court or any other court of like jurisdiction in any county into or through which such member or officer is transported by the use of such prohibited pass or ticket, shall have jurisdiction of the case, provided only one prosecution shall be had for the same offense; and, provided further, that the trial and judgment for one offense shall not bar a prosecution for another offense when the same pass or ticket is used; and, provided further, that nothing herein shall prevent a member of the legislature who is a bona fide employe of a railroad or other transportation company or corporation at the time of his election, from accepting or procuring for himself or another, not a member of the legislature, or officer exercising judicial functions, a free pass over the railroads or other transportation company or corporation by which he is employed.

245. No railroad company shall give or pay any rebate, or a bonus in the nature thereof, directly or indirectly, or do any act to mislead or deceive the public as to the real rates charged or received for freights or passage; and any such payments shall be illegal and void, and these prohibitions shall be enforced by suitable penalties.

246. No railroad, canal, or transportation company in existence at the time of the ratification of this Constitution, shall have the benefit of any future legislation by general or special laws other than in execution of a trust created by law or by contract, except on the condition of complete acceptance of all the provisions of this article.

Article XIII

Banks and Banking

247. The legislature shall not have the power to establish or incorporate any bank or banking company or moneyed institution for the purpose of issuing bills of credit or bills payable to order or bearer, except under the conditions prescribed in this Constitution.

248. No bank shall be established otherwise than under a general banking law, nor other than upon a specie basis; provided, that any bank may be established with authority to issue bills to circulate as money in an amount equal to the face value of bonds of the United States, or of this state, convertible into specie at their face value, which shall, before such bank is

authorized to issue its bills for circulation, be deposited with the state treasurer or other depository prescribed by law, in an amount equal to the aggregate of such proposed issue, with power in such treasurer or depository to dispose of any or all of such bonds for a sufficient amount of specie to redeem the circulating notes of such bank at any time and without delay, should such bank suspend specie payment or fail to redeem its notes on demand.

249. All bills or notes issued as money shall be at all times redeemable in gold or silver, and no law shall be passed sanctioning directly or indirectly the suspension by any bank or banking company of specie payment.

250. Holders of bank notes, and depositors who have not stipulated for interest, shall, for such notes and deposits, be entitled in case of insolvency, to preference of payment over all other creditors; provided, this section shall apply to all banks, whether incorporated or not.

251. Every bank or banking company shall be required to cease all banking operations within twenty years from the time of its organization, unless the time be extended by law, and promptly thereafter close its business; but after it has closed its business it shall have corporate capacity to sue and shall be liable to suits until its affairs and liabilities are fully closed.

252. No bank shall receive, directly or indirectly, a greater rate of interest than shall be allowed by law to individuals for lending money.

253. Neither the state nor any political subdivision thereof, shall be a stockholder in any bank, nor shall the credit of the state or any political subdivision thereof be given or lent to any banking company, association, or corporation.

254. The legislature shall by appropriate laws provide for the examination, by some public officer, of all banks and banking institutions and trust companies engaged in banking business in this state; and each of such banks and banking companies or institutions shall, through its president, or such other officer as the legislature may designate, make a report under oath of its resources and liabilities at least twice a year.

255. The provisions of this article shall apply to all banks except national banks, and to all trust companies and individuals doing a banking business, whether incorporated or not.

Article XIV

Education

256. The legislature shall establish, organize, and maintain a liberal system of public schools throughout the state for the benefit of the children thereof between the ages of seven and twenty-one years. The public school fund shall be apportioned to the several counties in proportion to the number of school children of school age therein, and shall be so apportioned to the schools in the districts or townships in the counties as to provide, as nearly as practicable, school terms of equal duration in such school districts or townships. Separate schools shall be provided for white and colored children, and no child of either race shall be permitted to attend a school of the other race.

257. The principal of all funds arising from the sale or other disposition of lands or other property, which has been or may hereafter be granted or entrusted to this State or given by the United States for educational purposes shall be preserved inviolate and undiminished; and the income arising therefrom shall be faithfully applied to the specific object of the original grants or appropriations.

258. All lands or other property given by individuals, or appropriated by the state for educational purposes, and all estates of deceased persons who die without leaving a will or heir, shall be faithfully applied to the maintenance of the public schools.

259. All poll taxes collected in this State shall be applied to the support of of the public schools in the respective counties where collected.

260. The income arising from the Sixteenth Section trust fund, the surplus revenue fund, until it is called for by the United States government, and the funds enumerated in Sections 257 and 258 of this Constitution, together with a special annual tax of thirty cents on each one hundred dollars of taxable property in this State, which the Legislature shall levy, shall be applied to the support and maintenance of the public schools, and it shall be the duty of the Legislature to increase the public school fund from time to time as the necessity therefor and the condition of the treasury and the resources of the State may justify; provided, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to authorize the Legislature to levy in any one year a greater rate of State taxation for all purposes, including schools, than sixty-five cents on each one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property; and provided further, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the Legislature from first providing for the payment of the bonded indebtedness of the State and interest thereon out of all the revenue of the State.

261. Not more than four per cent. of all moneys raised or which may hereafter be appropriated for the support of public schools, shall be used or expended otherwise than for the payment of teachers employed in such schools; provided, that the legislature may, by a vote of two-thirds of each House, suspend the operation of this section.

262. The supervision of the public schools shall be vested in a Superintendent of Education, whose powers, duties, and compensation shall be fixed by law.

263. No money raised for the support of the public schools shall be appropriated to or used for the support of any sectarian or denominational school.

264. The state university shall be under the management and control of a board of trustees, which shall consist of two members from the congressional district in which the university is located, one from each of the other congressional districts in the state, the superintendent of education, and the governor, who shall be ex officio president of the board. The members of the board of trustees as now constituted shall hold office until their respective terms expire under existing law, and until their successors shall be elected and confirmed as hereinafter required. Successors to those trustees whose terms expire in nineteen hundred and two shall hold office until nineteen hundred and seven; successors to those trustees whose terms expire in nineteen hundred and four shall hold office until nineteen hundred and eleven; successors to those trustees whose terms expire in nineteen hundred and six shall hold office until nineteen hundred and fifteen; and thereafter their successors shall hold office for a term of twelve years. When the term of any member of such board shall expire, the remaining members of the board shall, by secret ballot, elect his successor; provided, that any trustee so

elected shall hold office from the date of his election until his confirmation or rejection by the senate, and, if confirmed, until the expiration of the term for which he was elected, and until his successor is elected. At every meeting of the legislature the superintendent of education shall certify to the senate the names of all who shall have been so elected since the last session of the legislature, and the senate shall confirm or reject them, as it shall determine is for the best interest of the university. If it reject the names of any members, it shall thereupon elect trustees in the stead of those rejected. In case of a vacancy on said board by death or resignation of a member, or from any cause other than the expiration of his term of office, the board shall elect his successor, who shall hold office until the next session of the legislature. No trustee shall receive any pay or emolument other than his actual expenses incurred in the discharge of his duties as such.

265. After the ratification of this Constitution there shall be paid out of the treasury of this state at the time and in the manner provided by law, the sum of not less than thirty-six thousand dollars per annum as interest on the funds of the University of Alabama, heretofore covered into the treasury, for the maintenance and support of said institution; provided, that the legislature shall have the power at any time they deem proper for the best interest of said university to abolish the military system at said institution or reduce the said system to a department of instruction, and that such action on the part of the legislature shall not cause any diminution of the amount of the annual interest payable out of the treasury for the support and maintenance of said university.

266. The Alabama Polytechnic Institute, formerly called the Agricultural and Mechanical College, shall be under the management and control of a board of trustees, which shall consist of two members from the congressional district in which the institute is located, and one from each of the other congressional districts in the state, the state superintendent of education, and the governor, who shall be ex officio president of the board. The trustees shall be appointed by the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, and shall hold office for a term of twelve years, and until their successors shall be appointed and qualified. The board shall be divided into three classes, as nearly equal as may be, so that one-third may be chosen quadrennially. Vacancies occurring in the office of trustees from death or resignation, and the vacancies regularly occurring in the year nineteen hundred and five shall be filled by the governor, and such appointee shall hold office until the next meeting of the legislature. Successors to those trustees whose terms expire in nineteen hundred and three shall hold office until nineteen hundred and eleven; successors to those whose terms expire in nineteen hundred and five shall hold office until nineteen hundred and fifteen; and successors to those whose terms expire in nineteen hundred and seven shall hold office until nineteen hundred and nineteen. No trustee shall receive any pay or emolument other than his actual expenses incurred in the discharge of his duties as such.

267. The legislature shall not have power to change the location of the state university, or the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, or the Alabama Schools for the Deaf and Blind, or the Alabama Girls' Industrial School, as now established by law, except upon a vote of two-thirds of the legislature taken by yeas and nays and entered upon the journals.

268. The legislature shall provide for taking a school census by townships and districts throughout the state not oftener than once in two years, and shall provide for the punishment of all persons or officers making false or fraudulent enumerations and returns; provided, the state superintendent of education may order and supervise the taking of a new census in any

township, district, or county, whenever he may have reasonable cause to believe that false or fraudulent returns have been made.

269. The several counties in this state shall have power to levy and collect a special tax not exceeding ten cents on each one hundred dollars of taxable property in such counties, for the support of public schools; provided, that the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county, and voted for by three-fifths of those voting at such election; but the rate of such special tax shall not increase the rate of taxation, state and county combined, in any one year, to more than one dollar and twenty-five cents on each one hundred dollars of taxable property; excluding, however, all special county taxes for public buildings, roads, bridges, and the payment of debts existing at the ratification of the Constitution of eighteen hundred and seventy-five. The funds arising from such special school tax shall be so apportioned and paid through the proper school officials to the several schools in the townships and districts in the county that the school terms of the respective schools shall be extended by such supplement as nearly the same length of time as practicable; provided, that this section shall not apply to the cities of Decatur, New Decatur, and Cullman.

270. The provisions of this article and of any act of the legislature passed in pursuance thereof to establish, organize, and maintain a system of public schools throughout the state, shall apply to Mobile county only so far as to authorize and require the authorities designated by law to draw the portions of the funds to which said county shall be entitled for school purposes and to make reports to the superintendent of education as may be prescribed by law; and all special incomes and powers of taxation as now authorized by law for the benefit of public schools in said county shall remain undisturbed until otherwise provided by the legislature; provided, that separate schools for each race shall always be maintained by said school authorities.

Article XV

Militia

271. The legislature shall have power to declare who shall constitute the militia of the state, and to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the same; and the legislature may provide for the organization of a state and naval militia.

272. The legislature, in providing for the organization, equipment, and discipline of the militia, shall conform as nearly as practicable to the regulations for the government of the armies of the United States.

273. Each company and regiment shall elect its own company and regimental officers; but if any company or regiment shall neglect to elect such officers within the time prescribed by law, they may be appointed by the governor.

274. Volunteer organizations of infantry, cavalry, and artillery and naval militia may be formed in such manner and under such restrictions and with such privileges as may be provided by law.

275. The militia and volunteer forces shall, in all cases, except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at musters, parades, and elections, and in going to and returning from the same.

276. The governor shall, with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint all general officers, whose terms of office shall be four years. The governor, the generals and regimental and battalion commanders shall appoint their own staffs, as may be provided by law.

277. The legislature shall provide for the safe keeping of the arms, ammunition, and accoutrements, and military records, banners, and relics of the state.

278. The officers and men of the militia and volunteer forces shall not be entitled to or receive any pay, rations, or emoluments when not in active service.

Article XVI

Oath of Office

279. All members of the legislature, and all officers, executive and judicial, before they enter upon the execution of the duties of their respective offices, shall take the following oath or affirmation:

"I, ..., solemnly swear (or affirm, as the case may be) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the State of Alabama, so long as I continue a citizen thereof; and that I will faithfully and honestly discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter, to the best of my ability. So help me God."

The oath may be administered by the presiding officer of either house of the legislature, or by any officer authorized by law to administer an oath.

Article XVII

Miscellaneous Provisions

280. No person holding an office of profit under the United States, except postmasters, whose annual salaries do not exceed two hundred dollars, shall, during his continuance in such office, hold any office of profit under this state; nor, unless otherwise provided in this Constitution, shall any person hold two offices of profit at one and the same time under this state, except justices of the peace, constables, notaries public, and commissioner of deeds.

281. The salary, fees, or compensation of any officer holding any civil office of profit under this state or any county or municipality thereof, shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected or appointed.

282. It is made the duty of the legislature to enact all laws necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Constitution.

283. The act of the general assembly of Alabama entitled "An act to consolidate and adjust the bonded debt of the State of Alabama," approved February 18th, 1895, and an act

amendatory thereof entitled "An act to amend section 6 of an act to consolidate and adjust the bonded debt of the State of Alabama, approved February 18th, 1895," which said last named act was approved February 16th, 1899, are hereby made valid, and both of said acts shall have the full force and effect of law, except in so far as they authorize the redemption before maturity of the bonds authorized by said acts to be issued. The governor is authorized and empowered to act under the same and to carry out all the provisions thereof; provided, that the bonds authorized to be issued by said acts and issued thereunder may be made payable at any time, not exceeding fifty years from the date thereof, and shall not be redeemable until their maturity.

Article XVIII

Mode of Amending the Constitution

284. Amendments may be proposed to this Constitution by the legislature in the manner following: The proposed amendments shall be read in the house in which they originate on three several days, and, if upon the third reading three-fifths of all the members elected to that house shall vote in favor thereof, the proposed amendments shall be sent to the other house, in which they shall likewise be read on three several days, and if upon the third reading three-fifths of all the members elected to that house shall vote in favor of the proposed amendments, the legislature shall order an election by the qualified electors of the state upon such proposed amendments, to be held either at the general election next succeeding the session of the legislature at which the amendments are proposed or upon another day appointed by the legislature, not less than three months after the final adjournment of the session of the legislature at which the amendments were proposed. Notice of such election, together with the proposed amendments, shall be given by proclamation of the governor, which shall be published in every county in such manner as the legislature shall direct, for at least eight successive weeks next preceding the day appointed for such election. On the day so appointed an election shall be held for the vote of the qualified electors of the state upon the proposed amendments. If such election be held on the day of the general election, the officers of such general election shall open a poll for the vote of the qualified electors upon the proposed amendments; if it be held on a day other than that of a general election, officers for such election shall be appointed; and the election shall be held in all things in accordance with the law governing general elections. In all elections upon such proposed amendments, the votes cast thereat shall be canvassed, tabulated, and returns thereof be made to the secretary of state, and counted, in the same manner as in elections for representatives to the legislature; and if it shall thereupon appear that a majority of the qualified electors who voted at such election upon the proposed amendments voted in favor of the same, such amendments shall be valid to all intents and purposes as parts of this Constitution. The result of such election shall be made known by proclamation of the governor. Representation in the legislature shall be based upon population, and such basis of representation shall not be changed by constitutional amendments.

285. Upon the ballots used at all elections provided for in section 284 of this Constitution the substance or subject matter of each proposed amendment shall be so printed that the nature thereof shall be clearly indicated. Following each proposed amendment on the ballot shall be printed the word "Yes" and immediately under that shall be printed the word "No." The choice of the elector shall be indicated by a cross mark made by him or under his direction, opposite the word expressing his desire, and no amendment shall be adopted unless it receives the affirmative vote of a majority of all the qualified electors who vote at such election.

286. No convention shall hereafter be held for the purpose of altering or amending the Constitution of this state, unless after the legislature by a vote of a majority of all the members elected to each house has passed an act or resolution calling a convention for such purpose the question of convention or no convention shall be first submitted to a vote of all the qualified electors of the state, and approved by a majority of those voting at such election. No act or resolution of the legislature calling a convention for the purpose of altering or amending the Constitution of this state, shall be repealed except upon the vote of a majority of all the members elected to each house at the same session at which such act or resolution was passed; provided, nothing herein contained shall be construed as restricting the jurisdiction and power of the convention, when duly assembled in pursuance of this section, to establish such ordinances and to do and perform such things as to the convention may seem necessary or proper for the purpose of altering, revising, or amending the existing Constitution.

287. All votes of the legislature upon proposed amendments to this Constitution, and upon bills or resolutions calling a convention for the purpose of altering or amending the Constitution of this state, shall be taken by yeas and nays and entered on the journals. No act or resolution of the legislature passed in accordance with the provisions of this article, proposing amendments to this Constitution, or calling a convention for the purpose of altering or amending the Constitution of this state, shall be submitted for the approval of the governor, but shall be valid without his approval.

SCHEDULE

In order that no injury or inconvenience may arise from the alterations and amendments made by this Constitution to the existing Constitution of this state, and to carry this Constitution into effect, it is hereby ordained and declared:

1. That all laws in force at the ratification of this Constitution and not inconsistent therewith, shall remain in full force until altered or repealed by the legislature; and all rights, actions, prosecutions, claims, and contracts of the state, counties, municipal corporations, individuals, or bodies corporate, not inconsistent with this Constitution, shall continue to be valid as if this Constitution had not been ratified.
2. That all bonds executed by or to any officer of this state, all recognizances, obligations and all other instruments executed to this state or to any subdivision or municipality thereof before the ratification of this Constitution, and all fines, taxes, penalties, and forfeitures due and owing to the state, or any subdivision or municipality thereof; and all writs, suits, prosecutions, claims, and causes of action, except as herein otherwise provided, shall continue and remain unaffected by the ratification of this Constitution. All indictments which have been found, or which may hereafter be found, for any crime or offense committed before the ratification of this Constitution, shall be proceeded upon in the same manner as if this Constitution had not been ratified.
3. That all the executive and judicial officers, and all other officers in this state, who were elected at the elections held in this state on the first Monday in August, in the years eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and nineteen hundred, or who have been appointed since that time, and all members of the present general assembly, and all who may be hereafter elected members of the present general assembly, and all other officers holding office at the time of the ratification of this Constitution, shall, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, continue in office and exercise the duties thereof until their respective terms shall expire, as provided by the Constitution of eighteen hundred and seventy-five, or the laws of this state.

4. This Constitution shall be submitted to the qualified electors of this state for ratification or rejection, as authorized and required by an act of the general assembly of this state, entitled "An act to provide for holding a convention to revise and amend the Constitution of this state," approved the eleventh day of December, nineteen hundred; and no elector shall be deprived of his right to vote at the election to be held for such purpose by reason of his not being registered.
4. That instead of the publication as required by the act to provide for holding a convention to revise and amend the Constitution, approved the eleventh day of December, nineteen hundred, the governor of this state is hereby authorized to take such steps as will give general publicity and circulation to this Constitution in a manner as economical as practicable.
5. The salaries of the executive and judicial and all other officers of this state, who may be holding office at the time of the ratification of this Constitution, and the payment of the present members of the general assembly, shall not be affected by the provisions of this Constitution. Done by the people of Alabama, through their delegates in convention assembled in the hall of the house of representatives, at Montgomery, Alabama, this, the third day of September, Anno Domini nineteen hundred and one.

JOHN B. KNOX, *President*

Attest: FRANK N. JULIAN, *Secretary*

David C. Almon,
W. A. Altman,
John T. Ashcraft,
W. H. Banks,
J. H. Barefield,
W. H. Bartlett,
J. Robert Beavers,
C. P. Beddow,
D. S. Bethune,
Samuel Blackwell,
Burwell Boykin Boone,
Leslie E. Brooks,
Cecil Browne,
Thomas L. Bulger,
John D. Burnett,
John F. Burns (1875- 1901),
John A. Byars,
H. W. Cardon,

A. H. Carmichael
M. S. Carmichael
G. H. Carnathan
Davy Crockett Case
Reuben Chapman
James Edward Cobb
W. T. L. Cofer
Thomas W. Coleman
E. W. Coleman
Thomas J. Cornwell
B. H. Craig
R. M. Cunningham
John A. Davis

Hubert T. Davis
S. H. Dent
Ed. deGraffenried
Joseph B. Duke
B. T. Eley
John C. Eyster
T. M. Espy
Charles W. Ferguson
William C. Fitts
A. S. Fletcher
J. M. Foster
N. H. Freeman
J. A. Gilmore
William Franklin Glover
Edward A. Graham
Joseph B. Graham
L. W. Grant
John W. Grayson
Leonard F. Greer, Sr.
Charles H. Greer
C. L. Haley
William A. Handley
G. P. Harrison (1875-1901)
J. Thomas Heflin
John T. Heflin
Jere C. Henderson
Evans Hinson
Patrick W. Hodges
Wilson P. Howell
Augustin Clayton Howze
W. B. Inge
E. C. Jackson
Samuel C. Jenkins
John C. Jones
J. McLean Jones
Thomas G. Jones
Richard C. Jones
James T. Kirk
W. W. Kirkland
William N. Knight
R. B. Kyle
Emmett W. Ledbetter
Norville R. Leigh, Jr.
Lawrence W. Locklin
Tennent Lomax
J. Lee Long.

T. L. Long
Robert J. Lowe
William T. Lowe
Gordon Macdonald
B. F. McMillan
Lee McMillan
George H. Malone
J. T. Martin
J. C. Maxwell
Allen H. Merrill
Charles H. Miller
Joseph N. Miller
Milo Moody

W. O. Mulkey
J. D. Murphree (1875-1901)
C. C. NeSmith
J. D. Norman
Joseph Norwood
Wm. C. Oates (1875-1901)
Emmett O'Neal
John W. O'Neil
Henry Opp
Rufus A. O'Rear
Dabney Palmer
George H. Parker
John H. Parker, Sr.
James P. Pearce
Erle Pettus
E. A. Phillips
Harry Pillans
P. H. Pitts
John H. Porter
John Franklin Proctor
Henry Fontaine Reese (Dallas)
N. P. Renfro
R. J. Reynolds
J. J. Robinson
C. P. Rogers, Sr.
John Aduston Rogers, of Sumter County, Ala.
Wm. Hodges Samford
W. T. Sanders
John William Augustine Sanford
George A. Searcy
Henry C. Selheimer
James O. Sentell
J. B. Sloan, Jr.
Gregory L. Smith
Mac. A. Smith
Morgan M. Smith
M. Sollie
George A. Sorrell
Napoleon B. Spears
Robert E. Spragins
J. H. Stewart
W. H. Tayloe
J. F. Thompson
Watkins M. Vaughan
Boswell deGraffenried Waddell

Richard W. Walker

A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR.

Whereas, It appears from the certificate of the Secretary of State and Attorney-General that on the 11th day of November, 1901, at an election held in the several counties in this State, for and against Constitution, that the whole number of votes cast "For Constitution" is one hundred and eight thousand, six hundred and thirteen (108,613), and the whole number of votes cast "Against Constitution" is eighty-one thousand, seven hundred and thirty-four (81,734).

Now, therefore, I, William D. Jelks, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested as Governor of Alabama, do declare the majority of votes cast "For Constitution" to be twenty-six thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine (26,879).

I, Therefore, proclaim that the said new Constitution so ratified shall go into effect as the Constitution of the State of Alabama on Thursday, it being the twenty-eighth day of November, 1901, and shall thereafter be binding and obligatory as such upon the people of this State.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of State to be affixed at the Capitol, in the City of Montgomery, this the 21st day of November, A.D. 1901. WM. D. JELKS, Governor. By the Governor: Robt. P. McDavid, Secretary of State.

Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 1-100

Amendment 1 ratified

Amendment of Section 93. SECTION 93

State not to engage in internal improvements or lend money or credit for same; interest in private enterprises prohibited; exception as to public roads, highways and bridges.

The state shall not engage in work of internal improvement nor lend money or its credit in aid of such; nor shall the state be interested in any private or corporate enterprises or lend money or its credit to any individual, association, or corporation, provided that the state may under appropriate laws cause the net proceeds from the state convict fund to be applied to the construction, repair and maintenance of public roads in the state and the legislature may also make additional appropriations for that purpose.

Amendment 2 ratified

Fees of Officers of Jefferson County.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter, from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the costs, charges of courts, fees, commissions, allowances or salaries to be charged or received by any county officer of Jefferson county, including the method and basis of their compensation.

Amendment 3 ratified

Special School Tax Amendment.

Article XIX, Section 1. The several counties in the state shall have power to levy and collect a special county tax not exceeding thirty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in such counties in addition to that now authorized or that may hereafter be authorized for public school purposes, and in addition to that now authorized under section 260 of article XIV of the Constitution; provided, that the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county, and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election.

Section 2. The several school districts of any county in the state shall have power to levy and collect a special district tax not exceeding thirty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in such district for public school purposes; provided, that a school district under the meaning of this section shall include incorporated cities or towns, or any school district of which an incorporated city or town is a part, or such other school districts now existing or hereafter formed as may be approved by the county board of education; provided further, that the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; provided further, that no district tax shall be voted or collected except in such counties as are levying and collecting not less than a three-mill special county school tax.

Section 3. The funds arising from the special county school tax levied and collected by any county shall be apportioned and expended as the law may direct, and the funds arising from the special school tax levied in any district which votes the same independently of the county shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the district, as the law may direct.

Amendment 4 ratified

Montgomery County Salary Amendment.

Commencing at the beginning of their next term of office, subsequent to the general election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November, 1916, the compensation and allowance of the following named county officers of Montgomery county shall be as follows: Salary of judge of probate of Montgomery county, \$5,000.00 per year net; allowance of \$5,500.00 per annum for office expenses, as follows: One clerk at \$1,500.00 per annum; two clerks at \$1,000.00 per annum each; one clerk at \$800.00 per annum, and \$1,200.00 per annum for all other expenses, including extra clerks. The said \$1,200.00 to be paid to the judge of probate in monthly installments and disbursed by him. The tax collector of Montgomery county shall receive a salary of \$4,000.00 per year net; allowance of \$1,500.00 per year for his clerk in said office, and \$1,000.00 for extra help. The tax assessor of Montgomery county shall receive a salary of \$4,000.00 per year net; allowance of \$1,500.00 per year for a chief clerk in said office; \$900.00 for an assistant clerk in said office and \$600.00 per year for extra help. The sheriff of Montgomery county shall receive a salary of \$4,000.00 per year net; allowance of \$1,200.00 per year for a chief clerk in said office; \$1,380.00 per year for a chief deputy; \$2,200.00 per year for two deputies in said office, and \$1,000.00 for extra assistance. These amounts to be paid out of the county treasury of Montgomery county. This shall not interfere with the amounts now or hereafter allowed the sheriff for guards at the county jail or bailiffs for courts, nor with the provisions for feeding prisoners. The sheriff shall receive amounts now provided by law, and shall cover the same into the county treasury of Montgomery county, and the board of revenue of Montgomery county shall pay out of the county treasury of Montgomery county the expenses incurred by the sheriff in feeding said prisoners. The above named amounts shall be in lieu of all compensations and allowances to the respective named officers. These amounts shall be paid out of the county treasury of Montgomery county as the salaries of other county officers are paid. The above named officers shall collect the fees heretofore collected by them and shall cover such fees into the county treasury on the first Monday of each month. The board of revenue of Montgomery county shall provide said officers with necessary quarters, books, stationery and other conveniences. The legislature of Alabama may hereafter from time to time by local or general laws, fix, regulate and alter the amount of the above named salaries and allowances, including the method and basis of their compensation, also fix, regulate and alter amount of compensation received by all other county officers of said county.

Amendment 5 ratified

Repeal of Section 250.

That the Constitution of Alabama be and the same is hereby amended by repealing and striking out of the Constitution section 250 of article 13 of the Constitution which section is as follows: "Holders of bank notes, and depositors, who have not stipulated for interest, shall, for such notes and deposits, be entitled in case of insolvency, to preference of payment over all other creditors, provided this section shall apply to all banks, whether incorporated or not."

Amendment 6 ratified

Additional School Tax in City of Selma.

The city of Selma, in addition to the taxes it is now authorized and empowered to levy and collect, shall levy and collect annually an additional tax of two-tenths of one per centum upon the value of the property therein as fixed for state taxation, to be applied exclusively to the maintenance of public schools therein, and shall levy and collect annually a further additional tax of one-tenth of one per centum upon the value of the property therein as fixed for state taxation, to be applied exclusively to public school buildings therein and improvements and repairs thereon, or to the payment of indebtedness contracted for the same by the city of Selma, or to the maintenance of public schools therein or to any one or more of these purposes; provided that these taxes shall be in lieu of all other city taxes now

required to be levied or appropriated by the city of Selma for the support of schools or for school purposes.

Amendment 7 repealed

Exempting Sailors and Soldiers From The Payment of Poll Tax.^[1]

Amendment 8 ratified

Municipal Tax Amendment.

The municipalities of Tuscumbia, Sheffield, Hurtsboro, Russellville, Lanett, Demopolis, Pell City, Heflin, Columbiana, Carrollton, Opelika, Fairhope, Pine Hill, Scottsboro, Stevenson, Ashland, Brewton, Pollard, Flomaton, Atmore, Inglenook, Tuskegee, Aliceville, Gordo, Reform, Livingston, Camden, Monroeville, Phoenix and Girard, Birmingham, Bessemer, Florence, Huntsville, Selma, Fairfield, Anniston, Athens, Jacksonville, Auburn, Carbon Hill, and Lafayette in the state of Alabama, shall have the power and right to levy and collect a tax of one-half of one per centum in any one year on property situated therein, based on the valuation of such property as assessed for state taxation for the tax year ending on the 30th day of September next, succeeding the levy; provided, that for the purpose of paying bonds issued and outstanding at the time of the adoption of this amendment and the interest thereon, and for the purpose of paying bonds which may be issued after the adoption of this amendment and the interest thereon, an additional tax of one-half of one per centum may be levied and collected by said corporations; provided further, that a majority of the qualified electors of any of said municipal corporations voting at an election called for that purpose may vote a special tax not to exceed one-half of one per centum in any one year for any special purpose or purposes, which tax shall be used only for the purpose or purposes for which same is levied and collected; provided, however, that the total tax to be levied by any of said municipal corporations shall not exceed one and one-half (1 1/2) per centum in any one year. Provided, further, that the adoption of this amendment, shall in no wise affect, limit, modify, abridge, or impair the power, authority or right of either of said municipal corporations to levy and collect the special school taxes, now or hereafter vested in or conferred upon them, or any of them, under the Constitution or any amendment thereto; including the power of said city of Selma to levy and collect the taxes for schools and school purposes vested in and conferred upon said city of Selma by the amendment to the Constitution of Alabama adopted thereto, at the general election held in November, 1916, and which was submitted under Law Number 315, General Laws, 1915, page 337 [Amendment No. 6]. Each election held under the provisions hereof shall be ordered, held, canvassed and may be contested in the same manner as is or may be provided by the law applicable to the municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds. The ballots used at such election shall contain the words: "For ... excess rate of taxation for the year (or years) ..." and "Against... excess rate of taxation for the year (or years) ..." The rate of taxation proposed in excess of the rate of one (1) per centum to be shown in the blank space provided therefor and the year or years in which the proposed rate is to apply to be shown in the blank space provided therefor; and in the event different excess rates are proposed for different years the words mentioned shall be repeated as often as may be necessary to show separately the different rates proposed to be applied to the respective years. And the voter shall record his choice, whether for or against the excess rate or rates, shown by placing a cross mark before or after the words expressing his choice. Nothing herein contained shall in any wise change or affect the rights of any holder of bonds of said municipal corporations heretofore issued. Elections to authorize the levy of such special tax may be held as often as ordered by the governing body of the municipality but when a proposition is submitted to the electors to levy a special tax for a specific purpose, and such proposition is defeated no second election for the same purpose shall be held in one year thereafter.

Amendment 9 repealed

Art. XX. To Provide for Bonds for the Construction of Roads and Highways.

Amendment 10 ratified

Poll Tax Exemption Amendment. SECTION 194½

Exemption of World War I veterans from payment of poll tax prior to October 1, 1923.

No person who honorably served in the military or naval service of the United States between January 1, 1917, and November 11, 1918, shall be required to pay the poll tax mentioned in the Constitution of Alabama prior to October 1, 1923; such persons shall be exempt from the payment of all poll taxes which have or may hereafter accrue prior to October 1, 1923. This section shall be self-executing and retroactive. The judges of probate shall issue certificates of exemption from the payment of such poll taxes to the persons entitled thereto under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the governor.

Amendment 11 ratified

Road Bond Issue Amendment.

Section 1. The state is authorized to engage in the construction, improvement, repair and maintenance of public roads, highways, and bridges in the state of Alabama. To this end, and for this purpose, the state is authorized to appropriate funds; and also to issue and sell interest-bearing negotiable state bonds, in an amount not to exceed the sum of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00) to be issued in such denominations, numbers, and series, and maturing at such time, as may be provided by law; but such bonds shall bear a rate of interest not greater than six per centum per annum, payable semi-annually, and shall be sold at a price not less than the par value thereof. Provided, that no bonds shall be issued or sold under this provision to such an amount that the interest thereon will exceed the net amount of vehicle license tax collected for the year preceding the issuance of same, and which is set apart for the payment of interest on said bonds. The state highway commission or highway department shall locate, construct, and maintain highways and state trunk roads so as to connect each county seat with the county seat of the adjoining county by the most direct or most feasible route, or by a permanent road, having due regard to the public welfare, and to connect the county seats of the several border counties at or near the state line with a public road in the border states. Provided, that in counties which are divided into two or more judicial divisions in each of which regular terms of circuit court are held; the places where said terms of court are held shall likewise be connected with each other. It shall be the duty of said highway commission or highway department to equitably apportion among the several counties the expenditure of both money and labor and the time or times of making such investments. Not less than one-quarter of a million dollars of the proceeds of these bonds shall be set aside and expended by the state highway commission in each county in the state. To create a sinking fund for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal and interest on these bonds and for the construction, maintenance, and improvement of such public highways, roads, and bridges, the legislature shall levy a special annual license or privilege tax on all automobiles, and on all motor driven vehicles which may be used on the public roads and highways of this state. Such bonds when issued shall be a direct obligation of the state, and for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal and interest thereon the full faith and credit of the state is hereby irrevocably pledged, and such bonds shall be exempt forever from all taxes of every kind.

Amendment 12 ratified

Amendment of Section 93. SECTION 93

State engaging in internal improvements or lending money or credit for same; state interest in private or corporate enterprises; construction, maintenance, etc., of public roads, highways and bridges and harbors and seaports.

The state shall not engage in works of internal improvement, nor lend money or its credit in aid of such, except as may be authorized by the Constitution of Alabama or amendments thereto; nor shall the state be interested in any private or corporate enterprise, or lend money or its credit to any individual, association, or corporation, except as may be expressly authorized by the Constitution of Alabama, or amendments thereto; but when authorized by laws passed by the legislature the state may appropriate funds to be applied to the construction, repair, and maintenance of public roads, highways and bridges in the state; and when authorized by appropriate laws passed by the legislature the state may at a cost of not exceeding ten million dollars engage in the work of internal improvement, or promoting, developing, constructing, maintaining, and operating all harbors and seaports within the state or its jurisdiction, provided, that such work or improvement shall always be and remain under the management and control of the state, through its state harbor commission, or other governing agency. The adoption of this amendment shall not affect in any manner any other amendment to the Constitution of Alabama which may be adopted pursuant to any act or resolution of this session of the legislature.

Amendment 13 ratified

Tax Rates in Jasper, Cordova, Dora, Oxford, Talladega, Citronelle, Girard, Albany and Tuscaloosa.

The following municipal corporations, Jasper, Cordova, Dora, Oxford, Talladega, Citronelle, Girard, Albany, and Tuscaloosa, through their respective constituted governing authorities may levy and collect a rate of taxation on the property situated therein, not exceeding in the total in any one year one per centum of the value of such property as assessed as provided by the Constitution and the statutes now or hereafter enacted pursuant to the Constitution; provided that the adoption of this amendment, shall in no wise affect, limit, modify, abridge or impair the power, authority, or right of any of said municipal corporations to levy and collect the special school taxes, now or hereafter vested in or conferred upon them under the Constitution or any amendment thereto, which said special school taxes shall be in excess of said one per centum herein provided for.

Amendment 14 ratified

Poll Tax Exemption Amendment.

Poll Tax Exemption Amendment

Section 194 1/2

Exemption of World War I veterans from payment of poll tax.

No person who honorably served in the military or naval service of the United States between January 1, 1917, and November 11, 1918, shall be required to pay the poll tax mentioned in the Constitution of Alabama; such persons shall be exempt from the payment of all poll taxes which have accrued or may hereafter accrue. This section shall be self-executing and retroactive. The judge of probate shall issue certificates of exemption from the payment of such poll taxes to the persons entitled thereto under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the governor.

Amendment 15 ratified

Drainage Systems, Public Roads and Seawalls.

The legislature may form or provide for the formation of districts for establishing and maintaining a drainage system; for the building and maintaining of public roads, and for building and maintaining a seawall or other protection against waves, storm or flood therein; and provide for the assessment of the whole or part of the cost of such improvements against the land in such districts to the extent of the increased value of such land by reason of the special benefits derived from such improvements, and may provide for issuance of bonds by such district with or without an election. Provided the provisions as to road and seawall shall apply only to Mobile and Baldwin counties.

Amendment 16 ratified

Mobile County School Tax.

The county of Mobile, through its constituted governing authorities, may levy and collect for public school purposes, a rate of taxation, on the property situated therein, not exceeding in the total of any one year, one-fifth (1/5) of one (1) per centum of the value of such property as assessed as provided by the Constitution of Alabama and the statutes now or hereafter enacted pursuant to the said Constitution of Alabama, which said one-fifth (1/5) of one (1) per centum shall be in addition to taxes levied and collected under and pursuant to the authority of section 215 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, and taxes levied and collected under and pursuant to article XIX of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, which article XIX was added to said Constitution by amendment; and existing laws attempting or purporting to authorize, empower and direct the said constituted authorities of the county of Mobile to levy and assess such a special tax in addition to the taxes levied and collected under and pursuant to section 215 of the Constitution as aforesaid and taxes levied and collected under and pursuant to article XIX of the Constitution as aforesaid are hereby validated and confirmed.

Amendment 17 ratified

Tax Rates in Certain Municipalities.

The municipalities of Thorsby, Piedmont, and Greenville, and Roanoke, and Greensboro and Calera, Florala and Opp, Evergreen and Fayette, and Clayton and Clio in the state of Alabama, shall have the power and right to levy and collect a tax of one-half of one per centum in any one year on property situated therein, based on the valuation of such property as assessed for state taxation for the tax year ending on the thirtieth day of September next succeeding the levy; provided that for the purpose of paying bonds or indebtedness issued and outstanding at the time of the adoption of this amendment and the interest thereon, for the purpose of paying bonds or indebtedness which may be issued or incurred after the adoption of this amendment and the interest thereon, and an additional tax of one-half of one per centum may be levied and collected by said corporations; provided further, that a majority of the qualified electors of any of said municipal corporations voting at an election called for that purpose may vote a special tax not to exceed one-half of one per centum in any one year for any special purpose or purposes, which tax shall be used only for the purpose or purposes for which same is levied and collected; provided, however, that the total tax to be levied by any of said municipal corporations shall not exceed one and one-half (1 1/2) per centum in any one year. Alabama City shall have the power and right to levy and collect a tax of three-quarters of one per centum in any one year on property situated therein, based on the valuation of such property as assessed for state taxation. Provided, further, that the adoption of this amendment shall in no wise affect, limit, modify, abridge or impair the power, or authority or right of either of said municipal corporations to levy and collect the special school taxes, now or hereafter vested in or conferred upon them, or any of them, under the Constitution or any amendment thereto; including the power of the city of Selma to levy and collect the taxes for schools and school purposes vested in and conferred upon said city of Selma by the amendment to the Constitution of Alabama adopted thereto at the general election held in November, 1916, and which was submitted under Law Number 315, General Laws 1915, page 337

[Amendment No. 6], each election held under the provisions hereof shall be ordered, held, canvassed and may be contested in the same manner as is or may be provided by the law applicable to the municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds. The ballots used at such election shall contain the words: "For excess rate of taxation for the year (or years);" and "Against excess rate of taxation for the year (or years)" The rate of taxation proposed in excess of the rate of one (1) per centum to be shown in the blank space provided therefor and the year or years in which the proposed rate is to apply to be shown in the blank spaces provided therefor; and in the event different excess rates are proposed for different years the words mentioned shall be repeated as often as may be necessary to show separately the different rates proposed to be applied to the respective years. And the voter shall record his choice, whether for or against the excess rate or rates shown by placing a cross mark before or after the words expressing his choice. Nothing herein contained shall in any wise change or affect the rights of any holder of bonds of municipal corporations heretofore issued. Elections to authorize the levy of such special tax may be held as often as ordered by the governing body of the municipality but when a proposition is submitted to the electors to levy a special tax for a specific purpose, and such proposition is defeated no second election for the same shall be held in one year thereafter.

Amendment 18 ratified

Mobile County Road Bonds.

Mobile county may become indebted and may issue bonds for the construction or improvement of concrete or better than concrete surfaced public roads, and concrete or better than concrete public bridges in said county, and for the construction of bridges and roadway necessary to provide a public road for vehicular travel between the highlands of Mobile and Baldwin counties, in an amount not to exceed six and one-half per centum of the assessed value of the property situated in Mobile county. To pay said indebtedness and interest thereon, Mobile county may levy and collect an annual tax on said property not to exceed one-half of one per centum of said value. The indebtedness, the bonds and the tax authorized hereby shall be in addition to those authorized by the Constitution of Alabama prior to the adoption of this amendment. But no such additional indebtedness shall be created, and no such additional bonds shall be issued, and no such additional tax shall be levied, until each improvement or construction proposed to be built thereby, its approximate location, estimated cost and time of completion, and the amount of the proposed increase, shall have been determined upon and made public by the board of revenue and road commissioners of Mobile county, and the proposed increase of indebtedness or issue of bonds or tax therefor shall have been first authorized by a majority vote by ballot of the qualified voters of Mobile county voting upon such proposition.

Amendment 19 ratified

Walker County Special Road Tax.

Section 1. The county of Walker, state of Alabama, shall have power to levy and collect a special road tax not exceeding fifty cents on each hundred dollars worth of taxable property in said county in addition to that now authorized or that may hereafter be authorized for the erection, construction or maintenance of the necessary public roads, bridges or ferries and in addition to that now authorized under section 215 of article XI of the Constitution, which special county tax so levied and collected shall be applied exclusively to the purpose for which the same was so levied and collected, provided, that the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have first been submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county, and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election.

Section 2. Twenty-five per centum of all moneys derived from property lying within the municipalities and arising from the tax proposed herein shall be paid to such municipality and shall, by it, be expended for upkeep of its streets.

Section 3. The court of county commissioners, boards of revenue, or other governing body of said county may, or upon written petition of ten per centum of the qualified voters of Walker county, shall call and submit said election

provided for and authorized by section 1 hereof to the qualified electors of Walker county either at the time of the general election or at a special election called for that purpose; provided, that said election shall be called and held in accordance with the law now or that may be enacted governing county bond elections, and in conformity with the general election laws of the state.

Amendment 20 ratified

Tax Elections in Certain School Districts in Lawrence County.

Town Creek school district No. 59, Landersville school district No. 23, and Moulton school district No. 28, in Lawrence county, Alabama, shall each have the right and power by vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such district at an election held for that purpose to levy and collect for the purpose of acquiring, constructing or repairing of school buildings in such districts or paying for school buildings already built, a tax of not over five mills in any one year, in addition to all other taxes now authorized by law. The election in such district to determine whether or not such tax shall be levied shall be called, held and conducted as now provided by law for calling, holding and conducting of elections to determine whether or not a three-mill district school tax shall be levied and collected.

Amendment 21 ratified

Art. XXA. State Roads, Highways and Bridges—Bond Issue.

The state is authorized to engage in the construction, improvement, repair and maintenance of public roads, highways and bridges in the state of Alabama. To this end and for this purpose the state is authorized to appropriate funds, and also to issue and sell interest-bearing negotiable state bonds in addition to those already authorized and sold under article XX, as an amendment to the Constitution of 1901, in an amount not to exceed the sum of twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000.00); to be issued in such denominations, numbers and series, and maturing at such times as may be provided by law; all such bonds shall bear a rate of interest not greater than six per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, and shall be sold at a price not less than the par value thereof. The state highway commission or highway department shall locate, construct and maintain highways and state trunk roads so as to connect each county seat with the county seat of the adjoining county by the most direct or feasible route or by a permanent road, having due regard to the public welfare; and to connect the county seats of the several border counties at or near the state line with a public road in the border state. Provided that in counties which are divided into two or more judicial divisions in each of which regular terms of the circuit court are held, the places where said terms of court are held, shall likewise be connected with each other. It shall be the duty of the highway commission or highway department to equitably apportion among the several counties of the state the expenditure of both money and labor and the time or times of making such investment. Not less than one-quarter of a million dollars of the proceeds of these bonds shall be set aside and expended by the state highway commission in each county in the state. To create a sinking fund for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal and interest on these bonds and for the construction, maintenance and improvement of such public highways, roads and bridges, the legislature shall levy an excise tax, in addition to the levy made February 10, 1923, of two cents per gallon upon gasoline or any substitute therefor, or an adequate license or excise tax on any other motive power used to propel auto vehicles. Such bonds when issued shall be a direct obligation of the state and for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal and the interest thereon the full faith and credit of the state is hereby irrevocably pledged and such bonds shall be exempt forever from taxes of every kind.

Amendment 22 ratified

Drainage Districts.

Section 1. The legislature may form or provide for the formation of drainage districts for establishing and maintaining drainage systems; and provide for the assessment of the whole or part of the cost of such improvements against the lands and property in such district to the extent of the increased value thereof by reason of special benefits derived from such improvements and may provide for the issuance of bonds for such districts with or without an election.

Section 2. This amendment shall be retroactive and retrospective and shall operate to ratify, confirm and validate the act of the legislature of Alabama, which act provided for the drainage of farm, wet, swamp and overflow lands in the state of Alabama and authorized the organization of drainage districts, conferred the right of eminent domain to the extent necessary to carry out the purpose of said act and provided for raising of revenues by bond issue or otherwise to pay the cost and expense of installing and maintaining drainage systems so as to promote the public health and general welfare and, which act was approved March 4, 1915; and this amendment shall operate to confirm and validate all corporate organizations under authority of such law, all procedure had, all acts done, all bonds issued, contracts entered into and assessments made by such corporations under authority of such law.

Amendment 23 ratified

Repeal of Section 219; Inheritance and Estate Taxes.

Article XXI. Section 219 of the present Constitution is hereby annulled and set aside and hereafter the legislature of Alabama may provide for the assessment, levy and collection of a tax upon inheritances and for the levying of estate taxes not to exceed in the aggregate the amounts which may by any law of the United States be allowed to be credited against or deducted from any similar tax upon inheritances or taxes on estates assessed or levied by the United States on the same subject. The legislature shall have the power to levy such inheritance or estate taxes in the state of Alabama only so long as and during the time an inheritance or estate tax is enforced by the United States against Alabama inheritances or estate, and shall only be exercised or enforced to the extent of absorbing the amount of any deduction or credit which may be permitted by the laws of the United States now existing or hereafter enacted to be claimed by reason thereof as deduction or credit against such similar tax of the United States applicable to Alabama inheritances or estates.

Amendment 24 ratified

Amendment of Section 284. SECTION 284

Manner of proposing amendments; submission of amendments to electors; election on amendments; proclamation of result of election; basis of representation in legislature not to be changed by amendment.

Amendments may be proposed to this Constitution by the legislature in the manner following: The proposed amendments shall be read in the house in which they originate on three several days, and, if upon the third reading three-fifths of all the members elected to that house shall vote in favor thereof, the proposed amendments shall be sent to the other house, in which they shall likewise be read on three several days, and if upon the third reading three-fifths of all of the members elected to that house shall vote in favor of the proposed amendments, the legislature shall order an election by the qualified electors of the state upon such proposed amendments, to be held either at the general election next succeeding the session of the legislature at which the amendments are proposed or upon another day appointed by the legislature, not less than three months after the final adjournment of the session of the legislature at which the amendments were proposed. Notice of such election, together with the proposed amendments, shall be given by proclamation of the governor, which shall be published in every county in such manner as the legislature shall direct, for at least four successive weeks next preceding the day appointed for such election. On the day so appointed an election shall be held for the vote of the qualified electors of the state upon the

proposed amendments. If such election be held on the day of the general election, the officers of such general election shall open a poll for the vote of the qualified electors upon the proposed amendments; if it be held on a day other than that of the general election, officers for such election shall be appointed; and the election shall be held in all things in accordance with the law governing general elections. In all elections upon such proposed amendments, the votes cast thereat shall be canvassed, tabulated and returns thereof be made to the secretary of state, and counted, in the same manner as in elections for representatives in the legislature; and if it shall thereupon appear that a majority of the qualified electors who voted at such election upon the proposed amendments voted in favor of the same, such amendments shall be valid to all intents and purposes as parts of this Constitution. The result of such election shall be made known by proclamation of the governor. Representation in the legislature shall be based upon population, and such basis of representation shall not be changed by constitutional amendments.

Amendment 25 ratified

Income Taxes.

Article XXII. The legislature shall have the power to levy and collect taxes for state purposes on net incomes from whatever source derived within this state, including the incomes derived from salaries, fees and compensation paid from the state, county, municipality, and any agency or creature thereof, for the calendar year, 1933, and thereafter and to designate and define the incomes to be taxed and to fix the rates of taxes, provided that the rate shall not exceed 5 percent nor 3 percent on corporations. Income shall not be deemed property for purposes of ad valorem taxes. From net income an exemption of not less than fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) shall be allowed to unmarried persons and an exemption of not less than three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) shall be allowed to the head of a family, provided that only one exemption shall be allowed to husband and wife where they are living together and make separate returns for income tax. An exemption of not less than three hundred dollars (\$300.00) shall be allowed for each dependent member of the family of an income tax payer under the age of 18 years. The legislature shall reduce the ad valorem tax from time to time when and to such an amount as the revenue derived from the income tax will justify. In the event the legislature levies an income tax, such tax must be levied upon the salaries, income, fees, or other compensation of state, county and municipal officers and employees, on the same basis as such income taxes are levied upon other persons. All income derived from such tax shall be held in trust for the payment of the floating debt of Alabama until all debts due on Oct. 1st, 1932, are paid and thereafter used exclusively for the reduction of state ad valorem taxes.

Amendment 26 ratified

Amendment of Section 213.

Amendment of Section 213.

Creation of state debt after ratification of Constitution; temporary loans; refunding bonds for existing indebtedness; payment of interest on certain outstanding and unpaid state warrants; sinking fund for payment of floating indebtedness; warrants not to be drawn on state treasury unless money available for payment; unpaid appropriations for which money unavailable at end of fiscal year.

After the ratification of this Constitution, no new debt shall be created against, or incurred by the state, or its authority except to repel invasion or suppress insurrection, and then only by a concurrence of two-thirds of the members of each house of the legislature, and the vote shall be taken by yeas and nays and entered on the journals; provided, the governor may be authorized to negotiate temporary loans, never to exceed three hundred thousand dollars, to meet the deficiencies in the treasury, and until the same is paid no new loan shall be negotiated; (provided, further, that this section shall not be so construed as to prevent the issuance of bonds for the purpose of refunding the existing bonded indebtedness of the state. Provided, further, that this section shall not be construed as to prevent the governor from paying interest at the rate of not exceeding 5% per annum payable semi-annually from July 1, 1933,

on the floating indebtedness of the state at the close of business on September 30, 1932, as shown by outstanding and unpaid warrants drawn on the treasury, as provided by law, amounting in the aggregate to \$16,943,357.12 and items enumerated in an act of the legislature number 294, being senate bill 272, approved November 9, 1932 [Acts 1932, Ex. Sess., p. 298], all of which are hereby ratified and confirmed.) All warrants and/or instruments issued or to be issued representing such indebtedness shall be a direct obligation of the state, and for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal and interest thereon, the full faith and credit of the state is hereby irrevocably pledged, and such warrants and/or instruments shall be exempt forever from all taxes of every kind. Any act creating or incurring any new debt against the state, except as herein provided for, shall be absolutely void. To create a sinking fund for the prompt and faithful payment of the floating indebtedness of the state, and interest thereon, the net proceeds of any income tax which may be levied by the legislature pursuant to law is hereby pledged. To prevent further deficits in the state treasury, it shall be unlawful from and after the adoption of this amendment for the state comptroller of the state of Alabama to draw any warrant or other order for the payment of money belonging to, or administered by, the state of Alabama upon the state treasurer, unless there is in the hand of such treasurer money appropriated and available for the full payment of the same. In case there is, at the end of any fiscal year, insufficient money in the state treasury for the payment of all proper claims presented to the state comptroller for the issuance of warrants, the comptroller shall issue warrants for that proportion of each such claim which the money available for the payment of all said claims bears to the whole, and such warrants for such prorated sums shall thereupon be paid by the state treasurer. At the end of each fiscal year all unpaid appropriations which exceed the amount of money in the state treasury subject to the payment of the same after the proration above provided for, shall thereupon become null and void to the extent of such excess. Any person violating any of the provisions of this amendment shall, on conviction, be punished by a fine of not exceeding five thousand dollars, or by imprisonment in the penitentiary for not more than two years, one or both, at the discretion of the jury trying the same, and the violation of any provisions of this amendment shall also be ground for impeachment.

Amendment 26A^[2] ratified

Suspension of Restriction on Diminishing Public Salaries, etc.

Article XXIV. All provisions of the Constitution which prohibit or restrict the legislature from decreasing or diminishing the salary, fees or compensations of any executive, legislative or judicial officer or of any public officer or of any officer holding any civil office of profit under this state or any county or municipality thereof, whether elected or appointed, during the term for which he shall have been elected or appointed are hereby suspended until October 1, 1935. Provided that from and after the first day of the month next succeeding the date of the ratification and adoption of this amendment no salary, compensation, fees or commissions paid to any officer under the state or any county or municipality thereof, shall exceed the sum of six thousand dollars per annum. Said limitation of \$6,000.00 to be inoperative after October 1, 1935. Any act of the legislature heretofore adopted decreasing or diminishing the salary, fees or compensation of any such officer or officers, and which by its terms is to become effective after the expiration of the present term of any such officer or officers, shall, by virtue hereof, become effective from and after the first day of the month next succeeding the date of the ratification and adoption of this amendment; provided, however, that should the legislature adopt any other act or acts decreasing or diminishing the salary, fees or compensation of any such officer or officers during the term for which such officer or officers may have been elected or appointed in a larger amount, such subsequent act or acts shall control. Any other act of the legislature adopted prior to October 1, 1935, decreasing or diminishing the salary, fees or compensation of any such officer or officers, during the term for which such officer or officers may have been elected or appointed, shall be effective from and after the first day of the month next succeeding the date of the ratification and adoption of this amendment, or from and after the adoption by the legislature of any such act decreasing or diminishing the salary, fees or compensation of such officer or officers.

Amendment 27 ratified

Amendment of Section 229. SECTION 229

Special laws conferring corporate powers prohibited; general law as to grant or amendment of corporate charters; corporation franchise taxes to be paid; exemption of benevolent, educational or religious corporations and federal building and loan associations from franchise taxes.

The legislature shall pass no special act conferring corporate powers, but it shall pass general laws under which corporations may be organized and corporate powers obtained, subject, nevertheless, to repeal at the will of the legislature; and shall pass general laws under which charters may be altered or amended. The legislature shall, by general laws, provide for the payment to the state of Alabama of a franchise tax by corporations organized under the laws of this state which shall be in proportion to the amount of capital stock; but strictly benevolent, educational or religious corporations or federal building and loan associations organized pursuant to an act of congress known as the Home Owners' Loan Act of 1933, as amended, and as the same may hereafter be amended, or building and loan associations organized under or authorized to do business by the laws of Alabama shall not be required to pay such a tax on their withdrawable or repurchasable shares. The charter of any corporation shall be subject to amendment, alteration, or repeal under general laws. Exemption of the shares of building and loan associations from franchise taxes heretofore provided by statute is ratified.

Amendment 28 ratified

Costs, Fees, Salaries, etc., of Certain Officers in Mobile County.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter from time to time by general or local laws, but subject to the provisions of section 281 of the Constitution of Alabama, fix, regulate and alter the costs, charges of court, fees, commissions, allowances or salaries to be charged or received by the following county officers of Mobile county, Alabama, being, the judge of probate, the tax assessor, the tax collector, the clerk of the circuit court, and the register of the circuit court, including the method and basis of the compensation of such officers.

Amendment 29 ratified

Mobile County Bonds.

The legislature of Alabama may authorize Mobile county to issue bonds from time to time, not exceeding in the aggregate \$1,600,000.00, which bonds, or the proceeds thereof, shall be used exclusively for paying valid and enforceable unbonded obligations of Mobile county, and unbonded obligations of Mobile county which would be valid and enforceable but for the provision or provisions of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 fixing the debt limit of said county, and all past due interest and principal on any valid and enforceable bonded obligations of said county, existing on September 30th, 1936. In September of each year after the adoption of this amendment to the Constitution, the governing body of Mobile county shall adopt a budget based on 95 percent of the gross receipts of the general fund of the preceding year for the succeeding fiscal year beginning October 1st, and the expenses of such county for any such fiscal year shall not exceed the revenues of the county for that year. All debts contracted or liabilities incurred by the said county in excess of such revenues shall be void. The governing body of Mobile county may, during any such fiscal year, borrow additional money to the extent of twenty-five (25%) percent of the general revenues of such county for the preceding fiscal year, and pledge to secure the payment thereof the general revenues of the county for such current fiscal year only, such loans to be paid within that fiscal year or from the pledged general revenues of the county subsequently collected for that year, and any loan so made and not paid out of the general revenues of the county pledged to secure the same shall be void as to any amount remaining unpaid. The legislature shall not, after the adoption of this amendment, pass any law making any claim a preferred claim against said county, and all laws, or parts of laws, now in force and effect, making a claim a preferred claim against said county, are hereby annulled as to any future claim. The words "governing body of Mobile county" as herein used

shall include any board or officer which is now or which may hereafter be vested with the powers and duties now or formerly exercised by the board of revenue and road commissioners of Mobile county, Alabama. Any person violating any of the provisions of this amendment shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine not exceeding \$5,000.00, or by imprisonment in the penitentiary for not more than two years, one or both, at the discretion of the jury trying the same, and the violation of any of the provisions of this amendment shall also be ground for impeachment.

Amendment 30 ratified

Lawrence County Bonds.

Lawrence county may become indebted and may issue bonds therefor in an amount not exceeding \$130,000 in addition to that now authorized, for the construction of and equipping of a courthouse in said county. To pay said indebtedness, and interest thereon, Lawrence county may levy and collect an annual tax on all property situated therein at a rate not in excess of 3 mills. The indebtedness, the bonds and the tax authorized hereby shall be in addition to those authorized prior to the adoption of this amendment. But no such additional indebtedness shall be incurred, no such bonds shall be issued and no such tax shall be levied until the estimated cost of the construction and equipping of said courthouse hereby proposed to be built, its time of completion, and the amount of the increased indebtedness, the rate of interest to be paid thereon, and the period over which the bonds to be issued will be refunded, shall have been determined upon and made public by the county governing body of said county; and the proposed increase in indebtedness and the issuance of bonds and the increase in rate of taxation first shall have been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors of said county voting upon such proposal at an election to be called by said county governing body for said purposes to be held not less than sixty (60) nor more than (120) one hundred twenty days after the adoption of this amendment.

Amendment 31 ratified

Taxation in Municipality of Attalla.

(a) The municipality of Attalla, Alabama, through its governing body, may levy and collect from and after the date of this amendment the present rate of one percent ad valorem tax per annum, and said amount to be devoted to the payment of outstanding bonds, provide for schools, and such other purposes as may be designated by the governing body of said municipality, but before any additional tax now authorized by law can be levied, it must be voted by a majority of qualified electors of the municipality voting on such proposition at an election called by the governing body of said municipality for such purposes; providing that the total tax levied for all purposes by the said municipality of Attalla shall not exceed one per centum in any one year on the property situated therein, based on the valuation of such property as assessed for state taxation. (b) The adoption of this amendment shall in no wise effect, limit, modify, abridge or impair the power, authority or right of such municipality to levy and collect the special school taxes now or hereafter vested in or conferred upon it under the Constitution or any amendment thereto. (c) Each election held under the provisions of this amendment shall be ordered, held, canvassed and may be contested in the same manner as is or may be provided by the law applicable to municipal corporations, for elections to order the issuance of municipal bonds. The ballots used at such election shall contain the following words: "For authorization of a continuation of taxation at a rate not to exceed one percent per annum for the purpose of the payment of outstanding bonds, provide for schools, and such other purposes as may be designated by the governing body of said municipality." "Against authorization of a continuation of taxation at a rate not to exceed one percent per annum for the purpose of the payment of outstanding bonds, provide for schools, and such other purposes as may be designated by the governing body of said municipality." The rate of taxation proposed shall be printed upon the ballot in the space indicated therefor and for the year or years in which the proposed rate is to apply, and the purpose or purposes for which said tax is to be used shall likewise be placed in the respective places therefor. The voter shall record his choice either for or against authorization of the proposed rate for the proposed purpose or purposes by placing a

cross mark before or after the words expressing his choice. Nothing herein contained shall in any wise change or effect the rights of any holder of bonds of said municipal corporations heretofore issued. Elections in said municipality to order the levy of such tax may be held as often as ordered by the governing body thereof, but when a proposition is submitted to the said municipality hereunder and such proposition is defeated, no second election shall be held in such municipality for one year thereafter. This amendment shall be self-operative without any additional legislation.

Amendment 32 ratified

Tax Elections in Certain School Districts in Lawrence County.

Enon school district, Hendon school district, Oakville school district, Cave Springs school district, Center school district, Piney Grove school district, Shiloh school district and Speake school district in Lawrence county, Alabama, shall each have the right and power by vote of a majority of the qualified electors of such district at an election held for that purpose to levy and collect for the purpose of, acquiring, constructing or repairing of school buildings in such districts or paying for school buildings already built, a tax of not over three mills in any one year, in addition to all other taxes now authorized by law. The election in such district to determine whether or not such tax shall be levied shall be called, held and, conducted as now provided by law for calling, holding and conducting of election to determine whether or not a three mill district school tax shall be levied and collected.

Amendment 33 ratified

Regulation of Salaries, etc., of Certain Public Officers in Calhoun and Tuscaloosa Counties.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter, from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances and salaries, including the method or basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the tax assessors, tax collectors, probate judges, circuit clerks, sheriffs, and registers of the chancery courts, and including the right to place any one or all of said officers on a salary and provide for the fees charged and collected by said officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid, and provide the method and basis of their compensation, or consolidate any of said offices in the following named counties: Calhoun and Tuscaloosa. All acts of the regular session of the legislature 1935 heretofore passed and applicable, or purporting to be applicable, to any or all of said counties, and fixing, or purporting to fix the compensation of said named county officers, on a salary basis, are hereby validated and confirmed.

Amendment 34 ratified

Tax for Malaria Control in Limestone County.

The governing body of Limestone county must levy and collect for use in the control of malaria, in addition to all other taxes now authorized by law, a tax not in excess of one mill on all property situated within the county, based upon the valuation of such property in said county, as assessed for state taxation, provided such tax is authorized by a majority of the qualified electors of said county voting upon such proposition at an election called and held for the purpose of authorizing such tax. Such an election may be called at any time by the governing body of said county and shall be held and conducted and the results canvassed as now provided by law for holding and conducting and canvassing the returns of an election. The proceeds of the tax hereby authorized shall be used exclusively for the control of malaria and shall be expended through the proper fiscal agencies of the county government under the direction of the governing body of Limestone county and the Limestone county department of public health.

Amendment 35 ratified

Amendment of Section 138.

Amendment of Section 138.

Section 138

Election and term of office of sheriffs; sheriff eligible to succeed self; impeachment of sheriff; effect of impeachment of sheriff.

A sheriff shall be elected in each county by the qualified electors thereof who shall hold office for a term of four years unless sooner removed, and he shall be eligible to such office as his own successor. Whenever any prisoner is taken from jail, or from the custody of any sheriff or his deputy, and put to death, or suffers grievous [grievous] bodily harm, owing to the neglect, connivance, cowardice, or other grave fault of the sheriff, such sheriff may be impeached, under section 174 of this Constitution. If the sheriff be impeached, and thereupon convicted, he shall not be eligible to hold any office in this state during the time for which he had been elected or appointed to serve as sheriff.

Amendment 36 ratified

Bonds for Erection, etc., of Jail in Morgan County.

Morgan county may become indebted and may issue bonds therefor in an amount not exceeding \$115,000.00 in addition to that now authorized, for the acquiring and paying for additional real property adjoining that where the court house and jail now set and constructing and equipping a jail building in said county. To pay said indebtedness and interest thereon, Morgan county may levy and collect an annual tax on all property situated therein at a rate not in excess of one mill. The indebtedness, the bonds and the tax authorized hereby shall be in addition to those authorized prior to the adoption of this amendment. But no such additional indebtedness shall be incurred, no such bonds shall be issued and no such tax shall be levied until the estimated cost of acquiring and paying for additional real property adjoining that where the court house and jail now set and the cost of the construction and equipping of said jail building in said county hereby proposed to be built, its time of completion, the amount of the increased indebtedness, the rate of interest to be paid thereon and the period over which the bonds to be issued will be refunded, shall have been determined upon and made public by the county governing body of said county; and the proposed increase in indebtedness and the issuance of bonds and the increase in rate of taxation first shall have been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors of said county voting upon such proposal at an election to be called by said county governing body for said purpose to be held not less than sixty nor more than ninety days after the adoption of this amendment.

Amendment 37 ratified

Amendment of Section 8. SECTION 8

Proceeding against person by information; grand jury not required in misdemeanor cases; plea of guilty prior to indictment.

No person shall for any indictable offense be proceeded against criminally by information, except in cases arising in the militia and volunteer forces when in actual service, or when assembled under arms as a military organization, or, by leave of the court, for misfeasance, misdemeanor, extortion and oppression in office, otherwise than is provided in the Constitution; provided, that in cases of misdemeanor, the legislature may by law dispense with a grand jury and authorize such prosecutions and proceedings before justices of the peace or such other inferior courts as may be by law established. Provided further that in all felony cases, except those punishable by capital punishment, the legislature may by law dispense with a grand jury and authorize such prosecutions and proceedings in such manner as may be provided by law if the defendant, after having had the advice of counsel of his choice or in the event he is

unable to employ counsel, the advice of counsel which must be appointed by the court, makes known in open court to a judge of a court having jurisdiction of the offense that he desires to plead guilty, provided, however, the defendant cannot plead guilty within fifteen days after his arrest.

Amendment 38 ratified

Amendment of Section 124. SECTION 124

Authority of governor to grant reprieves and commutations to persons under sentence of death; legislature to regulate administration of pardons, paroles, remission of fines and forfeitures, suspension of sentences and probation; pardon not relief from civil and political disabilities unless specifically provided.

The governor shall have power to grant reprieves and commutations to persons under sentence of death. The legislature shall have power to provide for and to regulate the administration of pardons, paroles, remission of fines and forfeitures, and may authorize the courts having criminal jurisdiction to suspend sentence and to order probation. No pardon shall relieve from civil and political disabilities unless specifically expressed in the pardon.

Amendment 39 ratified

Time and Place of Meetings of Legislature; Biennial Sessions; Organizational Sessions; Election of President Pro Tempore of Senate and Speaker of House of Representatives; Maximum Length of Sessions; Compensation and Travel Allowances of Me

Time and Place of Meetings of Legislature; Biennial Sessions; Organizational Sessions; Election of President Pro Tempore of Senate and Speaker of House of Representatives; Maximum Length of Sessions; Compensation and Travel Allowances of Members of Legislature.

All sessions of the legislature shall be held at the capitol in the senate chamber and in the hall of the house of representatives; unless at any time it should from any cause become impossible or dangerous for the legislature to meet or remain at the capitol or for the senate to meet or remain in the senate chamber, or for the representatives to meet or remain in the hall of the house of representatives, in which case the governor may convene the legislature, or remove it after it has convened, to some other place, or may designate some other place for the sitting of the respective houses, or either of them, as necessity may require. The legislature shall convene on the second Tuesday in January next succeeding their election and shall remain in session for not longer than ten consecutive calendar days. No business can be transacted at such sessions except the organization of the legislature, the election of officers and the appointment of standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives for the ensuing four years, which election and appointment may, however, also be made at such other times as may be necessary, the opening and publication of the returns and the ascertainment and declaration of the results of the election for governor, lieutenant-governor, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education and commissioner of agriculture and industries, the election of such officers in the event of a tie vote, the determination of contested elections for such offices, the judging of the election returns and qualification of the members of the legislature, and the inauguration of the governor and the other elected state officers whose terms of office are concurrent with that of the governor. At the beginning of each such organization session, and at such other times as may be necessary, the senate shall elect one of its members president pro tempore thereof, to preside over its deliberations in the absence of the lieutenant-governor, and the house of representatives shall elect one of its members as speaker, to preside over its deliberations. The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall each hold his respective office until his successor has been elected and qualified. The legislature shall convene in regular sessions on the first Tuesday in May of 1943 and on the first Tuesday in May in each second year thereafter, until the date of meeting shall have been changed by act of the legislature and approved by the governor. No such regular session shall continue for longer than sixty consecutive calendar days. No special session of the legislature convened in the manner provided by this Constitution shall continue for longer than thirty

consecutive calendar days. The pay of members of the legislature shall be ten dollars for each day during the period in which the legislature is in session but not exceeding in any event the number of calendar days for which the legislature is authorized to be in session. Each member of the legislature shall be paid ten cents per mile in going from his residence to, and in returning to his residence from, the seat of government, to be computed by the nearest usual route traveled, and not more than one such travel allowance shall be paid for each session of the legislature. The provisions of this Constitution in conflict herewith are hereby modified to conform to the provisions of this amendment. The provisions of this amendment shall become effective at the beginning of the term of the members of the legislature elected at the general election in 1942.

Amendment 40 ratified

Amendment of Section 74. SECTION 74

Restrictions on investment of trust funds by executors, trustees, etc., in private corporations.

No act of the legislature shall authorize the investment of any trust fund by executors, administrators, guardians, or other trustees in the stock of any private corporation; any such acts now existing are avoided, saving investments heretofore made; provided, however, that, unless otherwise provided by the legislature, any of said mentioned trust funds may be invested in corporation or institutions, investments in which are guaranteed as to principal by the United States government or insured as to principal by any instrumentality or agency thereof, provided such investments shall not exceed the amount insured by any such instrumentality or agency.

Amendment 41 ratified

Amendment of Section 190. SECTION 190

Duty of legislature to pass laws regulating elections, primary elections and purging of registration lists; provision for use of voting machines.

The legislature shall pass laws not inconsistent with this Constitution to regulate and govern elections and all such laws shall be uniform throughout the state except that the legislature may, by general or local law, permit the use of voting machines or other mechanical devices, for registering, recording and computing the votes at all elections, including primary elections, in any county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state, under such regulations provided by general law with reference thereto as the legislature may from time to time prescribe; and shall provide by law for the manner of holding elections and of ascertaining the result of the same, and shall provide general registration laws not inconsistent with the provisions of this article for the registration of all qualified electors from and after the first day of January, nineteen hundred and three. The legislature shall also make provision by law, not inconsistent with this article, for the regulation of primary elections and for punishing frauds at the same, but shall not make primary elections compulsory. The legislature shall by law provide for purging the registration list of the names of those who died, become insane, or convicted of crime, or otherwise disqualified as electors under the provisions of this Constitution, and of any names which may have been fraudulently entered on such list by the registrars; provided, that a trial by jury may be had on the demand of any person whose name is proposed to be stricken from the list.

Amendment 42 ratified

Bonds to Pay or Retire Alabama Bridge Commission Bonds.

The state of Alabama is hereby authorized to issue not exceeding \$900,000 aggregate principal amount of bonds for the purpose of paying or retiring prior to maturity, the bonds of Alabama bridge commission (an agency of the state of Alabama) which were outstanding on July 1, 1939. Said bonds shall be general obligations of the state of Alabama, to the prompt payment of the principal of and interest on which the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby irrevocably pledged, and all of said bonds, together with any other bonds of the state

providing for a pledge of said gasoline excise tax which may be authorized by constitutional amendment ratified on the same day as this amendment is ratified shall be additionally secured, without priority of one bond over another, by a pledge of the proceeds of the gasoline excise tax, authorized to be pledged to the highway bonds provided for in the amendment to the Constitution known as article XXA [Amendment No. 21], subject, however, to the prior pledge of said gasoline tax to said highway bonds. The bonds hereby authorized shall bear interest at not exceeding three per centum (3%) per annum, payable semi-annually, and shall be sold at not less than the par value thereof. Said bonds and the interest thereon shall be forever exempt from taxes of every kind. Said bonds shall be issued at such time or times, in such denominations and series and shall mature at such times, not later, however, than fifteen (15) years from the date of issuance, and shall have such other terms and conditions as may be provided by law.

Amendment 43 ratified

Regulation of Salaries, etc., of Certain Public Officers in Etowah and Cherokee Counties.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter, from time to time by general or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances and salaries, including the method or basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the tax assessors, tax collectors, probate judges, circuit clerks, sheriffs, and registers of the equity courts, and including the right to place any one or all of said officers on a salary and provide for the fees charged and collected by said officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid, and provide the method and basis of their compensation, provided the salary, fees or compensation of any officer named herein shall not be increased or diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected or appointed, after his election or appointment, in the following named counties: Etowah and Cherokee.

Amendment 44 ratified

Regulation of Salaries, etc., of Officers of Morgan County.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter, from time to time by general or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the costs and charges of courts, fees, commissions, allowances and salaries to be charged or received by any county officer of Morgan county, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the judge of probate, tax collector, tax assessor, sheriff, circuit clerk, and register, including the method and basis of compensation of such officer, and may provide for the placing of any such officer on a salary and that the fees, costs, and allowances collected by such officer be paid into the county treasury. All acts of the regular or adjourned session of the legislature of Alabama which convened in January, 1939, fixing or purporting to fix the compensation of any such officer on a salary basis are hereby validated and confirmed.

Amendment 45 ratified

Drainage Districts in Colbert County.

The court of county commissioners of Colbert county, Alabama, is authorized to divide said county into drainage districts for the control of malaria, and said county is authorized and empowered to levy and collect in the several districts so formed, for use in the control of malaria, in addition to all other taxes now authorized by law, a special tax of three mills on all taxable property situated in the several drainage districts so formed, based upon the valuation of such property as assessed for state taxation, and to be used exclusively for the control of malaria in the drainage district in which the said tax is levied and collected, provided such tax is authorized by a majority of the qualified electors residing in such drainage district voting upon such proposition at an election called and held for the purpose of authorizing such tax, and provided that said tax shall be levied and collected for a period of ten years from the time that it is authorized at the election held in such district. Such an election may be called at any time by the court of county commissioners of said county and shall be held and conducted and the results canvassed as now provided by law for holding and conducting and canvassing the returns of a regular election. The proceeds of the tax hereby

authorized shall be used exclusively for the control of malaria in the drainage district in which it is levied and collected and shall be expended through the proper fiscal agencies of the county government under the direction of the governing body of Colbert county, and the Colbert county department of public health.

Amendment 46 ratified

Salaries, etc., of Certain Public Officers of Dallas County.

The salaries of the following named county officers of Dallas county, Alabama, but subject to the provisions of section 281 of the Constitution of Alabama, are fixed as follows: Judge of probate, \$6,000.00 per annum net; tax assessor, \$5,000.00 per annum net; tax collector, \$5,000.00 per annum net; sheriff, \$4,800.00 per annum net; circuit clerk, \$2,400.00 per annum net; register in chancery, \$1,200.00 per annum net; provided, that if the same person holds the offices of circuit clerk and register in chancery, the salary for both offices shall be \$3,000.00 per annum net; members of the county governing body, exclusive of the judge of probate, \$600.00 each per annum net. The above named officers are hereby required to collect all charges of court, fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, salaries or other compensation provided by law, other than the salaries herein fixed, and to cover the same into the county treasury. This shall include the allowances or amounts received by the sheriff for feeding prisoners from both the state and federal government, and the county governing body of Dallas county, Alabama, shall pay the expenses incurred in feeding such prisoners out of the county treasury, but nothing herein shall be construed as interfering with the allowances or amounts provided by law for guards at the county jail or bailiffs for courts, or preventing the county governing body of Dallas county, Alabama, from making such allowances to the sheriff and his deputies for transportation on official business, including the purchase of automobiles for such use, as it may deem necessary from time to time. The salaries of the above named county officers of Dallas county, Alabama, shall be paid out of the county treasury in equal monthly installments. The employees of said offices shall be selected by the respective officers, and allowances for their compensation shall be as follows: 1. Office of judge of probate - \$6,500 per annum. 2. Office of tax assessor - \$3,600.00 per annum. 3. Office of tax collector - \$2,600.00 per annum. 4. Office of sheriff - \$4,500.00 per annum. 5. Office of circuit clerk - \$1,350.00 per annum. 6. Office of register in chancery - None. The county governing body shall have the same authority in regard to the employment of persons for the county, and the fixing of their compensation, other than the employees in the above named offices, as provided by law. The salaries of the employees in the above enumerated offices shall be paid out of the county treasury in equal monthly installments; provided, however, that no payment of compensation for any such employee shall be made until the employee has actually rendered the service for which the payment is to be made. The legislature of Alabama is hereby authorized and empowered, from time to time, by general or local laws, to fix, regulate and alter the employment and compensation of the employees in said offices, including the number and the method and basis of their compensation. The legislature of Alabama is hereby authorized and empowered, from time to time, by general or local laws, but subject to the provisions of section 281 of the Constitution of Alabama, to fix, regulate and alter the charges of court, fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, salaries or other compensation received by any officer of Dallas county, Alabama, other than the judge of probate, tax assessor, tax collector, sheriff, circuit clerk and register in chancery, including the method and basis of their compensation.

Amendment 47 ratified

Fees, Commissions, Salaries, etc., of Sheriff of Mobile County.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter, from time to time, by general or local laws fix, alter and regulate the fees, commissions, allowances and salaries to be charged or received by the sheriff of Mobile county, and including the right to place said officer on a salary basis and provide that the fees, fines and forfeitures received or collected by said officer be paid into the treasury of Mobile county, Alabama, and to fix and provide the amount and method of compensation of such officer. All acts of the regular session of the legislature of 1939 and 1939-1940 heretofore passed and applicable, or purporting to be applicable to said Mobile county, and fixing, or purporting to fix the basis

of compensation and compensation of said officer, or placing said officer on a salary basis, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

Amendment 48 ratified

Fees, Salaries, etc., of Certain Public Officers in Houston County.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter, from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances and salaries, including the method or basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the tax assessors, tax collectors, probate judges, circuit clerks, sheriffs, and registers of the chancery courts, and including the right to place any one or all of said officers on a salary and provide for the fees charged and collected by said officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid, and provide the method and basis of their compensation, or consolidate any of said offices in the following named county: Houston. All acts of the regular session of the legislature 1943 heretofore passed and applicable, or purporting to fix the compensation of said named county officers, on a salary basis, are hereby validated and confirmed.

Amendment 49 ratified

Poll Tax Exemption Amendment. SECTION 194 1/2

Exemption of veterans of foreign wars from payment of poll tax.

No person who honorably served in the military service of the United States between January 1, 1917 and November 11, 1918, or between September 16, 1940 and December 8, 1941, or at any time, past or present or future, when the United States was, is or shall be at war with any foreign state, shall be required after the beginning of such service to pay the poll tax specified in the Constitution of Alabama as a prerequisite to the privilege of voting in Alabama; but, on the contrary, every such person shall be exempt from the payment of all poll taxes which have theretofore accrued and have not been paid or which may thereafter accrue; provided, however, that if any such person is discharged dishonorably from said service the exemption herein provided is forfeited, and such dishonorably discharged person, as a prerequisite to the privilege of voting in Alabama thereafter, must pay the poll tax specified in the Constitution of Alabama as if such person had never been in such service. The term "military service" as used in this section includes service in the army of the United States, the United States navy, the marine corps, the coast guard, the women's army auxiliary corps, the women's appointed volunteer emergency service, and the women's reserve of the United States navy. The United States shall not be deemed at war with a foreign state within the meaning of this section at a time when an armistice exists between the United States and the foreign state. The judge of probate shall issue a certificate of exemption to a person exempt from the payment of poll tax by reason of this section under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the governor. This section shall be self-executing and retroactive; but the legislature is authorized to enact laws designed to carry out the purposes of this section.

Amendment 50 ratified

Fees, Salaries, etc., of Certain Public Officers in Walker County.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances and salaries, including the method or basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the tax assessor, tax collector, probate judge, circuit clerk, sheriff, and register of the circuit court, and including the right to place anyone or all of said officers on a salary and provide for the fees charged and collected by said officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid, and provide for the method and basis of their compensation in Walker county, Alabama. No salary fixed under this amendment shall affect the compensation of any officer already elected to either of said offices during the term for which elected, and said salaries, except for the register, shall be fixed at not less than three hundred and not more than five hundred dollars per month. The balance of said fund or savings shall be used for old age pensions in said county.

Amendment 51 ratified

Amendment of Section 251. SECTION 251

Duration of corporations not limited; renewal of existing charters not required.

There shall be no limit of time for the duration of a corporation hereafter organized as a bank or banking company, and it shall not be necessary hereafter to renew or extend the life or charter of any such corporation now existing. And all extensions of the life or charter of any such corporations are hereby ratified and confirmed.

Amendment 52 ratified

Special Tax for Educational Purposes in Cities of Decatur and Cullman and for Hospital Purposes in Morgan County.

A. Notwithstanding the proviso to the contrary in section 269 of this Constitution, the special tax for educational purposes provided for by that section may be levied and collected upon taxable property situated in the city of Decatur (formerly the cities of Decatur and New Decatur). Upon the adoption of this amendment the governing body of Morgan county shall order an election at which the qualified electors of the city of Decatur shall determine whether or not such special tax shall be levied and collected on taxable property in said city. Said election shall be held and determined as now provided by law for determining whether or not the special one mill county school tax shall be levied, and if a majority of the electors participating in said election vote in favor of said levy, said special tax shall be levied upon the taxable property in the city of Decatur during the tax years commencing with the tax year beginning next after said election and ending with the tax year beginning on October 1, 1967, and thereafter said special tax may be levied and collected as is now or hereafter may be provided by law.

B. Morgan county may levy and collect a tax upon all taxable property situated therein at a rate not in excess of ten cents on each one hundred dollars of taxable property, which tax shall be used exclusively for the construction, equipping, enlargement, acquisition, repair, or operation of public hospital properties situated in said county owned or proposed to be acquired in said county by the city of Decatur and Morgan county. Said tax shall be in addition to all other taxes now authorized by law, but shall not be levied until it shall have been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors of such county voting at an election called by the governing body of said county at which there shall be submitted to a vote the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose or purposes thereof. Such elections may be called and had from time to time, and shall be had, governed and determined under such rules and regulations as the governing body of said county may prescribe. Said tax may be pledged by the governing body of said county to secure payment of any debt incurred by said county or by any public corporation for hospital purposes in said county.

C. Notwithstanding the proviso to the contrary in section 269 of this Constitution, the special tax for educational purposes provided for by that section may be levied upon taxable property situated in the city of Cullman.

Amendment 53 ratified

Public Hospitals and Health Facilities.

The state, notwithstanding section 93 of the Constitution as amended and section 94 of the Constitution, may acquire, build, establish, own, operate and maintain hospitals, health centers, sanatoria and other health facilities. The legislature for such purposes may appropriate public funds and may authorize counties, municipalities and other political subdivisions to appropriate their funds, and may designate or create an agency or agencies to accept and administer funds appropriated or donated for such purposes by the United States government to the state upon such terms and conditions as may be imposed by the United States government.

Amendment 54 ratified

Taxation in Municipality of Haleyville.

The municipal corporation of Haleyville, through its constituted governing authority may levy and collect a rate of taxation on the property situated therein, not exceeding in the total in any one year one per centum of the value of such property as assessed as provided by the Constitution and the statutes now or hereafter enacted pursuant to the Constitution; provided that the adoption of this amendment, shall in no wise affect, limit, modify, abridge or impair the power, authority, or right of said municipal corporation to levy and collect the special school taxes, now or hereafter vested in or conferred upon it under the Constitution or any amendment thereto, which said special school taxes shall be in excess of said one per centum herein provided for.

Amendment 55 ratified

Amendment of Section 181.

Amendment of Section 181.

Persons qualified to register as electors - After January 1, 1903.

After the first day of January, nineteen hundred and three, the following persons, and no others, who, if their place of residence shall remain unchanged, will have, at the date of the next general election, the qualifications as to residence, prescribed in section 178 of this article, shall be qualified to register as electors provided they shall not be disqualified under section 182 of this Constitution: those who can read and write, understand and explain any article of the Constitution of the United States in the English language and who are physically unable to work and those who can read and write, understand and explain any article of the Constitution of the United States in the English language and who have worked or been regularly engaged in some lawful employment, business, or occupation, trade, or calling for the greater part of the twelve months next preceding the time they offer to register, including those who are unable to read and write if such inability is due solely to physical disability; provided, however, no persons shall be entitled to register as electors except those who are of good character and who understand the duties and obligations of good citizenship under a republican form of government.

Amendment 56 ratified

Additional Municipal Taxes.

Each municipal corporation in this state whose annual ad valorem tax rate is otherwise limited by the Constitution or any amendment thereto less than one and one-fourth per centum (1 1/4 %) of the value of the property situated therein as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year shall have, in addition to the power to levy and collect such ad valorem tax each year at the rate authorized immediately prior to the adoption of this amendment, the further power to levy and collect each year an additional tax or taxes to such extent that the total ad valorem tax rate of such municipal corporation shall not exceed one and one-fourth per centum (1 1/4 %) in any one year on the property situated therein based on the valuation of such property as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year; provided, that before any such additional tax may be so levied and collected a majority of the qualified electors of any such municipal corporation voting at an election called for that purpose shall vote in favor of the levy thereof; provided further, that the total ad valorem tax or taxes to be levied and collected by any such municipal corporation shall not exceed one and one-fourth per centum (1 1/4 %) in any one year; and provided further, that the adoption of this amendment shall in no wise affect, limit, modify, abridge or impair the power, authority or right of any such municipal corporation to levy and collect the special school taxes now or hereafter vested or conferred upon them, or any of them, under the Constitution or any amendment thereto, which said special school taxes shall be in excess of said one and one-fourth per centum (1 1/4 %) herein provided for. Each election held under the provisions hereof shall be ordered, held, canvassed and may be contested in the same manner as is or may be provided by the law applicable to municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds. The ballots used at

such elections shall specify the purpose for which the proposed additional rate of taxation shall be authorized and shall contain the words "For ... % additional rate of taxation"; and "Against ... % additional rate of taxation"; the additional rate of taxation proposed to be shown in the blank space provided therefor. The voter shall record his choice, whether for or against the additional rate shown, by placing a cross mark before or after the words expressing his choice. The proceeds of any such additional tax so authorized at any such election shall be used only for the purpose for which the same shall be authorized at such election. Elections to authorize the levy of such additional tax may be held as often as ordered by the governing body of the municipality, but when a proposition is submitted to the electors to levy such additional tax for a specific purpose and such proposition is defeated then no second election for the same purpose shall be held in one year thereafter.

Amendment 57 ratified

Time and Place of Meetings of Legislature; Biennial Sessions; Organizational Sessions; Election of President Pro Tempore of Senate and Speaker of House of Representatives; Maximum Length of Sessions; Compensation and Travel Allowances of Me

Time and Place of Meetings of Legislature; Biennial Sessions; Organizational Sessions; Election of President Pro Tempore of Senate and Speaker of House of Representatives; Maximum Length of Sessions; Compensation and Travel Allowances of Members of Legislature.

All sessions of the legislature shall be held at the capitol in the senate chamber and in the hall of the house of representatives, unless at any time it should from any cause become impossible or dangerous for the legislature to meet or remain at the capitol, or for the senate to meet or remain in the senate chamber, or for the representatives to meet or remain in the hall of the house of representatives, in which case the governor may convene the legislature, or remove it after it has convened, to some other place, or may designate some other place for the sitting of the respective houses, or either of them, as necessity may require. The legislature shall convene on the second Tuesday in January next succeeding their election and shall remain in session for not longer than ten consecutive calendar days. No business can be transacted at such sessions except the organization of the legislature, the election of officers, the appointment of standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives for the ensuing four years, which election and appointment may, however, also be made at such other times as may be necessary, the opening and publication of the returns and the ascertainment and declaration of the results of the election for governor, lieutenant-governor, attorney-general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, and commissioner of agriculture and industries, the election of such officers in the event of a tie vote, the determination of contested elections for such offices, the judging of the election returns and qualification of the members of the legislature, and the inauguration of the governor and the other elected state officers whose terms of office are concurrent with that of the governor. At the beginning of each such organization session, and at such other times as may be necessary, the senate shall elect one of its members president pro tempore thereof, to preside over its deliberations in the absence of the lieutenant-governor, and the house of representatives shall elect one of its members as speaker, to preside over its deliberations. The president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall each hold his respective office until his successor has been elected and qualified. The legislature shall convene in regular sessions on the first Tuesday in May of 1947 and on the first Tuesday in May in each second year thereafter, until the date of meeting shall have been changed by act of the legislature and approved by the governor. The legislature shall not remain in session longer than thirty-six days at any such regular session. Special sessions of the legislature convened in the manner provided by this Constitution also shall be limited to thirty-six days. The pay of members of the legislature shall be ten dollars per day. Each member of the legislature shall be paid ten cents per mile in going from his residence to, and in returning to his residence from, the seat of government, to be computed by the nearest usual route traveled; and not more than one such travel allowance shall be paid for each session of the legislature. In addition to his travel allowance, each member of the legislature also shall be allowed expenses, other than actual expenses of traveling, not exceeding an amount to be fixed by the legislature, incurred in

the performance of his duties; but such expense allowance shall not be less than the smallest allowance to any other person traveling within the state in the service of the state of Alabama, or any of its agencies, for expenses other than actual expenses of traveling. The provisions of this Constitution in conflict herewith are hereby modified to conform to the provisions of this amendment. The provisions of this amendment shall become effective at the beginning of the term of the members of the legislature elected at the general election in 1946.

Amendment 58 ratified

Amendment of Section 93. SECTION 93

State engaging in internal improvements or lending money or credit for same; state interest in private or corporate enterprises; construction, maintenance, etc., of public roads, highways and bridges, harbors and seaports and public airports and air navigation facilities.

The state shall not engage in works of internal improvement, nor lend money or its credit in aid as such, except as may be authorized by the Constitution of Alabama or amendments thereto; nor shall the state be interested in any private or corporate enterprise, or lend money or its credit to any individual, association, or corporation, except as may be expressly authorized by the Constitution of Alabama, or amendments thereto. When authorized by laws passed by the legislature the state may appropriate funds to be applied to the construction, repair, and maintenance of public roads, highways and bridges in the state. When authorized by appropriate laws passed by the legislature the state may at a cost not exceeding ten million dollars engage in the work of internal improvement, or promoting, developing, constructing, maintaining, and operating all harbors and seaports within the state or its jurisdiction, provided, that such work or improvement shall always be and remain under the management and control of the state, through its state harbor commission, or other governing agency. When authorized by laws passed by the legislature the state may engage in the construction, improvement, repairs and maintenance and operation of public airports, air landing fields and other air navigation facilities in the state of Alabama and may appropriate money or otherwise provide funds for this purpose. The adoption of this amendment shall not affect in any manner any other amendment to the Constitution of Alabama which may be adopted pursuant to any act or resolution of this session of legislature.

Amendment 59 ratified

Additional County Taxes for County Hospitals.

The governing body of any county in the state of Alabama except Mobile and Montgomery county must levy and collect or cause to be collected for use in the acquisition by purchase, lease or otherwise, or for the construction, operation, equipment and maintenance of a county hospital, in addition to all other taxes now authorized by law, a tax, not in excess of ten mills on each one hundred dollars, on all property situated within the county, based upon the valuation of such property in the county as assessed for state taxation, provided such tax is authorized by a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting upon such proposition at an election called and held for the purpose of authorizing such tax. Such an election may be called at any time by the governing body of any county in the state, and said governing body must call such election upon a petition being filed with the chairman or any member of said governing body requesting that such an election be called or held when said petition is signed by not less than one hundred qualified electors of the county in which said election is to be held. Said election shall be held and conducted and the results canvassed as now provided by law for holding and conducting and canvassing the returns of an election. The proceeds of the tax hereby authorized must be used exclusively for the purpose of acquiring by purchase, lease, or otherwise, or the construction, equipment, maintenance and operation of said county hospital and shall be expended for said purposes by and under the direction, supervision and control of the county governing body.

Amendment 60 ratified

Debt Limit of Mobile County.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, Mobile county shall continue to have and possess all of the rights, powers and authority granted to it by amendment XVIII [18] of this Constitution and Act Number 246 of the Local Acts of 1927 [p. 151], as the same has been heretofore amended, and shall have and possess the power and authority to become indebted for the construction or erection of public buildings, bridges and roads within the limit prescribed by section 224 of this Constitution; provided, however, that all debts incurred or bonds issued by Mobile county under the provisions of amendment XXIX [29] shall be in addition to the limit fixed by said section 224, and shall not be taken into account or considered in determining or arriving at the debt limit of Mobile county under said section 224, and provided further that the six and one-half percent (6 1/2 %) limitation in amendment XVIII [18] aforesaid shall be construed to refer not to the total amount of bonds issued under authority of the amendment, but to the total amount of bonds so issued which may be outstanding at any one time.

Amendment 61 ratified

Disposition of Income Tax; Exemption of Homesteads From State Ad Valorem Tax.

Section A. The entire proceeds of the income tax in the treasury of the state of Alabama on September 30, 1947, including cash and investments and the interest thereon, shall be used for the following purposes and in the following manner: 1st. The sum of \$12,249,860.00 shall be and is hereby set aside and shall be and is hereby constituted an irrevocable trust fund for the purpose of paying the principal of and interest on the bonds issued by the state of Alabama commonly known as "income tax bonds," being the warrant refunding bonds issued to fund the floating debt existing October 1, 1932, which bonds were issued under the authority of Act No. 14 approved February 5, 1935 [Acts 1935, p. 27], and Act No. 50 approved February 8, 1935 [Acts 1935, p. 118]. 2nd. An amount (approximately \$6,700,000.00) which, when added to the sinking fund (approximately \$1,857,000.00) heretofore created to pay the bonds issued by the state of Alabama, commonly known as the "old bonded debt" and as "carpet bag bonds" together with the interest on said sinking fund accrued on September 30, 1947, shall equal the principal of said bonds in the sum of \$8,557,000.00, shall be and is hereby set aside, and together with said sinking fund and the interest thereon, shall be and is hereby constituted an irrevocable trust fund for the purpose of paying the principal of said bonds upon their maturity, said bonds being the class A renewal bonds, class C renewal bonds and funding renewal bonds. That both of the irrevocable trust funds herein created shall be invested in United States government securities by the treasurer of the state of Alabama with the approval of the governor. 3rd. The residue shall be paid over to the building commission created by Act 128 of 1945 General Acts [p. 116] to be expended by said building commission for capital outlay only for educational purposes, provided, however, that not more than twelve per centum of such amount shall be allocated to the institutions of higher learning including the state teachers colleges, and not less than eighty-eight per centum shall be allocated to county and city boards of education on an actual teacher unit basis in accordance with the minimum school program.

Section B. Beginning October 1, 1947, and thereafter, all net proceeds of such tax, plus the earnings from investment of the trust funds, must be used only in the manner and in the order following: (1) To replace the revenue lost to the several funds of the state by reason of the exemption of homesteads from the state ad valorem tax. All homesteads in Alabama are hereby declared to be exempt from all state ad valorem tax to the extent of at least \$2,000.00 in assessed value and a sufficient amount is hereby appropriated from the proceeds of the income tax in each fiscal year to replace the revenue lost to the several funds of the state by reason of the homestead exemption herein declared; (2) The residue shall be placed in the state treasury to the credit of the Alabama special education trust fund to be used for the payment of public school teachers salaries only.

Section C. This amendment supersedes the provisions of amendment XXV [25] (article XXII) relating to the disposition of the income tax proceeds insofar as the same are in conflict herewith. All laws relating to the income

tax, not in conflict herewith and valid on the date of the ratification of this amendment, are hereby validated and confirmed. The provisions hereof with respect to the creation of funds and the use thereof are declared to be self-executing.

Amendment 62 ratified

Fees, Salaries, etc., of Certain Public Officers in Etowah County.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter, from time to time by general or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances and salaries, including the method or basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by tax assessors, tax collectors, probate judges, circuit clerks, sheriffs, and registers of the chancery courts, including the right to place any one or all said officers on a salary and provide for the fees, allowances or compensation collected by said officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid, in the following named county: Etowah. All acts of the legislature, heretofore passed or which may be passed by the legislature in special or regular session at any time prior to the adoption of this amendment, and applicable or purporting to be applicable to said county, and fixing or purporting to fix the compensation to said named county officers on a salary basis, are hereby validated and confirmed.

Amendment 63 ratified

Special Tax for Hospital and Public Health Purposes in Montgomery County.

If the tax is authorized by vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the county in an election called for that purpose, Montgomery county shall have power to levy and collect a special county tax not exceeding four mills on each dollar of taxable property in the county to be used solely for acquiring, constructing, operating, equipping or maintaining county hospitals or other public hospitals, non-profit hospitals and public health facilities. The board of revenue of said county may within the limit of four mills on each dollar of taxable property propose a rate of taxation sufficient for acquiring, constructing and maintaining such hospitals and facilities and the number of years necessary for such tax to be levied for such purpose, and a rate of taxation to be levied thereafter sufficient to maintain such hospitals or facilities. A county wide election may be called at any time by the board of revenue of said county to be conducted in the manner prescribed by law for general elections, and at which election there shall be submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county the said tax as proposed by the board of revenue of said county. Such tax must be levied if authorized by vote of the majority of the qualified electors of the county who participate in the election called for that purpose.

Amendment 64 ratified

Fees, Salaries, etc., of Certain Public Officers in Limestone County.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter from time to time by general or local laws, but subject to the provisions of section 281 of the Constitution of Alabama, fix, regulate and alter the costs, charges of court, fees, commissions, allowances or salaries to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, tax assessor, tax collector, clerk of the circuit court, and register in chancery of Limestone county, Alabama; may provide the method and basis of compensation of such officers; may fix the terms of office of such officers; and may consolidate any of the offices held by such officers.

Amendment 65 ratified

Special Tax for Hospital and Public Health Purposes in DeKalb County.

If the tax is authorized by vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the county who participate in any election called for that purpose, the governing body of DeKalb county must levy and collect, in addition to all other taxes authorized by law, a special county tax, not exceeding four mills on each dollar of taxable property in the county, to be used solely for acquiring, by purchase, lease, or otherwise, constructing, operating, equipping, or maintaining county hospitals, or other public hospitals, non-profit hospitals and public health facilities, or to pay any existing debt or liability incurred by the county for such purposes. An election may be called at any time by the governing body of the county, and must be called within three months of receipt of a petition signed by not less than five per cent of the qualified electors of the county requesting that the election be called. The election shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by the governing body of the county.

Amendment 66 ratified

License Tax on Selling, etc., of Motor Fuel in Marshall County.

The governing body of Marshall county, when authorized to do so by a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting in a referendum held in the manner prescribed by the county governing body, may levy and collect a county privilege license tax from any person engaged within the county in the business of selling or keeping in storage for sale gasoline, woco pep, or any other motor fuel used by self-propelled vehicles, which tax shall not be in excess of three cents per gallon on all gasoline, woco pep, or other motor fuel sold or stored, and the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for construction and maintenance of hard surface farm-to-market roads in the county. The governing body of Marshall county shall hold such referendum not less than sixty nor more than ninety days after the ratification of this amendment; subsequent referenda may be held at intervals of not less than two years.

Amendment 66 ratified

License Tax on Selling, etc., of Motor Fuel in Marshall County.

The governing body of Marshall county, when authorized to do so by a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting in a referendum held in the manner prescribed by the county governing body, may levy and collect a county privilege license tax from any person engaged within the county in the business of selling or keeping in storage for sale gasoline, woco pep, or any other motor fuel used by self-propelled vehicles, which tax shall not be in excess of three cents per gallon on all gasoline, woco pep, or other motor fuel sold or stored, and the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for construction and maintenance of hard surface farm-to-market roads in the county. The governing body of Marshall county shall hold such referendum not less than sixty nor more than ninety days after the ratification of this amendment; subsequent referenda may be held at intervals of not less than two years.

Amendment 68 ratified

Calhoun County Special School Tax.

In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied a special school tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston and in the several school districts of Calhoun county to be used solely for public school purposes; provided such tax and the time it is to continue shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the school district in which such tax is to be collected and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; otherwise said tax shall not be collected. A special separate election is

hereby called on the first Tuesday after sixty days following the date this Constitutional provision becomes effective, in the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston and in the several school districts of Calhoun county, at which election the qualified voters in the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston and in the several school districts of Calhoun county may vote as to whether said special school tax herein levied shall be effective for a period of thirty years, and if the majority of those voting at said election vote in favor of said special school tax herein referred to, such school tax shall immediately be levied and collected annually thereafter on the first day of October by the tax collector of Calhoun county, and, if pledged, paid to the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston; otherwise by him immediately paid to the board of education of the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston, for a period of thirty years from the date of said election in the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston, and in the several school districts of Calhoun county and a special separate election is likewise hereby called in each other school district in Calhoun county on the first Tuesday after sixty days following the date this Constitutional provision becomes effective and the qualified electors of each such other school district in Calhoun county shall vote as to whether said special school tax herein levied shall be effective in their respective districts for a period of thirty years, and where a majority of those voting at said election in any such school district vote in favor of said special school tax such special school tax shall be immediately levied and collected annually thereafter on the first day of October by the tax collector of Calhoun county and if pledged, paid to county of Calhoun; otherwise by him immediately paid to the board of education of Calhoun county, for a period of thirty years in any such school district where the majority of such electors voting at said election vote therefor. This section shall be self-executing.

The funds arising from the special school tax to be levied hereunder and to be collected therefrom shall be expended for public school purposes for the exclusive benefit of the school district in which collected with all such tax collected in the city of Jacksonville to be expended in the city of Jacksonville and with all such tax collected in the city of Piedmont to be expended in the city of Piedmont and all such tax collected within the Anniston school district to be expended in the Anniston school district. After said tax has been voted, and without further authorization or authority, as and when requested by the boards of education of the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston, the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston shall issue and sell interest bearing bonds with principal and interest to be paid from the funds to be derived from the special school tax hereby levied in the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston and in the school districts in which the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston are located, for the sole purpose of construction and improvement of school buildings and the acquiring of sites therefor; provided, said net proceeds of said bonds shall immediately be paid to the boards of education of the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston and said bonds shall not be issued for a longer period than thirty years, and said funds to be derived from said special school tax may be pledged by the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston for the payment of said bonds and the interest thereon, and provided that said bonds shall not be a general obligation of the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston or of Calhoun county and shall not be charged to the constitutional debt limit of the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston or of Calhoun county. After said tax has been voted, and without further authorization or authority, as and when requested by the board of education of Calhoun county, Calhoun county shall issue and sell interest bearing bonds with principal and interest to be paid from the funds to be derived from the special school tax hereby levied in each school district in Calhoun county, other than in the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston and the school districts in which the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston are located, for the sole purpose of the construction and improvement of public school buildings and the acquiring of sites therefor; provided, the net proceeds of said bonds shall immediately be paid to the board of education of Calhoun county and that said bonds shall not be issued for longer than thirty years and said funds arising from said school tax may be pledged by Calhoun county for the payment of said bonds and interest thereon and provided that said bonds shall not be a general obligation of Calhoun county and shall not be charged to the constitutional debt limit of Calhoun county.

Except as herein otherwise provided the elections hereinabove provided for shall be called, held, and conducted as provided by law for calling, holding and conducting of district school tax elections. The governing bodies of the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston shall appoint and designate the officers, managers, clerks and

returning officers and shall call, canvass, tabulate, and declare the result of the elections provided for in the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston and in the school districts in which the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston are located. The governing body of Calhoun county shall appoint and designate the election officers, managers, clerks, and returning officers and shall call, canvass, tabulate, and declare the result of the elections as to any and all school districts in Calhoun county, other than in the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston and the school districts in which the cities of Jacksonville, Piedmont and Anniston are located. All such elections shall otherwise be conducted, held, canvassed, tabulated and the results declared as general elections are conducted, held, canvassed, tabulated and the results declared in Alabama.

Amendment 69 ratified

Special Tax for Hospital Purposes in Marion County.

The governing body of Marion county shall have the power to levy and collect a special county tax not exceeding four mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property situated within the county, based upon the valuation of such property as assessed for state taxation, the proceeds of such tax to be used solely for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, enlarging, repairing, improving, equipping, furnishing, operating, or maintaining a county hospital or public hospital facilities in the county for which federal funds have been or may be provided.

Amendment 70 ratified

Special Tax for Hospital and Public Health Purposes in Escambia County.

If the tax is authorized by vote of a majority of the qualified electors of Escambia county who participate in any election called for that purpose, the governing body of said county must levy and collect, in addition to all other taxes authorized by law, a special county tax, not exceeding four mills on each dollar of taxable property in the county, to be used solely for acquiring, by purchase, lease, or otherwise, constructing, operating, equipping, or maintaining county hospitals, or other public hospitals, non-profit hospitals and public health facilities. An election may be called at any time by the governing body of the county, and must be called within three months of receipt of a petition, signed by not less than five percent of the qualified electors of the county, requesting that the election be called. The election shall be conducted in the manner which the governing body of the county prescribes.

Amendment 71 ratified

Tuscaloosa County Special School Tax.

In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied a special school tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the city of Tuscaloosa and in the several school districts of Tuscaloosa county, to be used solely for public school purposes, provided such tax, and the time it is to continue, shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the school district in which such tax is to be collected and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; otherwise said tax shall not be collected. A special separate election is hereby called on the first Tuesday after sixty days following the date this constitutional provision becomes effective, in the city of Tuscaloosa and in the school district in Tuscaloosa county of which the city of Tuscaloosa is a part at which election the qualified voters in the city of Tuscaloosa and in the school district in Tuscaloosa county of which the city of Tuscaloosa is a part may vote as to whether said special school tax herein levied shall be effective for a period of thirty years, and if the majority of those voting at said election vote in favor of said special school tax herein referred to, such school tax shall immediately be levied and collected annually thereafter on the first day of October by the tax collector of Tuscaloosa county and, if pledged, paid to the city of Tuscaloosa; otherwise by him immediately paid to the board of education of the city of Tuscaloosa, for a period of thirty years from the date of said election in the city of Tuscaloosa and in the school district of which the city of Tuscaloosa is a part, and a special separate

election is likewise hereby called in each other school district in Tuscaloosa county on the first Tuesday after sixty days following the date this constitutional provision becomes effective and the qualified electors of each such other school district in Tuscaloosa county shall vote as to whether said special school tax herein levied shall be effective in their respective districts for a period of thirty years, and where a majority of those voting at said election in any such school district vote in favor of said special school tax such special school tax shall be immediately levied and collected annually thereafter on the first day of October by the tax collector of Tuscaloosa county and, if pledged, paid to the county of Tuscaloosa; otherwise by him immediately paid to the board of education of Tuscaloosa county, for a period of thirty years in any such school district where a majority of such electors voting at said election vote therefor. This section shall be self-executing.

The funds arising from the special school tax to be levied hereunder and to be collected therefrom shall be expended for public school purposes for the exclusive benefit of the school district in which collected with all such tax collected in the city of Tuscaloosa to be expended in the city of Tuscaloosa. After said tax has been voted, and without further authorization or authority, as and when requested by the board of education of the city of Tuscaloosa, the city of Tuscaloosa shall issue and sell interest bearing bonds with principal and interest to be paid from the funds to be derived from the special school tax hereby levied in the city of Tuscaloosa and in the school district in which the city of Tuscaloosa is located, for the sole purpose of the construction and improvement of school buildings and the acquiring of sites therefor; provided, said net proceeds of said bonds shall immediately be paid to the board of education of the city of Tuscaloosa and said bonds shall not be issued for a longer period than thirty years, and said funds to be derived from said special school tax may be pledged by the city of Tuscaloosa for the payment of said bonds and the interest thereon, and provided that said bonds shall not be a general obligation of the city of Tuscaloosa or of Tuscaloosa county and shall not be charged to the constitutional debt limit of the city of Tuscaloosa or of Tuscaloosa county. After said tax has been voted, and without further authorization or authority, as and when requested by the board of education of Tuscaloosa county, Tuscaloosa county shall issue and sell interest-bearing bonds with principal and interest to be paid from the funds to be derived from the special school tax hereby levied in each school district in Tuscaloosa county, other than in the city of Tuscaloosa and the school district in which the city of Tuscaloosa is located, for the sole purpose of the construction and improvement of public school buildings and the acquiring of sites therefor; provided the net proceeds of said bonds shall immediately be paid to the board of education of Tuscaloosa county and that said bonds shall not be issued for longer than thirty years and said funds arising from said school tax may be pledged by Tuscaloosa county for the payment of said bonds and interest thereon and provided that said bonds shall not be a general obligation of Tuscaloosa county and shall not be charged to the constitutional debt limit of Tuscaloosa county.

Except as herein otherwise provided the elections hereinabove provided for shall be called, held and conducted as provided by law for calling, holding and conducting of district school tax elections. The governing body of the city of Tuscaloosa shall appoint and designate the officers, managers, clerks and returning officers and shall call, canvass, tabulate and declare the result of the elections provided for in the city of Tuscaloosa and in the school district in which the city of Tuscaloosa is located. The governing body of Tuscaloosa county shall appoint and designate the election officers, managers, clerks and returning officers and shall call, canvass, tabulate and declare the result of, the elections as to any and all school districts in Tuscaloosa county other than in the city of Tuscaloosa and the school district in which the city of Tuscaloosa is located. All such elections shall otherwise be conducted, held, canvassed, tabulated and the results declared as general elections are conducted, held, canvassed, tabulated and the results declared in Alabama.

Amendment 72 ratified

Special Tax for Hospital and Public Health Purposes in Counties Except Mobile, Montgomery and Jefferson.

If the tax is authorized by vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the county who participate in any election called for that purpose, the governing body of every county except Mobile, Montgomery and Jefferson counties must levy and collect, in addition to all other taxes authorized by law, a special county tax, not exceeding four mills on each dollar of taxable property in the county to be used solely for acquiring, by purchase, lease, or otherwise, constructing, operating, equipping, or maintaining county hospitals, or other public hospitals, non-profit hospitals and public health facilities. An election may be called at any time by the governing body of the county, and must be called within three months of receipt of a petition, signed by not less than five percent of the qualified electors of the county, requesting that the election be called. The election shall be conducted in the manner which the governing body of the county prescribes.

Amendment 73 ratified

Jefferson County Sewer Bonds.

In addition to any indebtedness now authorized, Jefferson county may become indebted and may issue bonds therefor in an amount not exceeding 3 percent of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in said county in order to pay the expenses of constructing, improving, extending and repairing sewers and sewerage treatment and disposal plants in said county. Said bonds shall be general obligations of Jefferson county but shall also be payable primarily from and secured by a lien upon the sewer rentals or service charges, which shall be levied and collected in an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds, replacements, extensions and improvements to, and the cost of operation and maintenance of, the sewers and sewerage treatment and disposal plants. Such sewer rentals or service charges shall be levied upon and collected from the persons and property whose sewerage is disposed of or treated by the sewers or the sewerage treatment or disposal plants and whether served by the part of the sewer system then being constructed, improved, or extended or by some other part of such system; and such charges or rentals shall be a personal obligation of the occupant of the property the sewerage from which is disposed of by such sewers or treated in such plants and shall also be a lien upon such property, enforceable by a sale thereof.

Before issuing any bonds or levying or collecting any such sewer service charges or rentals, the proposal shall first be submitted to and approved by a majority of the voters of the county voting at an election to be called by the governing body thereof. Notice of such election shall be given by publication once a week for four successive weeks immediately prior to such election in a newspaper published and of general circulation in Jefferson county. Such notice and the ballot shall set forth the purpose for which the bonds are proposed to be issued, the estimated cost of the proposed undertaking, the amount of bonds to be issued, the serial maturities thereof, and the maximum rate of interest such bonds are to bear, and a recital that the proposal includes the levying of sewer service charges or rentals to be secured by liens upon the property served. Such elections shall in all respects not herein otherwise provided be conducted and the results thereof ascertained and declared in accordance with the law then in force relating to county bond elections. If at any such election a majority of the voters vote in favor of the proposed undertaking and the bonds, the bonds so voted may be issued at one time or from time to time as the governing body of the county shall deem advisable.

With the prior approval of the governing body of any incorporated municipality therein, Jefferson county may take over, own, possess, control, expand, improve, maintain and operate any sewers or sewerage treatment or disposal plants of such incorporated municipality or, if such incorporated municipality has no sewers, Jefferson county may construct sewers therein. Such sewers and plants shall thereupon become a part of a combined and consolidated sewer system for Jefferson county.

The governing body of Jefferson county shall have full power and authority to manage, operate, control and administer the sewers and plants herein provided for and, to that end, may make any reasonable and

nondiscriminatory rules and regulations fixing rates and charges, providing for the payment, collection and enforcement thereof, and the protection of its property. Liens for sewer rentals or service charges shall be foreclosed in such manner as may be provided by law for foreclosing municipal assessments for public improvements. This amendment is self-executing.

The authority to issue bonds shall cease December 31, 1958. The authority to levy and collect sewer charges and rentals shall be limited to such charges as will pay the principal of and interest on the bonds and the reasonable expense of extending, improving, operating and maintaining said sewers and plants; and when the bonds shall have been paid off, service charges and rentals shall be accordingly reduced, it being the intent and purpose of this amendment that the expenses of needed improvements and extensions and maintenance and operation of the sewers and sewerage treatment and disposal plants and no other expenditures shall be paid from such service charges and rentals.

Amendment 74 ratified

Bonds for State Board of Health Hospitals and District Tuberculosis Sanitoria.

(a) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Constitution of the state of Alabama, or any amendment thereto heretofore adopted, the governor shall from time to time issue negotiable interest bearing bonds for the purposes and in the manner and subject to the limitations stated in this amendment. The bonds shall be the general obligation of the state of Alabama and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the bonds and the interest thereon. The aggregate principal amount of all bonds issued hereunder shall not exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000) and they shall mature within ten years from the date of issuance.

The proceeds from the sale of such bonds are hereby appropriated and shall be used solely for the construction of hospitals and hospital facilities pursuant to Act No. 211, S. 107, approved July 7, 1945 (General Acts of Alabama, 1945, page 330), or any act supplemental thereto or amendatory thereof; provided, that the funds appropriated hereby shall be used only for the construction of hospitals, clinics, or health centers under contracts which have been or are let on or after May 1, 1949, and that the funds shall be used to match federal funds available for hospital, clinic or health center purposes, and that the local governments in the area where each hospital, clinic or health center is to be built shall contribute at least as much money for the construction as does the state; and provided further that the state shall not contribute more than three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000) to the construction of any one hospital, clinic or health center.

In determining where a hospital, clinic or health center to be constructed with the funds appropriated herein shall be located, first consideration shall be given to communities which have no hospital, clinic or health center facilities. Each county having no hospital, clinic or health center facilities shall be entitled to an allotment of not less than sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) for such facilities if application is made therefore before January 1 of each year. Any funds available for hospital, clinic or health center facilities remaining on January 1 of each year after allotments have been made to those counties having no such facilities and having not already received an allotment and which have made application therefor may be allotted to those counties having such facilities which have made application therefor. However, counties receiving prior allotments hereunder shall not be precluded from receiving a larger allotment or an additional allotment at the discretion of the state board of health.

District tuberculosis sanitoria in the districts set up in Act No. 287, S. 22, approved July 7, 1945 [Acts 1945, p. 474], shall be eligible for construction under the provisions of this amendment, and 25 percent of the proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this amendment shall be reserved for the construction of tuberculosis sanitoria; provided, at the end of each calendar year funds not obligated for either general or tuberculosis hospital construction may be used during the next year for either type construction; and provided further, that the local governments or authorities in the area where the sanitorium is to be built shall contribute at least as much money as does the state. A sum not to exceed forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) may be used by the state board of health for hospital administration for each of the two (2) years ending in 1950, and 1951; this appropriation shall be cumulative.

(b) All bonds issued hereunder and interest thereon shall be payable from any funds in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated. The bonds shall be payable in substantially equal installments of principal and interest beginning in the next fiscal year after their date; they shall bear interest at a rate not exceeding two percent per annum payable semi-annually; and they shall contain a provision for their call for payment at such a time or times prior to maturity, and at such a premium, if any, as the governor may prescribe. All bonds issued hereunder shall be sold to the highest bidder at a duly advertised public sale, on sealed bids or at auction, and shall not be sold for less than par and accrued interest; provided, bidders may be invited to name the rate of interest which the bonds are to bear, in which case the bonds shall not be sold at a price which would yield more than two percent according to standard bond tables, taking into account the discount and call privilege.

Amendment 75 ratified

Bonds, etc., for Hospital Purposes or Health Facilities in Marion County.

The provisions of section 224 of the Constitution of Alabama notwithstanding, the governing body of Marion county, Alabama, is hereby authorized to issue bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness and to pledge in payment of the principal and interest due upon any such bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness, only the proceeds derived, or to be derived, from any special county privilege, license or excise taxes heretofore or hereafter levied and collected within Marion county, Alabama, for the sole and exclusive purpose of constructing, equipping, operating, maintaining or improving public hospitals or related hospital or health facilities, including clinics, nursing homes, public health centers and laboratory facilities, or for such other public purposes of any kind and description as in the judgment of the governing body of the county of Marion is meet and proper. The proceeds derived from the sale of such bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness, may be used by the governing body of Marion county for any or all of the purposes enumerated herein, and no other. The bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued and sold under the provisions of this amendment may be interest bearing bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness with maturity date fixed at any time within thirty years next succeeding the date of issuance of such securities.

The tax levied and the method of collection provided therefor by Act No. 115 approved June 22, 1949 [Acts 1949, p. 139], levying in Marion county, Alabama, and additional special privilege or license taxes and excise taxes be and the same hereby is in all things validated and confirmed, any provision or provisions of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 to the contrary notwithstanding.

Amendment 76 ratified

Special County Tax for Public Hospital Purposes.

This amendment shall apply in all counties except Mobile and Jefferson counties. The term "public hospital purposes" as used in this amendment shall be construed to include the acquisition by purchase, lease, or otherwise, and the construction, equipment, operation, and maintenance of public hospital facilities. The term "public hospital facilities" as used in this amendment shall be construed to include public hospitals, public clinics, public health centers, nurses' homes and training facilities, and related public health facilities of any kind.

If a majority of the qualified electors of any county in the state, except Mobile and Jefferson counties, who participate in an election held therein pursuant to the provisions of any amendment to the Constitution heretofore adopted shall vote at such election in favor of the levy and collection of a special county tax, within the limitations provided in such amendment, for any one or more of the purposes included within the meaning of the term public hospital purposes, the proceeds derived from the tax authorized at such election may be applied for any one or more of the purposes for which said tax may be so voted. Whenever the tax shall be voted the governing body of the county may anticipate the proceeds therefrom for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall be voted by issuing, without further election, interest bearing tax anticipation bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of

said county payable solely from and secured by a pledge of not exceeding 75% of the annual proceeds from said tax received by the county.

The governing body of each county in which the said tax may be voted shall have the further power to designate as the agency of the county to acquire, construct, equip, operate and maintain public hospital facilities any public corporation heretofore or hereafter organized for hospital purposes in the county under any general law heretofore or hereafter enacted by the legislature. When a public corporation shall be so designated, the proceeds of said tax thereafter collected shall be paid over to it and shall be used by it for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted; provided, that payment of the proceeds of said tax to said public corporation shall be made only to such extent as will not result in the impairment of the obligation of any contract theretofore made with respect to said tax. Said public corporation may anticipate the proceeds from said tax so required to be paid to it by issuing, for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, the bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said public corporation, and may pledge for the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon not exceeding 75% of the annual proceeds from said tax so paid to it.

Each county in which the tax shall be voted, and in the event a public corporation shall have been designated as the agency of such county pursuant to the provisions hereof then said public corporation, shall have the power to contract with any other county or similar public corporation with respect to the acquisition by purchase, lease, or otherwise, and the construction, equipment, operation, and maintenance of public hospital facilities outside of the county and within any zone or region of which the county may be a part, and which may have heretofore been established or may hereafter be established for public hospital purposes by the legislature or by any agency designated by it, the obligations of such contract to be payable solely out of the proceeds of said tax; provided, that the proceeds of said tax shall not be used outside of the county for any purpose for which the proceeds could not be used in the county, and shall not be used with respect to public hospital facilities located outside of the county if the tax is voted specifically for public hospital facilities located in the county.

No securities issued or contracts made by a county under the authority of this amendment, which are payable solely out of the proceeds of said tax, and no securities issued or contracts made by any such public corporation, whether or not issued or made under the authority of this amendment, shall be construed to be bonds of the county or of a political subdivision thereof within the meaning of section 222 of the Constitution, or construed to create or constitute an indebtedness of the county within the meaning of section 224 of the Constitution. Said securities shall be construed to be negotiable instruments notwithstanding the fact that they may be payable solely from a limited source. All pledges of said tax and all contracts made with respect thereto pursuant to the provisions of this amendment shall take precedence in the order in which they are made and shall create a charge on the proceeds of said tax prior to the expenses of operating and maintaining any public hospital facilities.

In each instance in which a special county tax for any one or more of the purposes included within the meaning of the term "public hospital purposes" has heretofore been authorized at an election held in a county pursuant to the provisions of any amendment to the Constitution heretofore adopted, all provisions of this amendment shall be applicable in said county to the same extent as if said election had been held after the adoption of this amendment.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 77 ratified

Special School Tax in St. Clair County.

In addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied and shall be collected a special school tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in St. Clair county, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public school purposes; provided, the time the tax is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. The election provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax

authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX of the Constitution of Alabama, by article 7, chapter 10, Title 52 of the Code of Alabama (1940). The collection of the tax and the use of the proceeds shall also be governed by the applicable provisions of article 7, chapter 10, Title 52 of the Code of Alabama (1940).

Amendment 78 ratified

Cherokee County Special School District Tax.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the several school districts of Cherokee county, Alabama, shall have the power to levy and collect a special district tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in such districts for public school purposes; provided, that the time during which such tax is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in each such district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election, the election to be held in the same manner as now provided by law for an election on the school district tax authorized in article XIX of the Constitution of Alabama. The funds arising from such special tax levied in any district which votes the same independently of the county shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the district as the law may direct.

Amendment 79 ratified

Special School District in Lawrence County.

The board of education of Lawrence county may designate and establish a special school district within the school district in which the municipality of Courtland is located, and it may become indebted and issue bonds in an amount not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for the construction and equipment of a school building within said district. To pay said indebtedness, and the interest thereon, Lawrence county may levy and collect an annual tax on all property situated within said district, at a rate not in excess of five mills; provided, whenever enough has been collected to retire the bonds and pay the interest thereon the tax will cease and any surplus remaining will revert to the Courtland school district. The indebtedness, the bonds, and the tax herein authorized shall be in addition to those heretofore authorized; but no such additional indebtedness shall be incurred, no such bonds shall be issued, and no such tax shall be levied, until the estimated cost of constructing and equipping said school building hereby proposed to be built, its time of completion, and the amount of the increased indebtedness, the rate of interest to be paid thereon, and the period over which the bonds to be issued will be refunded, shall have been determined upon and made public by the board of education of said county, and the proposed increase in indebtedness and the issuance of bonds and the increase in the rate of taxation shall have been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors of said special school district voting upon such proposal at an election to be called by the county governing body for said purposes, said election to be held not less than sixty (60) nor more than one hundred twenty (120) days after the adoption of this amendment. The election provided for herein shall be called, held, and conducted as three-mill school tax elections are held pursuant to article 7, chapter 10, Title 52 of the Code of Alabama (1940).

Amendment 80 ratified

Huntsville Special School Tax.

(A) In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied a special school tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the school tax district of the city of Huntsville in Madison county to be used solely for public school purposes; provided such tax and the time it is to continue shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the said school tax district in which such tax is to be collected and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election, otherwise said tax shall not be collected. A special separate election is hereby called on the first

Tuesday after sixty days following the date this amendment becomes effective in the school tax district of the city of Huntsville in Madison county, at which election the qualified voters in the said school tax district of Madison county may vote as to whether said special school tax herein levied shall be effective; and if the majority of those voting at said election vote in favor of said special school tax such school tax shall immediately be levied and collected annually thereafter on the first day of October by the tax collector of Madison county and paid to the city of Huntsville. The proceeds of the tax are hereby pledged solely to the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds hereinafter provided for. This section shall be self-executing.

(B) After said tax has been voted, and without further authorization the city of Huntsville shall issue and sell interest bearing bonds with principal and interest to be paid from the proceeds of the tax herein levied. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds shall be used for the sole purpose of constructing and improving school buildings and acquiring sites therefor; provided, the net proceeds of the bonds shall be paid immediately to the board of education of the city of Huntsville. The principal amount of the bonds shall in no event exceed the sum of five hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$575,000). All bonds issued hereunder shall be payable in annual installments, the first of which shall be payable not more than two years after the date of the bonds, and the last within the period of usefulness of the improvements for which the bonds are issued. Such bonds shall be callable at any time upon the payment of the principal amount thereof plus a premium equal to one year's interest thereon. The bonds shall not be a general obligation of the city of Huntsville or of Madison county and shall not be charged to the constitutional debt limit of the city of Huntsville or Madison county.

(C) If sufficient revenue has been produced by the tax levied in paragraph (A) of this amendment to pay the principal amount of the bonds issued hereunder with interest thereon prior to the expiration of the period for which the tax was levied, the tax shall immediately cease and shall no longer be collected or enforced, and the bonds shall be redeemed forthwith.

(D) Except as herein otherwise provided the election hereinabove provided for shall be called, held and conducted as provided by law for calling, holding and conducting of district school tax elections. The governing body of the city of Huntsville shall appoint and designate the officers, managers, clerks and returning officers and shall call, canvass, tabulate, and declare the result of the election provided for in the city of Huntsville. The election shall otherwise be conducted, held, canvassed, tabulated and the results declared as general elections are conducted, held, canvassed, tabulated and the results declared in Alabama.

Amendment 81 ratified

Establishing or Abolishing Branch Courthouse or Division or Branch of Court of Record.

After the ratification of this amendment, the legislature shall not establish any branch courthouse or any division or branch of any court of record to be held at any place other than the county seat, nor shall the legislature abolish any branch courthouse now existing or abolish any division or branch of any court of record now existing, unless such proposal be first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county or counties to be affected and is approved by a majority of those voting upon such proposition.

Amendment 82 ratified

Jefferson County Consolidation School Tax Amendment.

Jefferson county shall have power to levy and collect an additional tax of 50 cents on each \$100 of taxable property therein for public school purposes in the same manner and subject to the same election requirements as are now provided in the third amendment to this Constitution with respect to county school taxes; provided that in any incorporated municipality where special or additional taxes are being levied and collected for public school purposes, including the servicing of debts incurred for public schools, the additional tax herein provided for shall be reduced by the amount of such special or additional municipal public school taxes in the corporate limits where such

special or additional municipal public school taxes are being levied and collected and during the time such taxes are levied and collected; and provided further that only qualified electors residing within the area in which the additional tax herein authorized is proposed to be levied shall have the right to vote at any election held for the purpose of voting such additional tax, and qualified voters residing in incorporated municipalities which are levying and collecting a full tax of 50 cents on each \$100 of taxable property for public school purposes shall not be entitled to vote at such election. So long as the public schools in any incorporated municipality are operated separately from those of Jefferson county, the funds arising from such additional tax on taxable property in such municipality shall be expended only by the board of education or other authority charged with the operation of the public schools in such municipality and only for the benefit of the public schools therein. The additional tax herein authorized shall be in addition to the county and the district school taxes authorized in section 269 of and the third amendment to this Constitution and in addition to the county taxes authorized in section 215 thereof. All statutes relating to the holding of elections and the levy and collection of taxes in counties under the third amendment to this Constitution, with the exception hereinabove provided, shall apply.

Amendment 83 ratified

Vacancies in Office of Judge of Circuit Court Holding at Birmingham.

All vacancies in the office of judge of the circuit court holding at Birmingham which shall occur subsequent to January 15, 1951 shall be filled in the manner and for the time as herein provided.

The Jefferson county judicial commission is hereby created for the purpose of nominating to the governor persons for appointment to such a vacancy. The members of such commission shall be (a) two persons who are members of the Alabama state bar, and (b) two persons who are not members of the Alabama state bar, and (c) one judge of the circuit court holding at Birmingham.

All members of such commission must reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding at Birmingham.

The two members of such commission who are required to be members of the Alabama state bar shall be elected by the members of such bar who are regularly licensed and qualified to practice law in this state and who reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding at Birmingham. The executive committee of the Birmingham bar association or its successor body in such capacity, is authorized and directed to make rules, not inconsistent with this amendment, for the election of such members of such commission as are required to be members of the Alabama state bar. Such executive committee shall certify in writing to the probate judge of Jefferson county the names of the persons elected as members of such commission by such members of such bar.

The senator and representatives in the Alabama legislature from Jefferson county shall elect the two members of such commission who are required not to be members of the Alabama state bar. Such senator and representatives shall certify in writing to such probate judge the names of the persons elected by them as such members.

The judges of the circuit court holding at Birmingham shall elect the member of such commission who is required to be a judge of such circuit court. The judges of such circuit court shall certify in writing to such probate judge the name of the circuit judge elected by such circuit judges as such member.

The terms of office of all members of such commission shall be six years, except that the terms of office of the two members of the state bar first elected shall be for one and two years respectively, and of the two members first elected by the senator and representatives in the Alabama legislature from Jefferson county shall be for three and four years respectively, and the term of the circuit judge elected by the circuit judges shall be for five years; the length of such terms of office of the members of such commission being indicated by the respective electing bodies. The terms of the initial members of such commission shall begin on January 16, 1951. A vacancy in the office of a member of such commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as such member was originally chosen.

The probate judge of Jefferson county shall record all such certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original certificates. Forthwith upon his receipt and recordation of every such certificate, he shall send to the governor a certified copy of every such certificate.

No member of such commission shall be eligible to succeed himself as such member or for nomination to the governor for appointment as judge of such circuit court during the term of office for which such member shall have been selected.

The members of such commission shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their services as such members. No member of such commission other than the member required to be a judge of the circuit court shall hold any public office, and no member of such commission shall hold any official position in any political party.

If, subsequent to January 15, 1951, a vacancy occurs in the office of judge of the circuit court holding at Birmingham, such commission shall nominate to the governor three persons having the qualifications for such office. Such nomination shall be made only by the concurrence of a majority of the members of such commission. The governor shall appoint to the office in which the vacancy exists one of the three persons so nominated for such office. The appointee shall hold such office until the next general election for any state officer held at least six months after the vacancy occurs and until his successor is elected and qualified; the successor shall hold office for the unexpired term and until his successor is elected and qualified.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 84 ratified

[3]

Economic Development of Municipalities in Marion County.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, any municipality in Marion county, or any one or more of them, shall have full and continuing power and authority, without any election or approval other than the approval of its governing body, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, or give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in any

municipality in Marion county or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.

8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.

9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of any municipality in Marion county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon any such municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of any municipality in Marion county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of such municipality under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Amendment 85 ratified

Court Costs and Charges, Fees, Salaries, etc., of Officers in Talladega County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Talladega county, and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, or salary of, and the method of compensating any officer of Talladega county.

Amendment 86 ratified

Special School Tax in Monroe County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the several school districts of Monroe county, Alabama shall have the power to levy and collect a special district tax of thirty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in such districts for school purposes; provided, that the levying of such tax and the time during which it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in each such district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; and further provided that such election shall be held in the same manner as now provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in article XIX of the Constitution of Alabama; and be it further provided that the funds arising from the special school tax levied in any district which votes the same independently of the county shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the district as the law may direct.

Amendment 87 ratified

Bond Issue for Acquiring, etc., Public Roads, Highways and Bridges in Conjunction With United States.

The state is authorized to appropriate funds, and to sell and issue interest-bearing state bonds, in addition to those heretofore authorized and sold, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$25,000,000 for the purpose of aiding in the acquisition, construction, and improvement of public roads, highways, and bridges in the state; provided, that the proceeds derived from the sale of the bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment may be used only for supplying the state's share of the cost of acquiring, constructing, and improving public roads, highways, and bridges in the state in conjunction with the United States and toward the cost of which funds have heretofore been or may hereafter be allocated to the state under the provisions of any law of the United States now in effect or hereafter enacted. Bonds sold and issued under the provisions of this amendment may be issued at such time or times and in such denominations, numbers, and series, and shall mature at such time or times, and shall have such terms and conditions, as may be provided by law. Said bonds shall bear interest at a rate or rates not greater than three per centum (3%) per annum, payable semiannually, and shall be sold at not less than the face value thereof. Said bonds when issued shall be direct general obligations of the state, and for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon the full faith and credit of the state are hereby irrevocably pledged. In addition thereto, there is hereby irrevocably pledged for payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds, pro rata and without priority of one bond over another, so much as may be necessary for said purpose of the proceeds of the gasoline excise tax heretofore pledged for payment of the public road and bridge bonds of the state of Alabama provided for in the amendment to the Constitution of Alabama known as article XXA [amendment No. 21] subject, however, to the prior pledges of said tax for payment of any bonds heretofore issued pursuant to law for which the said tax has heretofore been pledged.

Amendment 88 ratified

Appointments and Promotions in Civil Service.

- A. Appointments and promotions in the civil service of this state shall be made according to merit, fitness and efficiency, to be determined, so far as practicable, by examination, which, so far as practicable, shall be competitive under such laws as the legislature may enact.
- B. It shall be the duty of the legislature to maintain laws necessary to implement, and to provide adequate financial support for, a positive program of personnel management in the state service.
- C. All state personnel laws now in effect that are not in conflict with this article shall continue in effect until they are amended or repealed as provided by law. Civil service status acquired by employees under existing statutes shall not be affected by the provisions of this article.

Amendment 89 ratified

Amendment of Sections 272, 273 and 276.

Sec. 272. Conformance with regulations of United States department of defense and laws of United States; administration of military affairs by military department and adjutant general.

The legislature, in providing for the organization, equipment, and discipline of the state military forces, shall conform as nearly as practicable to the regulations of the department of defense of the United States, and the laws of the United States, governing the armed forces of the United States. All affairs pertaining to the state military forces shall be administered by a state military department, which shall be headed by the adjutant general, and who shall be responsible to the governor as commander-in-chief.

Sec. 273. Appointment, suspension, discharge, removal and retirement of officers of state military forces; qualifications of personnel of federally-recognized national guard.

Officers of the state military forces, including the adjutant general, shall be appointed, and shall be subject to suspension, discharge, removal, or compulsory retirement as such, solely on the basis of military proficiency, character and service, as determined by department of defense regulations and military usages sanctioned by the military laws of the United States, anything in this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding. The qualifications of personnel of the federally recognized national guard shall be as prescribed in pertinent regulations and policies of the United States department of the defense.

Sec. 276. Appointment of adjutant general, general officers and governor's staff.

The governor shall, with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint the adjutant general and all general officers. The governor shall appoint his own staff, as may be provided by law.

Amendment 90 ratified

Veteran's Poll Tax Exemption Amendment.

No person who honorably served in the military service of the United States between January 1, 1917 and November 11, 1918, or between September 16, 1940 and December 8, 1941, or at any time past, present or future, when the United States was, is or shall be engaged in hostilities, whether as a result of a declared war or not, with any foreign state shall be required after the beginning of such service to pay the poll tax specified in the Constitution of Alabama as a prerequisite to the privilege of voting in Alabama; but, on the contrary, every such person shall be exempt from the payment of all poll taxes which have theretofore accrued and have not been paid or which may thereafter accrue; provided, however, that if any such person is discharged dishonorably from service the exemption herein provided is forfeited, and such dishonorably discharged person, as a prerequisite to the privilege of voting in Alabama thereafter, must pay the poll tax specified in the Constitution of Alabama as if such person had never been in service. The term "military service" as used herein includes service in the United States army, the United States navy, the United States air force, the marine corps, the coast guard, or any reserve or auxiliary complement of any of said services. The judge of probate shall issue a certificate of exemption to a person exempt from the payment of poll tax by reason of this amendment under such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the governor. This amendment shall be self-executing and retroactive; but the legislature is authorized to enact laws designed to carry out the purpose of this amendment.

Amendment 91 ratified

Amendment of Section 181. SECTION 181

Persons qualified to register as voters; persons registered under 1901 Constitution not required to reregister.

The following persons, and no others, who, if they are citizens of the United States over the age of twenty-one years and have the qualifications as to residence prescribed in section 178 of this article, shall be qualified to register as electors provided they shall not be disqualified under section 182 of this Constitution: those who can read and write any article of the Constitution of the United States in the English language which may be submitted to them by the board of registrars, provided, however, that no persons shall be entitled to register as electors except those who are of good character and who embrace the duties and obligations of citizenship under the Constitution of the United States and under the Constitution of the state of Alabama, and provided, further, that in order to aid the members of the boards of registrars, who are hereby constituted and declared to be judicial officers, to judicially determine if applicants to register have the qualifications hereinabove set out, each applicant shall be furnished by the board of registrars a written questionnaire, which shall be uniform in all cases with no discrimination as between applicants, the form and contents of which questionnaire shall be prescribed by the supreme court of Alabama and be filed by such court with the secretary of state of the state of Alabama, which questionnaire shall be so worded that the answers thereto will place before the boards of registrars information necessary or proper to aid them to pass upon the qualification of each applicant. Such questionnaire shall be answered in writing by the applicant, in the presence

of the board without assistance, and there shall be incorporated in such answer an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the state of Alabama and a statement in such oath by the applicant disavowing belief in or affiliation at any time with any group or party which advocated the overthrow of the government of the United States or the state of Alabama by unlawful means, which answers and oath shall be duly signed and sworn to by the applicant before a member of the county board of registrars. Such questionnaire and the written answers of the applicant thereto shall be filed with the records of the respective boards of registrars. The board may receive information respecting the applicant and the truthfulness of any information furnished by him. Those persons who have registered as electors under the Alabama Constitution of 1901 shall not be required to register again. Provided, further, that if solely because of physical handicaps the applicant is unable to read or write, then he shall be exempt from the above stated requirements which he is unable to meet because of such physical handicap, and in such cases a member of the board of registrars shall read to the applicant the questionnaire and oaths herein provided for and the applicant's answers thereto shall be written down by such board member, and the applicant shall be registered as a voter if he meets all other requirements herein set out.

Amendment 92 ratified

Increasing or Decreasing Salaries, etc., of State and County Officers.

Any provisions of this Constitution or amendments thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, neither the legislature, nor any county of the state shall, by the imposition of new, different, and additional duties or otherwise, increase, or authorize the increase of, the salary, fees or other compensation of any officer of the state or of any county of the state, who is elected or appointed for a fixed term, during the term for which he is elected or appointed, regardless of whether such officer may be removed at the pleasure of the authority electing or appointing him or only upon impeachment; nor shall the legislature or any county of the state in any manner or by any means decrease, or authorize the decrease of, the salary, fees or other compensation of any such officer, during the term for which he is elected or appointed; nor shall the legislature or any county of the state increase or decrease, or authorize the increase or decrease of, the salary, fees or other compensation of any person filling an unexpired term in any such office during the remainder of such term, either before or after the appointment or election of such person to fill the unexpired term. As to officers who are members of any court, board, commission, or similar body whose terms do not run concurrently, any increase or decrease in the salary, fees, or other compensation of the members of any such court, board, commission, or similar body shall become effective as to all such members thereof immediately after the expiration of the term or terms of office of the member or members whose term or terms first expire.

Amendment 93 ratified

Expenditure of Fees or Taxes Relating to Use, etc., of Vehicles and to Fuels Used for Vehicles.

No moneys derived from any fees, excises, or license taxes, levied by the state, relating to registration, operation, or use of vehicles upon the public highways except a vehicle-use tax imposed in lieu of a sales tax, and no moneys derived from any fee, excises, or license taxes, levied by the state, relating to fuels used for propelling such vehicles except pump taxes, shall be expended for other than cost of administering such laws, statutory refunds and adjustments allowed therein, cost of construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair of public highways and bridges, costs of highway rights-of-way, payment of highway obligations, the cost of traffic regulation, and the expense of enforcing state traffic and motor vehicle laws. The provisions of this amendment shall not apply to any such fees, excises, or license taxes now levied by the state for school purposes for the whole state or for any county or city board of education therein.

Amendment 94 ratified

Economic Development of Municipalities in Fayette County.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, any municipality in Fayette county, or any one or more of them, shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in any municipality in Fayette county or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of any municipality in Fayette county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon any such municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of any municipality in Fayette county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of such municipality under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to

those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. No municipality shall make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of such municipality. The governing body of any municipality may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 95 ratified

Economic Development of Municipalities in Blount County.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, any municipality in Blount county, or any one or more of them, shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, or give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in any municipality in Blount county or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of any municipality in Blount county may

impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon any such municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of any municipality in Blount county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of such municipality under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. No municipality shall make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of such municipality. The governing body of any municipality may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 96 ratified

Amendment of Section 178. SECTION 178

Residency, registration and poll tax requirements for electors.

To entitle a person to vote at any election by the people, he shall have resided in the state at least two years, in the county one year, and in the precinct or ward three months, immediately preceding the election at which he offers to vote, and he shall have been duly registered as an elector, and shall have paid on or before the first day of February next preceding the date of the election at which he offers to vote, all poll taxes due from him for the two calendar years next preceding. Provided, that any elector who, within three months next preceding the date of the election at which he offers to vote has removed from one precinct or ward to another precinct or ward in the same county, incorporated town, or city, shall have the right to vote in the precinct or ward from which he has so removed, if he would have been entitled to vote in such precinct or ward but for such removal.

Amendment 97 ratified

Special Elections to Fill Vacancies in Either House of Legislature.

Whenever a vacancy occurs in either house of the legislature the governor shall issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the term. However, if the secretary of state determines that a legally qualified candidate for election to the vacancy is unopposed when the last date for filing certificates of nomination has passed, the election shall not be held. The secretary of state shall issue a certificate of election to the candidate, the same as if an election had been held, and the certificate shall be accepted by the house in which the vacancy occurred as evidence of the unopposed candidate's right to fill the position created by the vacancy. In the event an election is held, all the costs and expenses incurred thereby shall be paid out of any funds in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Amendment 98 ratified

Levy and Collection of Additional Property Taxes in Talladega County.

In addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the governing body of Talladega county is hereby authorized to levy and collect a special school tax not to exceed three-tenths of one percent on the value of the taxable property within the county, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public school purposes; and a special tax not to exceed two-tenths of one percent on the value of the taxable property within the county, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for the construction and maintenance of county roads and bridges. The governing body of Talladega county may fix the rates of the additional taxes authorized herein, at its discretion, without submitting the question of levying such additional taxes to a vote of the qualified electors of the county.

Amendment 99 ratified

Authorizing the Creation of Special School Districts, etc., in Lawrence County.

The board of education of Lawrence county may designate one or more school districts within said county (except that no part of the territory embraced within the special school district established under the provisions of the amendment of the Constitution proposed by Act No. 473 of the regular session of the legislature of Alabama of 1949 [Acts 1949, p. 690] shall be included in any such special school district) and may sell the issue bonds in an amount not exceeding one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) for each such special school district for the construction, improving, adding to, or equipping of a school building, or buildings, within said district. To pay the principal of and interest on said bonds and any redemption premium thereon, Lawrence county may levy and collect an annual tax on all taxable property situated within the special school district with respect to which such bonds may be issued, at a rate not in excess of five mills on each dollar's worth of said property as assessed for state taxation for the preceding tax year; provided, that whenever said tax has produced an amount sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds the tax shall not be thereafter levied and any surplus remaining therefrom shall be used for general school purposes in said school district. The bonds and tax herein authorized shall be in addition to those heretofore authorized, and no such bonds shall be issued, no such tax shall be levied, until the estimated cost of constructing, improving, adding to, or equipping the school building or buildings to be built in such district, its estimated time of completion, the maximum principal amount of the bonds proposed to be issued, the maximum rate of interest to be paid thereon, and the period over which the bonds to be issued will be retired, shall have been determined and made public by the board of education of said county, and the proposed issuance of bonds and increase in the rate of taxation shall have been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors of such special school district voting upon such proposal at an election to be called by the county governing body for said purpose, said election to be held not less than sixty days after the adoption of this amendment, but at anytime thereafter at the discretion of the said county governing body. The election provided herein shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed, and may be contested, as in the case of three mill school tax elections held pursuant to article 7, chapter 10, Title 52 of the Code of Alabama of 1940. Any bonds issued pursuant to this amendment shall be payable solely out of the proceeds of said tax which may be pledged therefor, but said bonds shall constitute negotiable instruments although payable from a limited source, and said bonds shall be eligible for the investment of trust funds. This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 100 ratified

Extension of Debt Limit of Mobile County.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, Mobile county shall continue to have and possess all of the rights, powers and authority granted to it by amendment XVIII [18] of this Constitution and shall have and possess the power and authority to become indebted for the construction or erection of public buildings, bridges and roads within the limit prescribed by section 224 of this Constitution; provided, however, that all debts incurred or bonds issued by Mobile county under the provisions of amendments XVIII [18] and XXIX [29], and this amendment, shall be in addition to the limit fixed by said section 224, and shall not be taken into account or considered in determining or arriving at the debt limit of Mobile county under said section 224, and provided further that the six and one-half percent (6 1/2 %) limitation in amendment XVIII [18] aforesaid shall be construed to refer not to the total amount of bonds issued under authority of the amendment, but to the total amount of bonds so issued which may be outstanding at any one time. And provided further, that Mobile county may become indebted, issue bonds and levy the tax as authorized by and within the limits of amendment XVIII [18] aforesaid to pay all or part of the cost of the construction or improvement of concrete or better than concrete surfaced public roads, streets and bridges in Mobile county, including those within or partly within any municipality, and also for the purpose of constructing, improving and equipping school buildings in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 and in an amount not to exceed \$4,000,000 to construct and equip a building or buildings to be used for a courthouse and jail, including the acquisition of sites therefor; however, in submitting the question of issuing school bonds and courthouse and jail bonds hereunder, the county governing body shall submit the issuance of bonds for such purposes as a single proposition. Courthouse, jail and school bonds authorized hereby shall be issued in the manner provided in chapter 7 of Title 12 of the Code of Alabama of 1940 as heretofore or hereafter amended.

Bonds issued hereunder, together with bonds now or hereafter outstanding under authority of amendment XVIII [18], together with redemption premiums thereon, shall be payable from any funds heretofore and hereafter derived from the proceeds of the tax at such rate or rates not exceeding one-half of one percentum of the assessed value of the property situated in the county which may from time to time be levied or which has been levied, under said amendment XVIII [18]. The county governing body may agree in the proceedings authorizing the issue of school bonds and courthouse and jail bonds hereunder that it will, if and to the extent necessary to prevent default in the payment of principal or interest on such bonds, use for the payment of such principal or interest, or both, as a prior lien thereon so much of the proceeds of the tax of 2 1/2 mills authorized by section 215 of the Constitution as may be necessary. Further, after 30 days from the first publication in said county of the resolution authorizing and fixing the details of any bonds authorized to be issued hereunder, such bonds and the sources of payment provided therefor in such resolution shall be incontestable in any court in this state.

Annotation

[1] Text of this amendment not available from the website of the Alabama State Legislature

[2] The strange use of "A" is unknown

[3] In the table of contents Amendment 277 is erroneously listed as being the 84th amendment

Article Sources and Contributors

Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 1-100 *Source:* <http://en.wikisource.org/w/index.php?oldid=2778105> *Contributors:* Billinghamurst, Illy, John Vandenberg, Pathoschild, 4 anonymous edits

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Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 101-200

Amendment 101 ratified

Special Property Tax for Public School Buildings in Marshall County.

In addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama a special tax or taxes not to exceed five mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property in Marshall county is hereby authorized, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for erecting, constructing, remodeling, renovating, repairing, furnishing and equipping public school buildings in Marshall county; provided that any tax and the purpose thereof shall have first been submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those electors participating in the election. The election shall be called, held, conducted and governed by the applicable provisions of Code of Alabama (1940), Title 52, chapter 10, article 7, which governs elections on special school taxes and the tax hereby authorized shall be levied and collected as other special school taxes are levied and collected. If the proposal to levy the tax is defeated in an election it may not be again submitted to a vote for one year, but after the expiration of one year, and at intervals of one year thereafter, such question may be resubmitted to the qualified electors. Should a tax of less than five mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property be approved at an election thereon then at the expiration of one year from the date of the election at which such tax was approved, and at intervals of one year thereafter, the question of levying an additional tax for such purposes may again be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county until the total of all taxes levied pursuant to the authority hereby conferred is five mills.

After any tax levied pursuant to authority hereby conferred shall have been collected for five years the court of county commissioners, board of revenue or other county governing body, upon receipt of a petition, signed by not less than twenty percent of the qualified electors of the county must call an election at which the question of repeal of the tax upon payment of all obligations then outstanding shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the county. Should a majority of the voters participating at this election vote for the repeal of the tax it shall cease as soon as the outstanding pledges against it have been paid in full. Should a majority of the electors participating in the election vote against repeal the question of repeal may not again be submitted to a vote for one year, but after the expiration of one year, and at intervals of one year thereafter, upon receipt of a petition signed by twenty percent of the qualified electors of the county, the county governing body may order the question of repeal of the tax resubmitted to the qualified electors of the county.

The elections provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided by Code of Alabama (1940), Title 52, chapter 10, article 7, for an election on the special county school tax authorized in amendment III [3] to the Constitution of Alabama. The collection of the tax shall also be governed by the applicable provisions of the Code of Alabama (1940), Title 52, chapter 10, article 7, and the proceeds shall be used exclusively for the purposes authorized at the election approving the levy.

Amendment 102 ratified

Special Ad Valorem Tax for School Purposes on Real and Tangible Personal Property within Chambers County.

In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by law, the governing body of Chambers county shall have the power to levy and collect, for a period of not exceeding twelve years, a special ad valorem tax on real and tangible personal property only, situated within said county, at a rate not exceeding five mills on each dollar's worth of said real and tangible personal property, as assessed for state taxation for the preceding tax year, the proceeds of said tax to be used solely for acquiring, constructing and equipping public school buildings within said county,

including public school buildings for any city school system therein; provided, however, that the special ad valorem tax authorized herein shall be levied only in the event that no other additional ad valorem tax is authorized to be levied by a constitutional amendment submitted at the 1953 regular session of the legislature; and provided further, that before said special ad valorem tax shall be levied, the question as to whether said tax shall be levied shall have first been submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of said county at an election to be called by the governing body of said county, and shall have been voted for by a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election. The election provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed, and may be contested in the same manner as provided by law for the calling, holding, conducting and canvassing of county bond elections. Upon the expiration of any tax authorized pursuant to this amendment, no further tax shall be authorized hereunder.

In the event the said special ad valorem tax shall be authorized by a majority of the qualified electors voting on said question at said election, the governing body of said county shall thereupon be authorized to sell and issue its tax anticipation bonds for the purposes for which said tax was authorized, which bonds shall be in such amount as the governing body of said county shall designate, and shall be subject to the provisions of the general laws pertaining to the issuance of county bonds except that no further election shall be required therefor. The revenue derived from the sale of said bonds shall be expended by the Chambers county board of education for the purposes stated herein. Any bonds issued pursuant to this amendment shall be payable solely out of the proceeds of the said special ad valorem tax hereby authorized, which shall be pledged therefor, and after the issuance of said bonds, the proceeds of said tax remaining after payment of the cost of assessment and collection shall be used only for payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds, the creation and maintenance of a reserve therefor, and the redemption thereof. Said bonds shall constitute negotiable instruments although payable from a limited source and shall be eligible for the investment of trust funds. The said bonds shall not constitute general obligations of the said county and shall be in addition to all other bonds which said county has heretofore issued or is authorized to issue under the Constitution and laws of Alabama.

Amendment 103 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts and the Offices, Terms, and Compensation of Officers of Chambers County.

The legislature may from time to time by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Chambers county fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of court, and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, or salary of, any officer of Chambers county; may provide the method and basis of compensation of such officers; may fix the terms of office of such officers; and may consolidate any of the offices held by such officers. When any such officer is compensated on a salary basis the legislature may provide for the distribution of the fees, commissions, percentages, and allowances collectible by him, and the funds from which the salary of the officer shall be paid, any other provision of this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.

Amendment 104 ratified

Economic Development of Municipalities of Haleyville and Double Springs.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the municipalities of Haleyville and Double Springs in Winston county shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
 2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, or give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
 3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
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4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipalities of Haleyville and Double Springs, or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the municipalities of Haleyville and Double Springs, or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body, and subject to such limitations as the governing bodies of the municipalities of Haleyville or Double Springs may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the municipalities.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance, of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the municipalities of Haleyville and Double Springs for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county under section 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. The municipalities of Haleyville and Double Springs shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the respective municipality. The governing body of each of the two municipalities may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 105 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Madison County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Madison county, and the method of disbursement thereof.

Amendment 106 ratified

Additional Taxes in Morgan County for Public School Purposes.

Each school district in Morgan county, shall have power to levy and collect additional taxes on the taxable property located in the district of not to exceed \$.55 per \$100 worth of taxable property located in the district for public school purposes; provided, that the total of special county and school district taxes levied in the district for public school purposes under section 260 of this Constitution and all amendments to this Constitution including the present amendment shall not exceed a rate of \$1.25 per \$100 worth of taxable property located in the district, except that in determining whether the said rate of \$1.25 per \$100 will be exceeded there shall be excluded from such calculation taxes levied and collected under the authority of any amendment to this Constitution wherein it is stated that the adoption thereof will not affect the power, right or authority to levy special school taxes; provided further, that the adoption of this amendment shall in nowise limit, modify, abridge, or impair the power, authority or right of counties, municipalities, or school districts to levy and collect special school taxes or taxes of any kind for schools or school purposes vested in and conferred upon them, or any of them, by this Constitution, any amendment thereto, or any provisions of state law, or to make appropriations for schools or school purposes.

A school district within the meaning of this amendment shall include school districts which consist of incorporated cities or towns, or any school district of which an incorporated city or town is a part or such other school districts now existing or hereafter formed as may be approved by the county board of education.

The rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election.

The funds derived from the tax levied in any school district under this amendment shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the district.

Amendment 107 ratified

Issuance of Revenue Bonds and Other Revenue Securities by Municipalities.

Revenue bonds and other revenue securities at any time issued by a municipality for the purpose of extending, enlarging or improving any water, sewer, gas or electric system then owned by such municipality shall not be deemed to constitute bonds or indebtedness of such municipality within the meaning of sections 222 and 225 of this Constitution if by their terms such bonds or other securities are not made a charge on the general credit or tax revenues of the issuing municipality and are made payable solely out of revenues derived from the operation of any one or more of such systems.

Amendment 108 ratified

Bonds and Other Securities Issued by Certain Public Corporations.

Each public corporation heretofore or hereafter organized or created in this state pursuant to authorization or determination by any municipality or municipalities, or county or counties, or the governing body of any one or more thereof, shall for the purposes of sections 222, 224, and 225 of this Constitution be deemed to be a separate entity from such municipality or municipalities, or county or counties. Bonds and other securities heretofore or hereafter issued by any public corporation so organized shall not be deemed to constitute bonds or indebtedness within the meaning of said sections even though property, whether or not capable of producing income, may have

been transferred to such public corporation by any one or more of such municipalities or counties either with or without the payment of pecuniary or other consideration.

Amendment 109 ratified

Exempting Blind and Deaf Persons from Payment of Poll Tax.

No person who is either blind or deaf shall be required to pay the poll tax specified in the Constitution as a prerequisite to voting in Alabama; but, on the contrary, every blind or deaf person shall be exempt from the payment of all poll taxes which have accrued and have not been paid or which hereafter may accrue. The term "blind person" as used herein includes any person who has a vision with or without adjusted glasses suitable to the eye or to the individual not greater than what is known as 2/100 vision. The term "deaf person" as used herein means any person who is wholly deprived of his sense of hearing. The judge of probate shall issue a certificate of exemption to any person exempt from the payment of poll tax by reason of this amendment. This amendment shall be self-executing and retroactive; but the legislature may enact laws designed to carry out the purposes of this amendment.

Amendment 110 ratified

Filling Vacancy in Office of Judge of Jefferson County Circuit Court.

Any vacancy occurring in the office of judge of the tenth judicial circuit comprised of Jefferson county only, which is required to be filled by appointment on nominations made by a judicial commission, shall be made within ninety days from the date of the submission of such nominations. In the event the governor fails to fill the vacancy from such nominations within such period, the appointment shall be made by the chief justice of the supreme court of Alabama.

Amendment 111 ratified

Amendment of Sections 137, 139, 256, 258, 259, 260, 269, 270.

Amendment of Sections 137, 139, 256, 258, 259, 260, 269, 270.

Sec. 137. Duties generally and restrictions on receipt of fees, etc., by attorney general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education and commissioner of agriculture and industries; annual reports by state treasurer and state auditor; attorney general may be required to defend suits against state, political subdivisions, officers, etc.

The attorney general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, and commissioner of agriculture and industries shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by law. The state treasurer and state auditor shall, every year, at a time fixed by the legislature, make a full and complete report to the governor, showing the receipts and disbursements of every character, all claims audited and paid out, by items, and all taxes and revenues collected and paid into the treasury, and the sources thereof. They shall make reports oftener upon any matters pertaining to their offices, if required by the governor or the legislature. The attorney general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, and commissioner of agriculture and industries shall not receive to their use any fees, costs, perquisites of office or other compensation than the salaries prescribed by law, and all fees that may be payable for any services performed by such officers shall be at once paid into the state treasury. The legislature may require the attorney general to defend any or all suits brought against the state, or any subdivision thereof, or against any state school board or state board of education, or against any county or city school board or board of education, or against like boards or commissions by whatever name designated, or against any members, officers or employees of any such boards, or against any school official or employee throughout Alabama.

Sec. 139. Vesting of judicial power; minimum standards for establishment of courts of general jurisdiction in counties; authority of legislature to constitute members of state, county and city school boards as judicial officers.

The judicial power of the state shall be vested in the senate sitting as a court of impeachment, a supreme court, circuit courts, chancery courts, courts of probate, such courts of law and equity inferior to the supreme court, and to consist of not more than five members, as the legislature from time to time may establish, and such persons as may be by law invested with powers of a judicial nature; but no court of general jurisdiction, at law or in equity, or both, shall hereafter be established in and for any one county having a population of less than twenty thousand, according to the next preceding federal census, and property assessed for taxation at a less valuation than three million five hundred thousand dollars. The legislature shall also have authority to constitute as judicial officers any or all of the members of state school boards, state boards of education, county school boards, city school boards, and like boards or commissions by whatever name designated, and all superintendents of schools and school officials and employees throughout Alabama, and to provide that all action taken by them, or any of them, requiring the exercise of discretion or judgment in connection with school matters be judicial action.

Sec. 256. Educational policy of the state; authority of legislature to provide for or authorize establishment and operation of schools by persons, municipalities, etc.; grant, donation, sale or lease of funds and property for educational purposes; election of certain schools for attendance by parents of minors.

It is the policy of the state of Alabama to foster and promote the education of its citizens in a manner and extent consistent with its available resources, and the willingness and ability of the individual student, but nothing in this Constitution shall be construed as creating or recognizing any right to education or training at public expense, nor as limiting the authority and duty of the legislature, in furthering or providing for education, to require or impose conditions or procedures deemed necessary to the preservation of peace and order.

The legislature may by law provide for or authorize the establishment and operation of schools by such persons, agencies or municipalities, at such places, and upon such conditions as it may prescribe, and for the grant or loan of public funds and the lease, sale or donation of real or personal property to or for the benefit of citizens of the state for educational purposes under such circumstances and upon such conditions as it shall prescribe. Real property owned by the state or any municipality shall not be donated for educational purposes except to nonprofit charitable or eleemosynary corporations or associations organized under the laws of the state.

To avoid confusion and disorder and to promote effective and economical planning for education, the legislature may authorize the parents or guardians of minors, who desire that such minors shall attend schools provided for their own race, to make election to that end, such election to be effective for such period and to such extent as the legislature may provide.

Sec. 258. Property donated or appropriated for educational purposes and estates of persons dying without will or heirs to be applied to furtherance of education.

All lands or other property given by individuals, or appropriated by the state for educational purposes, and all estates of deceased persons who die without leaving a will or heir, shall be used or applied to the furtherance of education.

Sec. 259. Use of poll taxes for support and furtherance of education.

All poll taxes collected in this state shall be applied to the support and furtherance of education in the respective counties where collected.

Sec. 260. Certain income to be applied to support and furtherance of education; special annual tax for education; maximum annual levy on taxable property; priority for payment of bonded indebtedness of state; proceeds of certain taxes to be used for support and furtherance of education.

The income arising from the sixteenth section trust fund, the surplus revenue fund, until it is called for by the United States government, and the funds enumerated in sections 257 and 258 of this Constitution, together with a special annual tax of thirty cents on each one hundred dollars of taxable property in this state, which the legislature shall levy, shall be applied to the support and furtherance of education, and it shall be the duty of the legislature to increase the educational fund from time to time as the necessity therefor and the condition of the treasury and the resources of the state may justify; provided, that nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to authorize the

legislature to levy in any one year a greater rate of state taxation for all purposes, including schools, than sixty-five cents on each one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property; and provided further, that nothing herein contained shall prevent the legislature from first providing for the payment of the bonded indebtedness of the state and interest thereon out of all the revenue of the state.

Except as they may be specifically set aside in trust funds or otherwise applied to the payment of indebtedness, all proceeds of income or other taxes levied by the state, and of all special ad valorem or other taxes levied by counties and other municipalities, or school districts, pursuant to the Constitution as heretofore amended, for public school purposes, shall be applied to the support and furtherance of education pursuant to section 256 of the Constitution, as amended.

Sec. 269. Special county educational taxes.

The several counties in this state shall have power to levy and collect a special tax not exceeding ten cents on each one hundred dollars of taxable property in such counties, for the support and furtherance of education in such manner as may be authorized by the legislature; provided, that the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county, and voted for by three-fifths of those voting at such election; but the rate of such special tax shall not increase the rate of taxation, state and county combined, in any one year, to more than one dollar and twenty-five cents on each one hundred dollars of taxable property; excluding, however, all special county taxes for public buildings, roads, bridges, and the payment of debts existing at the ratification of the Constitution of eighteen hundred and seventy-five.

Sec. 270. Applicability of article to Mobile county.

The provisions of this article and of any act of the legislature passed in pursuance thereof for educational purposes, shall apply to Mobile county only so far as to authorize and require the authorities designated by law to draw the portions of the funds to which said county shall be entitled for school purposes and to make reports to the superintendent of education as may be prescribed by law; and all special incomes and powers of taxation as now authorized by law for the benefit of public schools in said county shall remain undisturbed until otherwise provided by the legislature.

Amendment 112 ratified

Amendment of Section 94. SECTION 94

Counties, municipalities and other political subdivisions not to grant public money or lend credit to individuals or corporations; alienation of public parks, playgrounds, recreational facilities and housing projects by political subdivisions and public bodies.

The legislature shall not have power to authorize any county, city, town, or other subdivision of this state to lend its credit, or to grant public money or thing of value in aid of, or to any individual, association, or corporation whatsoever, or to become a stockholder in any such corporation, association, or company, by issuing bonds or otherwise. It is provided, however, that the legislature may enact general, special, or local laws authorizing political subdivisions and public bodies to alienate, with or without a valuable consideration, public parks and playgrounds, or other public recreational facilities and public housing projects, conditional upon the approval of a majority of the duly qualified electors of the county, city, town, or other subdivision affected thereby, voting at an election held for such purpose.

Amendment 113 ratified

Bond Issue for Building Construction and Improvement Purposes at Alabama State Hospitals and Partlow State School for Mental Deficients.

The state is authorized to become indebted for building construction and improvement purposes at the Alabama State Hospitals and at the Partlow State School for Mental Deficients, and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to sell and issue, in addition to all other bonds of the state, interest bearing general obligation bonds of the state not exceeding four million dollars in principal amount. The bonds shall be general obligations of the state of Alabama and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon. The proceeds from the sale of such bonds are hereby appropriated and shall be used exclusively for the acquisition of building sites; for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, and improvement of building facilities, including renewal and replacement of structural parts; and for the procurement of equipment for such buildings at the Alabama State Hospitals and at the Partlow State School for Mental Deficients; provided that the expenses incurred in connection with the sale and issuance of the bonds may also be paid from such proceeds.

All bonds issued hereunder and the interest thereon shall be payable from any funds in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated. The bonds shall be payable in substantially equal installments of principal and interest beginning in the next fiscal year after their date. They shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed three percent, and they shall contain a provision for their call for payment at such a time or times prior to maturity, and at such a premium, if any, as may be prescribed in the notice of sale. All bonds issued hereunder shall be sold to the best bidder at a duly advertised public sale, upon sealed bids or at auction, and shall not be sold for less than par and accrued interest; provided, however, that bidders may be invited to name the rate or rates of interest which the bonds are to bear. The right to reject any or all bids shall be reserved. Bonds issued hereunder shall mature within twenty years from the date of issuance.

The legislature shall adopt appropriate enabling legislation to carry out the intent and purpose of this amendment to the Constitution.

Amendment 114 ratified

Bond Issue to Assist in Construction and Equipment of Hospitals, etc.

(a) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Constitution of the state of Alabama, or any amendment thereto heretofore adopted, the governor shall from time to time issue negotiable interest-bearing bonds for the purposes and in the manner and subject to the limitation stated in this amendment. The bonds shall be general obligations of the state of Alabama and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the bonds and the interest thereon. The aggregate principal amount of all bonds issued hereunder shall not exceed two million dollars (\$2,000,000) and they shall mature within ten years from the date of issuance.

The proceeds from the sale of such bonds are hereby appropriated and shall be used solely for the construction and equipping of hospitals, health centers, tuberculosis hospitals or sanatoria, and related medical facilities pursuant to Act No. 211, General Acts of Alabama 1945, page 330, approved July 7, 1945; and Act 287, General Acts of Alabama 1945, page 474, approved July 7, 1945; and Act No. 46, General and Local Acts 1949, page 68, approved June 2, 1949; as said acts are now or may hereafter be amended; and such facilities established and operated by the corporate authorities of a city or town, or a county governing body under the provision of Title 22, section 189, Code of Alabama 1940, as same is now or may hereafter be amended; or any act supplemental thereto or amendatory thereof. The funds provided hereby shall be used only for construction and equipping facilities under contracts which have been or are let on or after July 1, 1955; shall be used to match federal funds available for hospital health center, and related medical facilities provided under Public Law 725, 79th Congress and Public Law 482, 83rd Congress, as said Public Laws are now or may hereafter be amended; and the local governments in the area where each hospital,

health center, tuberculosis hospitals or sanatoria, or related medical facility is to be constructed or equipped shall contribute at least as much money for the construction and equipping as does the state; and provided further that the state shall not contribute more than two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) to the construction and equipping of any tuberculosis hospital or sanatoria and one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for any other facility included within the scope of this amendment.

In determining where a hospital, health center, tuberculosis hospitals or sanatoria, or related medical facility to be constructed with funds appropriated herein shall be located, consideration shall be given to the communities on the basis of relative need. Each county having no hospital, health center, tuberculosis hospitals or sanatoria, or related medical facility shall have first priority. Counties receiving prior allotments hereunder shall not be precluded from receiving an additional allotment for other facilities at the discretion of the state board of health. A sum not to exceed forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) may be used by the state board of health from the proceeds of the sale of said bonds for administering the provision of this amendment.

(b) All bonds issued hereunder and the interest thereon shall be payable from any funds in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated. The bonds shall be payable in substantially equal installments of principal and interest beginning in the next fiscal year after their date; they shall bear interest at a rate not to exceed 2 1/2 % and they shall contain a provision for their call for payment at such a time or times prior to maturity, and at such a premium, if any, as the governor may prescribe in the notice of sale. All bonds issued hereunder shall be sold to the best bidder at a duly advertised public sale, on sealed bids or at auction, and shall not be sold for less than par and accrued interest; provided, bidders may be invited to name the rate or rates of interest, which the bonds are to bear. The right to reject any or all bids shall be reserved.

Amendment 115 ratified

Extension of Debt Limit of Tuscaloosa County.

Tuscaloosa county may become indebted, and in evidence of such indebtedness may sell and issue its interest-bearing bonds, to the extent of not exceeding \$2,500,000.00 in principal amount, for the purpose of constructing and equipping a county courthouse and jail in said county and acquiring land therefor; provided, that before any such bonds shall be issued the question of whether said bonds shall be issued shall have first been submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of said county at an election to be called for that purpose by the governing body of said county and the issuance of said bonds shall have been authorized by a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election. The elections provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed, and may be contested, in the manner provided by law for the calling, holding, conducting, canvassing and contesting of county bond elections, and if the issuance of said bonds shall be authorized at any such election they may be sold and issued from time to time in the manner provided by law for the authorization and sale of county bonds. In the event the voters of Tuscaloosa county do not authorize the issuance and sale of said bonds at any election called hereunder then other elections may be called by the governing body of Tuscaloosa county from time to time until the voters of Tuscaloosa county do authorize the issuance and sale of said bonds; provided that no two elections shall be held within one year of each other. Provided further that if the majority of the voters of Tuscaloosa county participating in the election as to the adoption of this constitutional amendment vote for such adoption of this amendment then this expression of the voters of Tuscaloosa county for this amendment shall of itself authorize the issue and sale of said bonds and then no additional election by the voters of Tuscaloosa county shall be required to authorize the issue and sale of said bonds and such bonds may be issued and sold as the full obligation of Tuscaloosa county without an additional election. In the event the voters of Tuscaloosa county do not authorize the issuance and sale of said bonds at any such elections herein referred to, authorized or called hereunder then other special elections shall be called by the governing body of Tuscaloosa county from time to time until the voters of Tuscaloosa county do authorize the issuance and sale of said bonds; provided that no two special elections shall be held within one year of each other except the first special election herein provided for; and provided further that such special elections

shall be held at least once every two years until said bonds are authorized. When authorized said bonds shall be promptly sold and such courthouse and jail shall forthwith be built. Tuscaloosa county shall and is hereby specifically authorized to acquire adequate lands for said courthouse and jail and approaches and parking spaces. Such courthouse and jail may be built as one building or as separate buildings as the governing body of Tuscaloosa county may determine and shall be properly and adequately equipped and furnished. The indebtedness herein authorized shall be in addition to all other indebtedness authorized prior to the adoption of this amendment.

Amendment 116 ratified

State Works of Internal Improvement Along Navigable Waterways and Indebtedness Therefor.

In addition to the authority heretofore granted it by section 93 of this Constitution as amended, and notwithstanding the provisions of section 213 of this Constitution as amended, and when authorized by appropriate laws passed by the legislature, the state may, at a cost of not exceeding an additional ten million dollars engage in works of internal improvement by promoting, developing, constructing, maintaining and operating along navigable streams or waterways now or hereafter existing within the state all manner of docks, facilities, elevators, warehouses, water and rail terminals and other structures and facilities and improvements needful for the convenient use of the same, in aid of commerce and use of the waterways of the state; provided that any such work or improvements shall always be and remain under the management and control of the state through the Alabama state docks department or other state governing agency. When authorized by appropriate laws passed by the legislature, the state may become indebted in an aggregate principal amount of not exceeding \$10,000,000 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this amendment and may cause to be issued its general direct obligation bonds for the repayment of such indebtedness and interest thereon and pledge the faith and credit of the state thereto.

Amendment 117 ratified

Bonds for Construction and Improvement Purposes at Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind.

The state is authorized to become indebted and to issue interest bearing bonds, in addition to those heretofore authorized and sold, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$3,000,000. The proceeds derived from the sale of said bonds shall be used solely for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance thereof and for the acquisition of sites for and the construction, reconstruction, alteration, improvement and equipment of building facilities, including the renewal or replacement of structural parts, at the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind. Said bonds shall be sold only at a duly advertised public sale or sales, upon sealed bids or at auction, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state for the bonds offered for sale, and shall be sold at not less than their face value plus accrued interest thereon. Said bonds shall be direct general obligations of the state and for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon the full faith and credit of the state are hereby irrevocably pledged. In addition thereto, there is hereby specially and irrevocably pledged for payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds, pro rata and without priority of one bond over another by reason of prior issuance or otherwise, so much as may be necessary for said purpose of those portions of the state sales tax and the state use tax in effect at the date of the adoption of this amendment which are required by law at the date of the adoption of this amendment to be paid into the Alabama special educational trust fund. The said special pledge shall create a charge on the tax proceeds herein specially pledged prior to all other charges or expenses for educational or any other purposes whatsoever; provided, that in the event any other bonds should be issued under the authority of any other amendment to the Constitution proposed by the 1957 regular session of the legislature, or by any public corporation created pursuant to any statute enacted at said session, for payment of the principal of and interest on which the said taxes or any portion thereof should be pledged in such other constitutional amendment or in or pursuant to authority of such statute, then the special pledge of the said taxes herein made shall be on a parity with the pledge or pledges of said taxes or portion thereof for the benefit of such other bonds. The bonds issued under this amendment and the income therefrom shall be exempt from all taxation in the state of Alabama. The

provisions of section 261 of the Constitution of Alabama shall not be deemed to apply to the tax proceeds so specially pledged or to the proceeds from any bonds issued hereunder. The legislature shall adopt appropriate enabling legislation to carry out the intent and purpose of this amendment.

Amendment 118 ratified

Increasing Rate of Interest and Other Matters Relating to Bonds Authorized Under Amendment No. 113.

Bonds which may be issued for building construction and improvement purposes at Alabama State Hospitals and at Partlow State School for Mental Deficients, under the provisions of the amendment to the Constitution which was proposed by Act No. 37 adopted at the First Special Session of the Legislature of 1956 [1956, 1st Ex. Sess., p. 63] and which was ratified by the electors at the general election held on November 6, 1956 [amendment No. 113], may be sold, executed and delivered from time to time in series, may bear such date or dates, and may bear interest at such rate or rates not exceeding four and one-half per centum per annum payable semiannually and evidenced in such manner, all as may be provided at the respective times of the sales thereof. The maturities of the bonds of each series shall, to such extent as may be practicable, be so arranged that the first maturity of the bonds of each series shall be not later than one year after the date thereof and the last maturity of the bonds of that series shall be not later than twenty years after the date thereof, and the said maturities shall be so arranged that during each then succeeding fiscal year of the state the aggregate installments of principal and interest that will mature on all bonds that will be outstanding under said amendment, immediately following the issuance of the bonds of that series, will be substantially equal; provided, that the determination in the proceedings under which the bonds are issued that the requirements of this sentence have been complied with shall be conclusive of such compliance and the purchasers of any of the bonds and all subsequent holders thereof shall be fully protected by such determination.

Amendment 119 ratified

Bonds for Construction and Improvement Purposes at University of Alabama Medical Center.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for building, construction and improved purposes at the University of Alabama Medical Center, in Birmingham, and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to sell and issue, in addition to all other bonds of the state, interest-bearing general obligation bonds of the state not exceeding four million five hundred thousand dollars in principal amount. The bonds shall be general obligations of the State of Alabama and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon. The proceeds from the sale of such bonds are hereby appropriated and shall be used exclusively for the acquisition of lands adjacent to the University of Alabama Medical Center, in Birmingham, and to provide funds to be used to match federal funds granted by the National Institute of Health of the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare for construction and equipment of a medical research building and to match federal funds granted under the Hill-Burton Act for the construction and equipment of a nurses' home at the medical center; provided that the expenses incurred in connection with the sale and issuance of the bonds may also be paid from such proceeds.

The board of trustees of the University of Alabama is hereby vested with full authority, except as limited herein, to provide the terms of the bonds and to provide for the sale and issuance thereof. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal or interest or both with rights of conversion into another form, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state to be exercised by said board at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said board in the resolution or resolutions whereunder the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amounts as shall be specified in the resolution or resolutions of the said board under which they

are issued, the first of which installments shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty years after the date of the bonds of the same series. When each series of bonds is issued, the maturities of the bonds of that series shall, to such extent as may be practicable, be so arranged that during each then succeeding fiscal year of the state the aggregate installments of principal and interest that will mature on all bonds that will be outstanding hereunder, immediately following the issuance of the bonds of that series, will be substantially equal; provided, that the determination by the said board that the requirements of this sentence have been complied with shall be conclusive of such compliance and the purchasers of the bonds with respect to which such determination is made and all subsequent holders thereof shall be fully protected thereby. None of the bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest thereon to the date of delivery, and all of the bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said board, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said board is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the governor and countersigned by the president pro tempore of the board of trustees of the University of Alabama and the great seal of the state of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the secretary of state; provided that facsimile signatures of any one or any two (but not all) of said officers may be reproduced on such bonds in lieu of their manually signing the same. Coupons attached to the bonds and representing installments of interest thereon shall be signed with the facsimile signature of the state treasurer, which facsimile signature is hereby adopted as due and sufficient authentication of said coupons.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from taxation in this state.

The proceeds from the sale of bonds hereby authorized, after the payment of all expenses of the sale thereof shall be set apart in a special trust fund in the state treasury to be designated The University of Alabama Medical Center Bond Fund; and such proceeds shall be used solely for the purposes, hereinabove enumerated, for which the bonds are authorized to be issued; provided that the plans and specifications for any building constructed with moneys from said special fund shall be approved by the Alabama building commission or any agency designated by the legislature as its successor.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and no further authorization from the legislature shall be a prerequisite to the validity of any bonds issued hereunder.

Amendment 120 ratified

Bonds for Construction and Improvement Purposes at The Alabama Polytechnic Institute.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for building, construction and improvement purposes at The Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn, and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to sell and issue, in addition to all other bonds of the state, interest bearing general obligation bonds of the state not exceeding four million five hundred thousand dollars (\$4,500,000) in principal amount. The bonds shall be general obligations of the state of Alabama and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon. The proceeds from the sale of any such bonds shall, after payment of the expenses of their issuance, be set apart in a special fund in the state treasury to be designated "The Alabama Polytechnic Institute Building Bond Fund"; and such proceeds shall be used exclusively for the construction, reconstruction, alteration, and improvement of college building facilities, including the acquisition of sites and equipment for such facilities, for use by the School of Agriculture, the Agricultural Experiment Station, and the School of Veterinary Medicine of The Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn; provided, that the plans and specifications for any building constructed with money from said special fund shall be approved by the Alabama building commission or any agency designated by the legislature as its successor.

The board of trustees of The Alabama Polytechnic Institute is hereby vested with full authority, except as limited herein, to provide the terms of the bonds and to provide for the sale and issuance thereof. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal or interest or both with rights of conversion into another form, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state to be exercised by said board at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said board in the resolution or resolutions whereunder the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amounts as shall be specified in the resolution or resolutions of the said board under which they are issued, the first of which installments shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty years after the date of the bonds of the same series. When each series of bonds is issued, the maturities of the bonds of that series shall, to such extent as may be practicable, be so arranged that during each then succeeding fiscal year of the state the aggregate installments of principal and interest that will mature on all bonds that will be outstanding hereunder, immediately following the issuance of the bonds of that series, will be substantially equal; provided, that the determination by the said board that the requirements of this sentence have been complied with shall be conclusive of such compliance and the purchasers of the bonds with respect to which such determination is made and all subsequent holders thereof shall be fully protected by such determination. None of the bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest thereon to the date of delivery, and all of the bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said board, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said board is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the governor and countersigned by the president pro tempore of the board of trustees of The Alabama Polytechnic Institute, and the great seal of the state of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the secretary of state; provided, that facsimile signatures of any one or any two (but not all) of said officers may be reproduced on any of such bonds in lieu of being manually signed thereon. Coupons attached to the bonds and representing installments of interest thereon shall be signed with the facsimile signature of the state treasurer, which facsimile signature shall constitute due and sufficient authentication of said coupons.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from taxation in this state.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and authorization from or other action of the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder.

Amendment 121 ratified

Increasing Rate of Interest and Other Matters Relating to Bonds Issued Under Amendment No. 114.

Except as hereinafter limited, bonds which may be issued under the provisions of the amendment to the Constitution which was proposed by Act No. 125 adopted at the First Special Session of the Legislature of 1956 [1956, 1st Ex. Sess., p. 179] and which was ratified by the electors at the general election held on November 6, 1956, and proclaimed ratified on November 15, 1956 [amendment No. 114], may be executed and delivered from time to time in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal and interest or both with rights of conversion into another form, may bear interest at such rate or rates not exceeding 4% per annum payable semiannually and payable and evidenced in such manner, may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, and may contain such other terms and

conditions not inconsistent with the provisions hereof, all as may be provided in the order of the governor providing for the issuance thereof which shall be made at the time of each sale of any of said bonds. The principal of each series of said bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amounts as shall be specified in the order under which they are issued, the first of which installments shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than ten years after the date of the bonds of the same series. When each series of said bonds is issued, the maturities of the bonds of that series shall, to such extent as may be practicable, be so arranged that during any then succeeding fiscal year of the state the aggregate installments of principal and interest that will mature on all of the said bonds that will be outstanding hereunder, immediately following the issuance of the bonds of that series, will be substantially equal; provided, that the determination in the order under which the bonds of such series are issued that the requirements of this sentence have been complied with shall be conclusive of such compliance and the purchasers of the bonds with respect to which such determination is made and all subsequent holders thereof shall be fully protected thereby. None of the said bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest to the date of delivery, and all of the said bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after advertisement in a financial journal published in New York City at least one time not less than ten days prior to the date fixed for the sale, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the governor is received all bids may be rejected.

Amendment 122 ratified

Bonds of Mobile County for Public School Buildings.

Mobile county is hereby authorized to become indebted for school building purposes and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred, to sell and issue, in addition to all other bonds of the county, interest bearing bonds of the county not exceeding three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in principal amount.

The bonds issued hereunder, together with the bonds now or hereafter outstanding under authority of amendment XVIII [18], proposed by Acts 1923, page 594, and proclaimed ratified November 15, 1924 (Proclamation Record D., page 107) and amendment C, proposed by Acts 1953, page 436, and proclaimed ratified December 28, 1953 (Proclamation Record, Volume I, page 144), together with redemption premiums thereon, shall be payable from any funds heretofore and hereafter derived from the proceeds of the tax at such rate or rates not exceeding one-half of one per centum of the assessed value of the property situated in the county which may from time to time be levied and which has been levied under amendment XVIII [18] and also from the proceeds of any tax or taxes levied under this amendment; and the board of revenue and road commissioners or other governing body of Mobile county is hereby vested with full authority to continue to levy a tax in the amount authorized by said amendment XVIII [18], until all bonds issued pursuant to this amendment have been paid in full, or provision for such payment made, without again submitting the question of levying such tax and issuing such bonds to the qualified voters of Mobile county.

The proceeds from each sale of any of the bonds shall, after payment of the expenses of issuing the same, be covered into the county treasury and set apart therein in a special trust fund to be designated the "Public School Bond Fund." The money paid into such fund shall be disbursed to the custodian of county school funds, and shall be used solely for the acquisition of public school sites, for the construction, reconstruction, alteration and improvement of public school building facilities, for the procurement of equipment therefor, and for payment of obligations incurred for any of such purposes in Mobile county.

The board of revenue and road commissioners or other governing body of Mobile county is hereby vested with full authority except as limited herein, to provide the terms of the bonds and to provide for the sale and issuance thereof; and such county governing body is hereby specifically authorized to pledge to the payment of such bonds so much of the proceeds of any tax hereinbefore or hereafter levied pursuant to amendment XVIII [18], which has not already been pledged to the payment of other bonds of the county, and so much of the proceeds of any tax levied pursuant to

this amendment as are needed for the payment of the bonds hereby authorized. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal or interest or both with rights of conversion into another form, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of Mobile county to be exercised by said board of revenue and road commissioners or other governing body of Mobile county at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by said county governing body in the resolution or resolutions whereunder the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amounts as shall be specified in the resolution or resolutions of the said county governing body under which they were issued, the first of which installments shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty-five years after the date of the bonds of the same series. When each series of bonds is issued, the maturities of the bonds of that series shall, to such extent as may be practicable, be so arranged that during each then succeeding fiscal year of the county the aggregate installments of principal and interest that will mature on all bonds that will be outstanding hereunder, immediately following the issuance of the bonds of that series, will be substantially equal; provided, that the determination by the said county governing body that the requirements of this sentence have been complied with shall be conclusive of such compliance and the purchasers of the bonds with respect to which such determination is made and all subsequent holders thereof shall be fully protected by such determination. None of the bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest thereon to the date of delivery, and all of the bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said county governing body, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the county computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said county governing body is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the county of Mobile by the chairman of the board of revenue and road commissioner or other presiding officer of the county governing body and shall be countersigned by the county treasurer, and the seal of the county, if any, or a facsimile thereof, shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the clerk of the county governing body; provided that a facsimile of the signature of any one or any two (but not all) of the officers whose signatures appear on the bonds may be reproduced on any of the bonds in lieu of being manually signed thereon. Any coupons attached to the bonds and representing installments of interest thereon shall be signed with the facsimile signature of the chairman of the county governing body, which facsimile signature shall constitute sufficient authentication of said coupons.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income therefrom, shall forever be exempt from all taxation in this state.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and authorization from or other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder; provided, however, that the legislature may enact appropriate legislation, not inconsistent with this amendment, respecting the use of the proceeds from the bonds and providing for the payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon.

Amendment 123 ratified

Special School District Taxes in Cleburne County.

In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the several school districts or Cleburne county shall have the power to levy and collect a special district tax of fifty cents (\$.50) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) worth of taxable property in such districts for public school purposes; provided, that the time during which such tax is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in each such district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election, the election to be

held in the same manner as now provided by law for an election on the school district tax authorized in article XIX of the Constitution of Alabama. The funds arising from such special tax levied in any district which votes the same independently of the county shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the district, as the law may direct.

Amendment 124 ratified

Special School Tax in Russell County; Tax Anticipation Bonds.

In addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, Russell county shall have the power to levy and collect a special county-wide school tax of eight mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property in Russell county, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public school purposes; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. The special tax provided for herein may be renewed from time to time, in the manner provided herein, for such periods of time as are necessary. If any proposal to levy the tax is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. The elections provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX of the Constitution of Alabama, by article 7, chapter 10, Title 52, Code of Alabama (1940). The county tax collector shall collect the tax in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected, and he shall keep the proceeds of this tax separate and apart from all other funds, and shall keep clear accounts thereof. The tax collector shall distribute the proceeds of this special tax in such manner as to turn over to the custodian of the county school funds of Russell county the revenue derived from the tax levied on all taxable property situated outside the corporate limits of Phenix City, such revenues to be used by the county board of education for educational purposes in connection with schools located or to be located outside the corporate limits of Phenix City, and to turn over to the custodian of school funds of the city school system of Phenix City the revenue derived from the tax levied on all taxable property situated within the corporate limits of Phenix City, such revenues to be used by the city board of education for educational purposes in connection with schools located or to be located within the corporate limits of Phenix City.

In the event that any special property tax authorized herein shall be authorized by a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question at the election, the county board of education of Russell county and the city board of education of Phenix City may, at such times as to them seem necessary and proper, sell and issue their tax anticipation bonds for the purposes for which the tax was authorized, which bonds shall be in such amounts as the respective board of education shall designate and, except as otherwise provided herein, shall be subject to the provisions of the general laws now pertaining to the issuance by county and city boards of education of capital outlay warrants, and no further election shall be required for the issuance of such bonds. The revenue derived from the sale of these bonds shall be expended by the county board of education and the Phenix City board of education for public school purposes only. Any bonds issued under the authority of this amendment shall be payable solely out of the proceeds of the special property tax hereby authorized, all or any part of which may be pledged therefor. The bonds issued under the authority of this amendment shall constitute negotiable instruments, although payable from a limited source, and shall be eligible for the investment of trust funds. The bonds shall not constitute general obligations of the county and shall be in addition to all other bonds or warrants which the county or city boards of education have heretofore issued or are authorized to issue under the Constitution and laws of Alabama.

Amendment 125 ratified

Use of Certain Special County Taxes for Hospital Care and Treatment of Indigent Residents.

The legislature may authorize the use of any portion of the proceeds of any special county tax levied for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, equipping, operating, and maintaining public hospitals, public clinics, public health centers, and related public health facilities of any kind, or for any one or more of the purposes included within the meaning of the term "public hospital purposes," for the purpose of providing hospital care and treatment for indigent residents of the county, or for the purpose of matching any state or federal funds made available for use in providing hospital care and treatment for indigent residents of the county, any provision of the Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding. Provided, however, that if any portion of the proceeds of such tax shall have been pledged to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, such portion of the proceeds of the tax as shall have been so pledged shall not be used for any purpose except in payment of such bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness.

Amendment 126 ratified

Certain Obligations of Municipality Having Less than 6,000 Inhabitants Not Indebtedness Within Meaning of Section 225.

Obligations hereafter incurred and securities hereafter issued for any of the following purposes and under the following circumstances by a municipality having a population of less than six thousand inhabitants shall not be deemed to constitute indebtedness of such municipality within the meaning of section 225 of this Constitution: (a) for the purpose of acquiring, providing or constructing sanitary or storm water sewers, or street or sidewalk improvements, the cost of which, in whole or in part, is to be assessed against the property drained, served or benefited by such sewers or abutting such improvements; or (b) for the purpose of acquiring, providing or constructing school houses, provided that there shall be pledged for payment of the principal of and interest on such obligations or securities a tax which the governing body of such municipality shall have determined, upon the basis of its estimate of the revenues from said tax, will be sufficient to pay said principal and interest at their respective maturities.

Amendment 127 ratified

Court Costs and Fees, Allowances, etc., of Officers of Walker County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Walker county, and the method of disbursement thereof. Also, the legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the costs, charges, fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and compensation to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, circuit clerk, register of the circuit court, tax assessor, and tax collector of Walker county, or any other county officer on a fee basis, and may place any of such officers on a salary, and provide that the costs, charges, fees, commissions, percentages, and allowances collected by such officers shall be paid into the county treasury from which their salaries and office expenses shall be paid.

Amendment 128 ratified

Economic Development of Bullock County.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, Bullock county shall have full and continuing power and authority to do any one or more of the following, provided that such action is first approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote at an election held for such purpose.

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, or give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association, or company.
5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 9 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special county privilege license tax or taxes of not exceeding one percent paralleling the state sales and use taxes imposed by chapter 20 of Title 51, Code of Alabama (1940) as amended.
8. To construct a dam or system of dams, and to acquire a site or sites therefor, on any public stream flowing within the county for the purpose of impounding waters to be used in irrigation projects, or in generating hydroelectric power, or in providing recreational facilities, or for other purposes, and to accept any funds by way of gift, grant, or loan from the federal government, or any agency or instrumentality thereof, for the purpose of constructing such dam or system of dams.
9. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
10. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of Bullock county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The

bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of Bullock county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of such county under section 224 of the Constitution.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Amendment 129 ratified

Additional Property Taxes in School Districts of Tallapoosa County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the governing body of Tallapoosa county shall have the power to levy and collect in any school district in the county a special district tax not to exceed three-fourths of one percent ($3/4$ %) on the value of the taxable property within such district for school purposes; provided that the levying of such tax and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in each such district and approved by a majority of those voting at such election. The election shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed and may be contested as in the case of three-mill school tax elections held pursuant to chapter 10, article 7, Title 52, Code of Alabama of 1940. All funds arising from the special school tax levied in any district of the county shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of that district as the law may direct. Provided, however, that such tax shall not apply to any property which is subject to an additional municipal tax for school purposes, in the same or a greater amount, levied pursuant to the authority of amendment LVI [56] to the Constitution of Alabama, so long as such municipal tax is levied and collected.

Amendment 130 ratified

Special Tax by School Districts of Colbert County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the several school districts of Colbert county, Alabama shall have the power to levy and collect a special district tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in such districts for school purposes; provided, that the levying of such tax and the time during which it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in each such district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; and further provided that such election shall be held in the same manner as now provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in article XIX of the Constitution of Alabama; and be it further provided that the funds arising from the special school tax levied in any district which votes the same independently of the county shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the district as the law may direct.

Amendment 131 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in Butler County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or like governing body of Butler county shall levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding one percent on the value of the property in the county as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. The special tax provided for herein may be reduced from time to time, in the manner provided herein, for such periods of time as are necessary. If any proposal to levy a tax is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. The election provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX, of the Constitution of Alabama, by article 7, chapter 10, Title 52, Code of Alabama (1940). The tax shall be collected in the

same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected.

Amendment 132 ratified

Altering Boundaries, Reducing Area or Abolishing Macon County.

The legislature may, with or without the notice prescribed by section 106 of this Constitution, by a majority vote of each house, enact general or local laws altering or re-arranging the existing boundaries, or reducing the area of, or abolishing, Macon county, and transferring its territory, or any part thereof, its jurisdiction and functions, to contiguous counties. Toward this end, there shall be a committee composed of the senators and representatives who now represent the counties of Bullock, Elmore, Lee, Macon, Montgomery, and Tallapoosa in the legislature, to study and determine the feasibility of abolishing Macon county or reducing its area, and to formulate the legislation deemed necessary for such purpose. The committee shall select a chairman and a vice-chairman from among their number, shall meet on the call of the chairman, and shall report its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the legislative council on or before the first Friday in October, 1958; and the legislative council shall submit such report and any legislation proposed by the committee to the legislature at the 1959 regular session thereof. The committee shall be discharged upon the filing of its report with the legislative council. Committee members shall be entitled to receive an amount equal to their regular legislative per diem and allowances for each day they serve, not to exceed fifty days altogether. The committee may employ such engineering, technical, clerical, and Stenographic personnel as may be necessary for the conduct of its work, and may fix their compensation. The compensation and expenses of the committee and its employees, and the other necessary expenses incurred by the committee, shall be paid from any money in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated, on requisitions certified by the committee chairman; provided, that the aggregate amount to be expended by the committee shall not exceed the sum of fifty thousand dollars.

Amendment 133 ratified

License, Excise, etc., Taxes on Wages or Salaries by Municipal Corporations in Walker County.

No municipal corporation in Walker county, Alabama shall have power or be authorized to levy, impose, assess, or collect any license, excise, tax, or fee on the right to work for wages or on salary in the service of an employer; and any such levy heretofore made shall be null and void.

Amendment 134 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts and Compensation of Officers of DeKalb County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of courts in DeKalb county and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and salary, including the method or basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, tax assessor, tax collector, register, and circuit clerk of DeKalb county, including the right to place any of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees charged or collected by them to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

Amendment 135 ratified

Fees, Allowances, etc., of Judge of Probate and Other Officers of Madison County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the fees, commissions, percentages, costs, allowances, and compensation to be charged or received by the judge of probate or any other officer of Madison county, and may place such officer on a salary, and provide that the fees, commissions, percentages, costs, and allowances collected by such officer shall be paid into the county treasury from which his salary shall be paid.

Amendment 136 ratified

Compensation, Allowances, etc., of Officers of Colbert County.

The legislature may hereafter, from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts, and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, or salaries to be charged or received by any officer of Colbert county, including the method and basis of fixing and paying their compensation; provided, that no county officer's compensation shall be increased or diminished during the term for which he shall have been elected or appointed.

Amendment 137 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts and Fees, Allowances, etc., of Officers of Cullman County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Cullman county, and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and compensation of any officer of Cullman county, and may change the method or basis of compensating any officer of Cullman county, including the power to place any such officer on a salary and to provide for the fees, commissions, percentages, or allowances collectible by such officer to be paid into the treasury from which his salary is paid.

Amendment 138 ratified

Fees, Allowances, etc., of Officers of Dallas County.

The legislature may hereafter from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter and regulate the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and compensation to be charged or received by the judge of probate, tax assessor, tax collector, sheriff, coroner, register in chancery, circuit clerk, clerk-register, and members of the court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or like governing body of Dallas county. The legislature shall also have the power and authority to place any of such officers on a salary and to provide that the fees, commissions, percentages, and allowances collected by such officers shall be paid into the county treasury from which their salaries shall be paid. The compensation of any such officer may be increased but not diminished, during the term for which he was elected or appointed, the provisions of any article or amendment of this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding. Amendment XLVI [46] is hereby expressly repealed. The basis of compensation of all employees of Dallas county and of the above named officers heretofore fixed pursuant to authority of amendment XLVI [46] and in effect August 1, 1957, shall continue in force until otherwise fixed, altered or regulated by the legislature of Alabama by general or local laws.

Amendment 139 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Montgomery County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Montgomery county, and the method of disbursement thereof.

Amendment 140 ratified

Special, Private or Local Laws Relating to Lauderdale County and Municipalities Therein.

The legislature shall not pass a special, private, or local law changing the form of government of Lauderdale county or of any city, town, village, district, or other such political subdivision of the county, or abridge the term of any elected officer thereof, by the abolition of his office or otherwise, unless the operation of such law shall be approved by a vote of the duly qualified electors of such county, city, town, village, district, or other political subdivision of the county, at an election held for such purpose, in the manner prescribed by such law.

Amendment 141 ratified

Bond Issue for Mental Hospital at University of Alabama Medical Center.

The state is authorized to become indebted and to issue interest bearing bonds, in addition to those heretofore authorized and sold, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$3,000,000. The proceeds derived from the sale of said bonds shall be used solely for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance thereof and for the construction and equipment of a hospital building to constitute a part of the University of Alabama Medical Center, and to be used for the care and treatment of mental patients and for training of medical students in the field of mental illness. Said bonds shall be sold only at a duly advertised public sale or sales, upon sealed bids or at auction, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state for the bonds offered for sale, and shall be sold at not less than their face value plus accrued interest thereon. Said bonds shall be direct general obligations of the state and for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon the full faith and credit of the state are hereby irrevocably pledged. In addition thereto, there is hereby specifically and irrevocably pledged for payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds, pro rata and without priority of one bond over another by reason of prior issuance or otherwise, so much as may be necessary for said purpose of those portions of the state taxes on the sale of spirituous or vinous liquors and of the state license taxes on those selling, storing or receiving for distribution malt or brewed beverages that are required by law on the date of the adoption of this amendment to be paid into the Alabama special mental health fund. The said special pledge shall create a charge on the tax proceeds herein specially pledged prior to all other charges or expenses for mental health purposes or any other purposes whatsoever. The bonds issued under this amendment and the income therefrom shall be exempt from all taxation in the state of Alabama. The legislature shall adopt appropriate enabling legislation to carry out the intent and purpose of this amendment.

Amendment 142 ratified

Laws Placing Responsibility for County Roads in State Highway Department.

The legislature shall not hereafter by general, special or local law authorize the state highway department or any other agency of the state of Alabama, other than a court of county commissioners, board of revenue or like county governing body, to assume responsibility for the construction, repair or maintenance of all county roads or bridges within a county unless the assumption of such responsibility by the state highway department or other agency shall be approved by a vote of the duly qualified electors of the county in which such roads lie at an election held for such purpose, in the manner that may be prescribed by law. Provided, the state highway department, or other state agency may engage in the construction, repair or maintenance of a county road or bridge upon written agreement signed by the director and a majority of the members of the county governing body; and provided further that the legislature is not prohibited from authorizing the highway director or other state agency to designate certain routes or roads within a county as a part of the state highway system.

Amendment 143 ratified

Special Property Tax in Barbour County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or like governing body of Barbour county may levy each year hereafter, in lieu of the tax levy authorized by the first proviso of section 215, article XI of the Constitution, a special county tax on the taxable property within the county at a rate not to exceed twenty-five cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in such county, to pay any debt or liability incurred for the erection of a new county courthouse, for the construction, repair, and maintenance of other necessary public buildings, and for general county purposes; provided, that the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. The election shall be held and conducted in the same manner as county school tax elections, except that no

petition of electors shall be necessary to initiate the same.

Amendment 144 ratified

Laws Changing Form of Government of Colbert County or Municipalities Therein or Changing Term of Office, Compensation, Allowances, etc., of Officers Thereof.

The legislature shall not pass a special, private, or local law changing the form of government of Colbert county or of any city, town, village, district, or other such political subdivision of the county, or abridging the term of any officer thereof, by the abolition of his office or otherwise, or increasing or decreasing or altering the salary or other compensation, fees, commissions, percentages, or allowances of any officer thereof, by the imposition of new, different, and additional duties, or by expense allowances, during the term for which he was elected or appointed, or at any time, unless the operation of such law shall be approved by a vote of the duly qualified electors of such county, city, town, village, district, or other political subdivision of the county, at an election held for such purpose, in the manner prescribed by such law. Nor shall the legislature authorize the governing body of Colbert county or of any political subdivision thereof to increase or decrease or alter the salary or other compensation, fees, commissions, percentages, or allowances of any officer thereof, by the imposition of new, different, and additional duties, or by expense allowances, during his term, or at any time, unless the operation of the law providing therefor shall be approved by a vote of the duly qualified electors of the county or city, town, village, district, or other political subdivision of the county affected thereby, at an election held for such purpose, in the manner prescribed by such law.

Amendment 145 ratified

Special Tax in School Districts of Coosa County.

The several school districts of Coosa county shall have power to levy and collect a special district school tax not exceeding fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in such district, provided the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. The special district tax authorized by this amendment shall be in addition to all other school district taxes authorized by law. The election provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided by law for elections on the special county school tax authorized in amendment III [3] to the Constitution. The revenue derived from the tax shall be used exclusively for the support and furtherance of education and for constructing and equipping school buildings and acquiring sites therefor.

Amendment 146 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in DeKalb County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or like governing body of DeKalb county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of seven and one-half mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property in the county as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, provided that the question of levying the tax, the purpose thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; and, provided further, that the total of all taxes levied for educational or school purposes in any school district of the county shall not exceed a total of fourteen and one-half mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property located in the district. If any proposal to levy the tax is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. The election provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX, of the Constitution of

Alabama, by article 7, chapter 10, Title 52, Code of Alabama (1940). The tax shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected. The proceeds of the tax authorized by this amendment shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, provided that the revenue derived from four and one-half mills of the total rate of taxation authorized herein shall be devoted only to purposes of capital outlay, and the revenue derived from the remaining three mills shall be devoted to current operating expenses.

Amendment 147 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in Lee County and City of Opelika.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue or like governing body of Lee county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes, now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding one-half of one per cent on the value of the taxable property in the county situated outside the corporate limits of Auburn and Opelika, as such property was assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, but may be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for public school purposes, which pledges shall take priority as provided in such bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county residing outside the corporate limits of Auburn and Opelika, and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Elections on proposals to levy this tax on the property in the county situated outside the corporate limits of Auburn and Opelika shall be called and held in the same manner as now provided by law for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX, of the Constitution of Alabama. The tax on property situated outside the corporate limits of Auburn and Opelika shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected, and the revenues derived from such tax shall be used solely for school construction and other educational purposes in the territory of the county outside the corporate limits of Auburn and Opelika.

The city of Opelika shall likewise have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding one-half of one per cent on the value of the taxable property situated within the corporate limits of the city, as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, but may be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for public school purposes, which pledges shall take priority as provided in such bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Elections on proposals to levy this tax on property situated within the corporate limits of Opelika shall be ordered and held in the same manner as provided by the law applicable to municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds. The additional tax, authorized by this amendment to be levied on property situated within the corporate limits of Opelika, shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as other taxes levied on property by the city of Opelika are collected, and the revenues derived from this tax shall be used solely for school construction and other educational purposes within the limits of the city of Opelika.

If any proposal to levy a tax hereunder is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time.

Nothing contained in this amendment shall be construed to authorize the levy and collection of an additional tax on property situated within the corporate limits of the city of Auburn.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 148 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in City of Auburn.

In addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the city of Auburn shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, at a rate of not exceeding one-half of one per cent in any one year, on the value of the property in the city, as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which tax shall be used exclusively for the support and furtherance of education but may be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for educational purposes. Any such pledges shall take priority as provided in such bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness. Before any such tax may be levied, the maximum rate of such tax, the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city of Auburn and voted for by a majority of such electors voting at such election. The maximum rate, the purpose or purposes and the duration of such special tax provided for herein may be renewed, extended, revoked, or amended from time to time by like vote of the qualified electors of the city of Auburn; provided, however, that no revocation or amendment shall be effective as to any tax pledged to the payment of any bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness. If any proposal to levy a tax is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. Each election held under the provisions hereof shall be ordered, held, paid for, canvassed and may be contested in the same manner as is or may be provided by the law applicable to municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds.

Amendment 149 ratified

Special Tax in School District No. 1 of Madison County.

In addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, a special tax of five mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property situated in school district no. 1, of Madison county, is hereby authorized, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public school purposes within the said district.

If in the election on this amendment the amendment receives the favorable vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the district who vote hereon, a special tax of five mills shall be collected in the district, as other special school district taxes are collected, for the tax year ending September 30, 1959, and for each succeeding tax year thereafter until the tax is repealed as herein provided.

If in the election on this amendment a majority of the qualified electors of the district who vote hereon vote against the amendment, the special tax hereby authorized may be levied only if the question of levying the tax, and the purpose thereof, shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the district and voted for by a majority of the electors participating in the election. The election shall be called, held, conducted, and governed by the applicable provisions of article 7, chapter 10, Title 52, Code of Alabama (1940), which governs elections on special school district taxes; and the tax hereby authorized shall be levied and collected in the district as other special school district taxes are levied and collected. If the proposal to levy the tax is defeated in any such election, it may not again be submitted to a vote for one year, but after the expiration of one year, and at intervals of at least one year thereafter, such proposal may be resubmitted to the qualified electors of the district.

After the special tax authorized hereby has been levied, the court of county commissioners, board of revenue or like governing body of Madison county, upon receipt of a petition signed by not less than twenty per cent of the qualified electors who reside in the district, must call an election at which the question of the repeal of the tax, upon payment of all obligations then outstanding, if any, shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the district. Should a majority of the qualified electors participating in this election vote for the repeal of the tax, it shall cease immediately upon the payment in full of all outstanding pledges, if any, against it. Should a majority of the electors participating in the election vote against repeal, the question of repeal may not again be submitted to a vote for one year; but after the expiration of one year, and at intervals of at least one year thereafter, upon receipt of a petition

signed by not less than twenty per cent of the qualified electors residing within the district, the county governing body may order the question of repeal of the tax resubmitted to the qualified electors of the district.

The elections provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided by article 7, chapter 10, Title 52, Code of Alabama (1940), for an election on the special district school taxes authorized by amendment III [3] to the Constitution of Alabama. The collection of the tax shall also be governed by the applicable provisions of article 7, chapter 10, Title 52, Code of Alabama (1940), and the proceeds shall be used exclusively for public school purposes within the district.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 150 ratified

Pension or Retirement System in Mobile County and Municipalities Therein.

The legislature may hereafter, by general, local, or special laws, provide for the establishment of a pension or retirement system or systems for the benefit of public officers of Mobile county and the officers of incorporated municipalities within the county, any provision of the Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding, and may provide for the retirement of such officers on pay or part pay. But any such law shall not become operative until it is first approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county, or of the municipality affected thereby, voting in a referendum election held for that purpose.

Amendment 151 ratified

Bonds of Mobile County for Schoolhouses and Hospitals.

Mobile county is hereby authorized to issue its bonds not exceeding \$3,000,000 in principal amount for the purpose of acquiring, providing, and constructing capital improvements in the county of which not exceeding \$1,000,000 aggregate principal amount shall be issued to pay the costs of acquiring, providing, and constructing public schoolhouses in the county and of which not exceeding \$2,000,000 aggregate principal amount shall be issued to pay the costs of acquiring, providing, and constructing public hospital buildings in the county, provided, that the aggregate principal amount of any series of bonds at any time issued hereunder, when added to the aggregate principal amount of all bonds then outstanding that are payable from or secured by the special annual ad valorem tax authorized in amendment XVIII [18] of the Constitution of Alabama, shall not exceed six and one-half percentum (6 1/2 %) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property situated in said county, as assessed for state taxation for the state tax year next preceding the issuance of such bonds hereunder; provided, further, that any bonds may be issued hereunder only after the question of the issuance of such bonds shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of Mobile county at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of said county, at which a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of such bonds, any such election to be called, held, conducted, and canvassed, and notice thereof to be given, in the manner provided by the then existing general laws of Alabama with respect to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties; provided, however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county participating in the election on the adoption of this constitutional amendment shall vote for adoption of this amendment, then the approval of this constitutional amendment expressed by the said vote in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds provided for herein and in that event no additional election by the voters of Mobile county shall be required to authorize the issuance of said bonds. In the event that the majority vote at any election held hereunder is not in favor of the issuance of the bonds proposed at such election, the governing body of Mobile county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of such bonds but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve months.

The bonds issued hereunder shall be general obligations of Mobile county secured by a pledge of its full faith and credit, and in addition thereto, the governing body of said county shall in the proceedings providing for the issuance

of such bonds specially pledge for payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, at the respective maturities of such principal and interest, so much as may be necessary for said purpose of the said special tax, each such pledge to be on a parity with all valid pledges of said special tax at any time made, to such extent as shall not impair the obligation of then existing valid pledges. The principal of each series of said bonds shall mature in annual installments, the first of which installments shall mature not later than three (3) years after the date of the bonds of said series and the last of which shall mature not later than thirty (30) years after the date of the bonds of said series; provided, that the maturities of each series of bonds issued hereunder shall be so arranged at the time of the issuance of such series of bonds that (a) no annual installment of principal of the bonds of such series maturing during any fiscal year of said county shall be more than four times as great as the smallest installment of principal of any series of bonds maturing during any prior fiscal year, and (b) the aggregate amount of principal and interest that will mature in any one fiscal year with respect to that series of bonds, and all other bonds then outstanding that are payable out of or secured by a pledge of the aforesaid special tax, shall not exceed the amount of the proceeds collected from the said tax during the then next preceding tax year. Except as herein otherwise provided, all bonds issued hereunder shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the issuance of such bonds respecting the sale, execution, issuance, and redemption of bonds by counties.

For payment of the principal of and interest on any bonds that may be issued hereunder, and so long as any of said principal and interest remains unpaid, the governing body of Mobile county is hereby authorized to continue the levy of the said special annual ad valorem tax provided for in said amendment XVIII [18] at such rate as may be sufficient to pay such principal and interest at their respective maturities; provided, that the total rate of said special tax that may be levied and collected for payment of said bonds and all other bonds payable out of or secured by a pledge of said tax, shall not exceed one-half of one per centum ($1/2$ of 1%) of the assessed valuation of taxable property in the county.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and authorization from or other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder or the levy of said special tax for payment thereof.

Amendment 152 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 18.

Amendment XVIII [18]. Mobile county may at any time and from time to time issue its bonds for construction and improvement, or either, of hard surfaced roads, hard surfaced bridges, and surface water drainage facilities, or any thereof, in said county and, to provide for payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds, may levy and collect a special annual ad valorem tax on the taxable property in said county at a rate not exceeding one-half of one per centum ($1/2$ of 1%) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in said county; provided, that the total principal amount of each series of bonds at any time issued hereunder, when added to the principal amount of all then outstanding bonds theretofore issued hereunder and of all then outstanding bonds theretofore issued under any other constitutional amendment that are payable from or secured by the said special tax, shall not exceed six and one-half per centum ($6\frac{1}{2}\%$) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property situated in said county, as assessed for state taxation for the then preceding state tax year; provided, further, that the rate of the said special tax levied for payment of the bonds at any time issued hereunder and all other bonds at any time issued pursuant to any other constitutional amendment and payable out of or secured by said special tax shall not exceed said rate of one-half of one per centum ($1/2$ of 1%) hereinabove specified; and provided, further, that any bonds may be issued hereunder and said special tax for payment thereof may be levied and collected only after a majority of the qualified electors of said county voting at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of said county shall have voted in favor of the issuance of such bonds and the levy of such tax therefor. Each such election shall be called, held, conducted, and canvassed, and notice thereof shall be given, in the manner provided by the general laws of Alabama respecting elections on the issuance of bonds by counties, as such laws may exist at the time such election is called;

provided, that prior to the holding of any election hereunder, the governing body of Mobile county shall cause to be prepared engineering maps and reports respecting the proposed work on roads, bridges and drainage facilities, or any thereof, shall adopt a resolution containing a brief description, including the name if any, of each proposed item of construction or improvement, a statement of the length or location of each such item and of the estimated cost thereof, and a statement of the total amount of the bonds proposed to be issued for all work of construction or improvement described in said resolution, and shall cause said resolution to be published in a newspaper published in the county one time not less than thirty days before such election. Any number of items of construction or improvement may be described in one resolution; and the question of the issuance of bonds and the levy and collection of said tax with respect to all of the work described in each resolution shall be submitted to the voters in one single proposition at any election held hereunder. Any number of such resolutions may be adopted on the same day, and any number of propositions may be submitted to the voters on the same day. Each engineering report prepared in accordance with the provisions hereof shall be accompanied by a certificate of the engineer preparing such report that the material proposed to be used for any road or bridge work described in such report meets the then existing specifications of the Alabama highway department applicable to the same type of construction or improvement.

The limitation of six and one-half per centum (6 1/2 %) of the assessed value of taxable property in the county, hereinabove provided for, is applicable only to the amount of bonds that may be outstanding immediately following the delivery of each series of bonds issued hereunder and shall not restrict the total amount of bonds that may be from time to time issued hereunder.

The bonds issued hereunder shall be general obligations of Mobile county secured by a pledge of its full faith and credit, and in addition thereto, the governing body of said county shall in the proceedings providing for the issuance of such bonds specially pledge for payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, so much of the said special tax as may be necessary to pay said principal and interest at their respective maturities. Each such pledge of the special tax made for the benefit of the bonds issued hereunder shall be on a parity with all valid pledges of said special tax theretofore or thereafter made for the benefit of bonds issued hereunder or under any other constitutional amendment, to such extent as shall not impair the obligations of any then existing valid pledges. The principal of each series of said bonds shall mature in annual installments, the first of which installments shall mature not later than three (3) years after the date of the bonds of said series and the last of which shall mature not later than thirty (30) years after the date of the bonds of said series; provided, that the maturities of each series of bonds issued hereunder shall be so arranged at the time of the issuance of such series of bonds that (a) no annual installment of principal of the bonds of such series maturing during any fiscal year of said county shall be more than four times as great as the smallest installment of principal of any series of bonds maturing during any prior fiscal year, and (b) the aggregate amount of principal and interest that will mature in any one fiscal year with respect to that series of bonds, and all other bonds then outstanding that are payable out of or secured by a pledge of the aforesaid special tax, shall not exceed the amount of the proceeds collected from the said tax during the then next preceding tax year. Except as herein otherwise provided, all bonds issued hereunder shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama respecting the sale, execution, issuance, and redemption of bonds by counties, as such laws may exist at the time of the delivery of such bonds.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and the enactment of local legislation shall not be a prerequisite to the taking of any action hereunder by the said county and its governing body; and no local legislation at any time adopted with respect to this amendment shall be effective, and all such local legislation is hereby repealed.

Amendment 153 ratified

Special Tax for School Purposes in Winston County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of Winston county shall have power to levy and collect a special county tax not exceeding fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in such county in addition to taxes now authorized or that may hereafter be authorized for public school purposes, and in addition to that now authorized under section 260 of article XIV and amendment III [3] of the Constitution; provided, that the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county, and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. The election provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the special county school tax authorized in amendment III [3] to the Constitution of Alabama.

Amendment 154 ratified

Nonresidents Making Mortgage Loans Through Licensed Mortgage Loan Brokers.

Section 1. Any corporation which is not organized under the laws of this state and has no place of business in this state may take and hold mortgages on real property located within this state, deposit the proceeds thereof in a bank account, or bank accounts, in this state, collect the debts secured thereby and may appoint a custodian or collection agent, who must be duly licensed under the laws of this state, to engage in the business of mortgage loan broker, to hold for such non-resident such securities, collect such debts, manage any property acquired by foreclosure thereof, sell and dispose of any property acquired by foreclosure thereof and enforce the provisions of such mortgages and no such foreign corporation shall be deemed to be doing business in this state solely by reason of doing any or all of the acts designated herein; provided, however, that any custodian or agent appointed under the provisions of this amendment by any such foreign corporation shall pay all applicable municipal license taxes and shall pay an occupational license tax as mortgage loan broker to the state of Alabama of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for the first year that such broker represents each such foreign corporation and five dollars (\$5.00) annually for representing each such foreign corporation thereafter. Any foreign corporation which engages in any of the acts prescribed in this section may sue or be sued in this state in relation to any such mortgages held by it, or real property, securities or debts acquired by it and service of process may be perfected upon such foreign corporation by service upon any resident licensed mortgage loan broker appointed as custodian or agent by such corporation in this state.

Section 2. No foreign corporation, which does no other acts in this state than those provided in section 1 hereof, shall be required to pay any franchise tax, qualification fee, permit fee, nor shall it be required in any other way to qualify to do business in this state.

Section 3. This amendment shall be self-executing, but the legislature may, by general act, make provision for enforcement thereof and provide penalties for the violation thereof.

Amendment 155 ratified

Economic Development of Municipality of Uniontown.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the municipality of Uniontown in Perry county shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
 2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
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3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend this credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bond, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipality of Uniontown, or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the municipality of Uniontown in Perry county, or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body, and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the municipality of Uniontown in Perry county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the municipality of Uniontown in Perry county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county under section 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. The municipality of Uniontown in Perry county shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the municipality. The governing body of the municipality may provide for holding such election, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 156 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in School District No. 2 of Randolph County.

The city of Roanoke shall have the power to levy and collect in school district no. 2 of Randolph county a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not more than one-half of one percent on the value of the property situated in the district as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year; provided that all such additional property taxes shall be levied and collected solely for educational purposes and may be pledged to the payment of the principal and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for educational purposes, and provided, further, that the rate of such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of such district and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Each election held under the provisions of this amendment shall be ordered, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the same manner as provided by the law applicable to municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds. Elections to authorize the levy of such additional tax or taxes may be held as often as ordered by the governing body of the city of Roanoke, but when a proposition is submitted to the electors to levy such additional tax, and such proposition is defeated, then no subsequent election shall be held hereunder in the district for a period of one year thereafter.

The revenue derived from the additional tax authorized by this amendment shall be used solely for the construction of schools and other educational purposes in school district no. 2 of Randolph county.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 157 ratified

Bonds for Construction and Improvement Purposes at University of Alabama Research Institute.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for building, construction and improvement purposes at the University of Alabama Research Institute at Huntsville, and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to sell and issue, in addition to all other bonds of the state, interest-bearing general obligation bonds of the state not exceeding three million dollars in principal amount. The bonds shall be general obligations of the state of Alabama and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon. The proceeds from the sale of such bonds are hereby appropriated and shall be used exclusively for the acquisition of lands, and to provide funds to be used for construction and equipment of a research institute; provided that the expenses incurred in connection with the sale and issuance of the bonds may also be paid from such proceeds.

The board of trustees of the University of Alabama is hereby vested with full authority, except as limited herein, to provide the terms of the bonds and to provide for the sale and issuance thereof. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as principal or interest or both with rights of conversion into another form, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state to be exercised by said board at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said board in the resolution or resolutions whereunder the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amounts as shall be specified in the resolution or resolutions of the said board under which they are issued, the first of which installments shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty years after the date of the bonds of the same series. When each series of bonds is issued, the maturities of the bonds of that series shall, to such extent as may be practicable, be so arranged that during each then succeeding fiscal year of the state the aggregate installments

of principal and interest that will mature on all bonds that will be outstanding hereunder, immediately following the issuance of the bonds of that series, will be substantially equal; provided that the determination by the said board that the requirements of this sentence have been complied with shall be conclusive of such compliance and the purchasers of the bonds with respect to which such determination is made and all subsequent holders thereof shall be fully protected thereby. None of the bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest thereon to the date of delivery, and all of the bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said board, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said board is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the governor and countersigned by the president pro tempore of the board of trustees of the University of Alabama and the great seal of the state of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the secretary of state; provided that facsimile signatures of any one or any two (but not all) of said officers may be reproduced on such bonds in lieu of their manually signing the same. Coupons attached to the bonds and representing installments of interest thereon shall be signed with the facsimile signature of the state treasurer, which facsimile signature is hereby adopted as due and sufficient authentication of said coupons.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from taxation in this state.

The proceeds from the sale of bonds hereby authorized, after the payment of all expenses of the sale thereof shall be set apart in a special trust fund in the state treasury to be designated the University of Alabama Research Institute bond fund; and such proceeds shall be used solely for the purposes, hereinabove enumerated, for which the bonds are authorized to be issued; provided that the plans and specifications for any building constructed with moneys from said special fund shall be approved by the Alabama building commission or any agency designated by the legislature as its successor.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and no further authorization from the legislature shall be a prerequisite to the validity of any bonds issued hereunder.

Amendment 158 ratified

Bond Issue to Assist in Construction and Equipment of Hospitals, etc.

(a) Notwithstanding anything contained in the Constitution of the state of Alabama, or any amendment thereto heretofore adopted, the governor shall from time to time issue negotiable interest bearing bonds for the purposes and in the manner and subject to the limitation stated in this amendment. The bonds shall be general obligations of the state of Alabama and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the bonds and the interest thereon. The aggregate principal amount of all bonds issued hereunder shall not exceed two million (\$2,000,000) and they shall mature within ten years from the date of issuance. It is further provided that not more than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) shall be issued during the biennium ending September 30, 1963, and that the additional one million dollars (\$1,000,000) shall be issued in the ensuing biennium.

The proceeds from the sale of such bonds are hereby appropriated and shall be used solely for the construction and equipping of hospitals, health centers, and related facilities pursuant to Act No. 211, General Acts of Alabama 1945, page 330, and approved July 7, 1945; and Act 287, General Acts of Alabama 1945, page 474, approved July 7, 1945; and Act No. 46, General and Local Acts 1949, page 68, approved June 2, 1949; as said acts are now or may hereafter be amended; and such facilities established and operated by the corporate authorities of a city or town, or a county governing body under the provision of Code of Alabama, Title 22, section 189, as same is now or may hereafter be amended; or any act supplemental thereto or amendatory thereof. The funds provided hereby shall be used for construction and equipping facilities under contracts which have been or are let on or after July 1, 1961; shall be used to match federal funds available for hospital, health center, and related medical facilities provided under Public

Law 725, 79th Congress and Public Law 482, 83rd Congress, as said public laws are now or may hereafter be amended; and that the local governments in the area where each hospital, health center, or related medical facility is to be constructed or equipped shall contribute at least as much money for the construction and equipping as does the state; and provided further that the state shall not contribute more than one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) for any facility included within the scope of this amendment.

In determining where a hospital, health center, or related medical facility to be constructed with funds appropriated herein shall be located, consideration shall be given to the communities on the basis of relative need. Counties receiving prior allotments hereunder shall not be precluded from receiving an additional allotment for other facilities at the discretion of the state board of health. A sum not to exceed sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) may be used by the state board of health from the proceeds of the sale of said bonds for administering the provision of this amendment.

(b) All bonds hereunder and the interest thereon shall be payable from any funds in the state treasury not otherwise appropriated. The bonds may be executed and delivered from time to time in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal and interest or both with rights of conversion into another form, may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, and may contain such other terms and conditions not inconsistent with the provisions hereof, all as may be provided in the order of the governor providing for the issuance thereof which shall be made at the time of each sale of any of said bonds. The principal of each series of said bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amounts as shall be specified in the order under which they are issued, the first of which installments shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than ten years after the date of the bonds of the same series. When each series of said bonds is issued, the maturities of the bonds of that series shall, to the extent as may be practicable, be so arranged that during any then succeeding fiscal year of the state the aggregate installments of principal and interest that will mature of all of the said bonds that will be outstanding hereunder, immediately following the issuance of the bonds of that series, will be substantially equal; provided, that the determination in the order under which the bonds of such series are issued that the requirements of this sentence have been complied with shall be conclusive of such compliance and the purchasers of the bonds with respect to which such determination is made and all subsequent holders thereof shall be fully protected thereby. None of said bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest to the date of delivery, and all of said bonds shall be sold at public sale or sales, either sealed bids or at public auction, after advertisement in a financial journal published in New York at least one time not less than ten days prior to the date fixed for the sale, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the governor is received all bids may be rejected.

Amendment 159 ratified

Continuity of Legislature in Event of Enemy Attack.

The legislature may provide for the continuity of the legislature of the state of Alabama and the representation therein of each of the political subdivisions of the state in the event of an attack by an enemy of the United States, by providing for the selection of emergency interim legislators who shall be designated for temporary succession to the powers and duties but not the office of a legislator in case of such emergency. Such emergency interim legislator may serve only when the legislator in whose stead he is authorized to serve has died or is unable temporarily for physical, mental or legal reasons to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of his office, and until such time as the elected legislator is able to resume the duties of his office, or in case of a vacancy in such office a successor has been elected in accordance with section 46 of this Constitution.

Amendment 160 ratified

Issuance of Revenue Securities by Institutions of Learning.

Revenue bonds and other securities at any time issued by or on behalf of any state university, college or institution of learning for the purpose of acquiring, constructing and equipping any new building or facility or for the purpose of enlarging, extending or improving any existing building or facility shall not be deemed to constitute debt of the state within the meaning of section 213, as amended, of the Constitution, if by their terms such bonds or other securities are not made a charge on the general credit or tax revenues of the state but are made payable solely out of revenues derived from the operation of any existing building or buildings or facility or facilities as well as from the new building or facility to be acquired or constructed with the proceeds thereof or from the enlargements, extensions or improvements to any existing building or facility to be acquired or constructed with the proceeds thereof.

Amendment 161 ratified

Board of Trustees of Auburn University.

Section 1. Auburn University, formerly called the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, shall be under the management and control of a board of trustees. The board of trustees shall consist of two members from the congressional district in which the institution is located, one from each of the other congressional districts in the state as the same were constituted on the first day of January, 1961, the state superintendent of education, and the governor, who shall be ex officio president of the board. The trustees shall be appointed by the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, and shall hold office for a term of twelve years, and until their successors shall be appointed and qualified. The board shall be divided into three classes, as nearly equal as may be, so that one-third may be chosen quadrennially. Vacancies occurring in the office of trustees from death or resignation shall be filled by the governor, and such appointee shall hold office until the next meeting of the legislature. The members of the board of trustees as now constituted shall hold office until their respective terms expire under existing law, and until their successors shall be appointed as herein required. No trustee shall receive any pay or emolument other than his actual expenses incurred in the discharge of his duties as such. No employee of Auburn University shall be eligible to serve on its board of trustees.

Section 2. Section 266 of article 14 of the Constitution of Alabama 1901 is hereby repealed.

Amendment 162 ratified

Additional Tax for School Purposes in Baldwin County

Section 1. The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of Baldwin county shall have power to levy and provide for collection of an additional county tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the county, for public school purposes, in the same manner and subject to the same election requirements as provided in the third amendment to this Constitution with respect to other county school taxes. The tax herein authorized shall be in addition to all other county taxes authorized in this Constitution as amended, and the proceeds thereof shall be spent for public school purposes only.

Section 2. If this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the additional tax provided for in section 1 may be levied and collected thereafter without any other election having been held thereon. But if this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax may not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year, and shall be called, held, and conducted in the same way, according to the general laws, as other elections on the question of levying special county school taxes.

Amendment 163 ratified

License Taxes for School Purposes in Bullock County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue or other like governing body of Bullock county may, to raise revenue for support of the public schools within the county, fix and collect license taxes for any business, trade, occupation or profession engaged in or carried on within the county, provided the rate of such licenses, the time they are to be continued and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. Such elections shall be held in the same manner as county school tax elections, except that no petition of electors shall be necessary to initiate the same. Provided that such governing body of Bullock county shall not levy a privilege or license tax on any business or occupation on which a privilege or license tax is levied by sections 176-180, and 182-186 of Title 51 of the Code of Alabama 1940, as amended and in effect at the date of adoption of this amendment.

Amendment 164 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in Tuscaloosa County.

Section 1. The court of county commissioners, board of revenue or like governing body of Tuscaloosa county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes, now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding one-half of one per cent on the value of the taxable property in the county situated outside the territory subject to the jurisdiction and control of the city board of education of Tuscaloosa, as such property was assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county residing outside the territory subject to the jurisdiction and control of the city board of education of Tuscaloosa, and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Elections on proposals to levy this tax on the property in the county situated outside the territory subject to the jurisdiction and control of the city board of education of Tuscaloosa shall be called and held in the same manner as now provided by law for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX, of the Constitution of Alabama. The tax on property situated outside the territory subject to the jurisdiction and control of the city board of education of Tuscaloosa shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected, and the revenues derived from such tax shall be used solely for school construction and other educational purposes in the territory of the county outside the territory subject to the jurisdiction and control of the city board of education of Tuscaloosa.

Section 2. The court of county commissioners, board of revenue or like governing body of Tuscaloosa county shall likewise have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding one-half of one per cent on the value of the taxable property situated within the territory subject to the jurisdiction and control of the city board of education of Tuscaloosa, as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the territory and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Except as herein otherwise provided, elections on proposals to levy this tax on property situated within the territory subject to the jurisdiction and control of the city board of education of Tuscaloosa shall be ordered and held in the same manner as provided by the law applicable to elections on school district taxes. The additional tax, authorized by this amendment to be levied on property situated within the territory subject to the jurisdiction and control of the city board of education of Tuscaloosa, shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as other taxes levied on property in the city of Tuscaloosa are collected, and the revenues derived from this tax shall be used solely for school construction and other educational purposes within the territory subject to the jurisdiction and control of the city board of education of Tuscaloosa.

Section 3. If any proposal to levy a tax hereunder is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at intervals of not less than one year.

Section 4. The special school tax herein authorized shall be effective for a period of thirty years.

Section 5. This amendment shall be self-executing, and no enabling legislation shall be necessary.

Amendment 165 ratified

Use of Special School Tax Funds, Refunding of Bonds, etc., in Calhoun County.

Any funds derived from the voted special school taxes levied in certain cities and school districts in Calhoun county under the provisions of that certain amendment to the Constitution proposed by Act No. 587 enacted at the 1947 regular session of the legislature of Alabama [Amendment No. 68] that are not needed to pay debt service on bonds issued under said amendment, or to comply with any other covenants contained in proceedings authorizing the issuance of such bonds, may, to such extent as the governing body of the political subdivision or agency entitled thereto may determine are excess of the amount then needed for the specific public school purpose for which said taxes were voted, be used for public school purposes generally. Any bonds which are now outstanding or which may hereafter be issued under the provisions of said amendment or this amendment may at any time and from time to time be refunded, whether before, at or after the maturity of the bonds refunded, by the issuance of new bonds, payable from the same sources as those refunded, in a principal amount sufficient to pay said bonds so refunded and any premium necessary to redeem, pay, purchase or otherwise retire said bonds; and bonds may be issued for the combined purpose of so refunding any such bonds and obtaining funds for acquiring, constructing and improving public school buildings, including sites therefor. Notwithstanding the fact that they may be payable solely from a specified source, all bonds hereafter issued under the provisions of said amendment or this amendment shall be negotiable instruments within the meaning of the negotiable instruments law of Alabama if they otherwise possess all the characteristics of negotiable instruments under the laws of Alabama and shall be legal investments for trust funds. Bonds authorized to be issued hereunder shall be issued in the same manner and by the same respective political subdivisions as those authorized to be issued under said amendment proposed by said Act No. 587 [Amendment No. 68] and may be so issued without the necessity of any further election. No bonds issued hereunder shall be chargeable against the constitutional debt limit of the political subdivision by which they are issued.

Amendment 166 ratified

Special Property Tax for Acquiring, etc., Vocational Trade School and for Rural and Industrial Development in Chilton County.

Section 1. The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or like governing body of Chilton county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of two mills on each one dollar's worth of taxable property in the county, the proceeds of which shall be used for the acquiring, constructing, enlarging, repairing, improving, equipping, furnishing, operating, or maintaining of a vocational trade school in the county and for the rural and industrial development of the county, provided that the tax has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting thereon. The county governing body may also pledge the proceeds of the tax to the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for such purposes.

Section 2. In event this amendment is approved the court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or like governing body of Chilton county shall have the authority to call an election at any time. In the call for said election, there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Chilton county a statement of the rate of the tax, the time that it shall continue, and whether or not it shall be levied; and such tax shall be levied if a majority of the qualified electors voting at the said election should vote in favor thereof. If in said election the majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax may not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is

to continue and the purpose thereof shall be again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year and shall be held and conducted in the same manner as county school tax elections, except that no petition of electors shall be necessary to initiate the same.

Section 3. The power to levy granted by this amendment will not be exhausted by one election but shall remain a continuing grant unless and until it is repealed by subsequent constitutional action.

Section 4. This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 167 ratified

Additional Tax for School Purposes in Choctaw County.

Section 1. The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of Choctaw county shall have power to levy and provide for collection of an additional county tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the county, for public school purposes, in the same manner and subject to the same election requirements as provided in the third amendment to this Constitution with respect to other county school taxes. The tax herein authorized shall be in addition to all other county taxes authorized in this Constitution as amended, and the proceeds thereof shall be spent for public school purposes only.

Section 2. If this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the additional tax provided for in section 1 may be levied and collected thereafter without any other election having been held thereon. But if this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax may not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year, and shall be called, held, and conducted in the same way, according to the general laws, as other elections on the question of levying special county school taxes.

Amendment 168 ratified

Additional Tax for School Purposes in Clarke County.

Section 1. The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of Clarke county shall have power to levy and provide for collection of an additional county tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the county, for public school purposes, in the same manner and subject to the same election requirements as provided in the third amendment to this Constitution with respect to other county school taxes. The tax herein authorized shall be in addition to all other county taxes authorized in this Constitution as amended, and the proceeds thereof shall be spent for public school purposes only.

Section 2. If this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of Clarke county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the additional tax provided for in section 1 may be levied and collected thereafter for a period of 20 years without any other election having been held thereon. But if this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax shall not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year, and shall be called, held, and conducted in the same way, according to the general laws, as other elections on the question of levying special county school taxes.

Amendment 169 ratified

Special School Tax in Clay County.

Section 1. If authorized at an election held for such purpose, the governing body of Clay county may levy and collect a special county tax at a rate not exceeding one-half of one percent on the value of the taxable property within the county as assessed for state taxation, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public school purposes.

Section 2. An election shall be ordered by the county governing body to determine whether or not a special tax shall be levied for public school purposes as authorized herein upon the request of the county board of education, and the election shall be held and conducted in accordance with general laws providing for school tax elections pursuant to constitutional amendment III [3].

Amendment 170 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in City of Tuscumbia.

The city of Tuscumbia shall have power to levy and collect a special property tax in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of five mills on each dollar of taxable property situated therein, for educational purposes; provided that before such tax may be levied and collected the question of levying the tax, the purpose thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. The election shall be ordered, held, and conducted as provided by law for calling, holding and conducting district school tax elections.

Amendment 171 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in City of Sheffield.

The city of Sheffield shall have power to levy and collect a special property tax in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of five mills on each dollar of taxable property situated therein, for educational purposes; provided that before such tax may be levied and collected the question of levying the tax, the purpose thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. The election shall be ordered, held, and conducted as provided by law for calling, holding and conducting district school tax elections.

Amendment 172 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in City of Muscle Shoals.

The city of Muscle Shoals shall have power to levy and collect a special property tax in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of five mills on each dollar of taxable property situated therein, for educational purposes; provided that before such tax may be levied and collected the question of levying the tax, the purpose thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. The election shall be ordered, held, and conducted as provided by law for calling, holding and conducting district school tax elections.

Amendment 172 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in City of Muscle Shoals.

The city of Muscle Shoals shall have power to levy and collect a special property tax in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of five mills on each dollar of taxable property situated therein, for educational purposes; provided that before such tax may be levied and collected the question of levying the tax, the purpose thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. The election shall be ordered, held, and conducted as provided by law for calling, holding and conducting district school tax elections.

Amendment 174 ratified

Special Property Tax for Acquiring, etc., Vocational Trade School and for Rural and Industrial Development in Jackson County.

Section 1. The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or like governing body of Jackson county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of two mills on each one dollar's worth of taxable property in the county, the proceeds of which shall be used for the acquiring, constructing, enlarging, repairing, improving, equipping, furnishing, operating, or maintaining of a vocational trade school in the county and for the rural and industrial development of the county, provided that the tax has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting thereon. The county governing body may also pledge the proceeds of the tax to the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for such purposes.

Section 2. In event this amendment is approved the court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or like governing body of Jackson county shall have the authority to call an election at any time. In the call for said election, there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Jackson county a statement of the rate of the tax, the time that it shall continue, and whether or not it shall be levied; and such tax shall be levied if a majority of the qualified electors voting at the said election should vote in favor thereof. If in said election the majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax may not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall be again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year and shall be held and conducted in the same manner as county school tax elections, except that no petition of electors shall be necessary to initiate the same.

Section 3. The power to levy granted by this amendment will not be exhausted by one election but shall remain a continuing grant unless and until it is repealed by subsequent constitutional action.

Section 4. This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 175 ratified

Special District Tax for Furtherance of Education in Jefferson County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may hereafter be authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the several school districts of Jefferson county shall, subject to an election in each such school district as hereinafter provided, have power to levy and collect a special district tax of not exceeding fifty (50) cents on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of taxable property in such district for the furtherance of education therein. A school district within the meaning of this section shall include (a) that part of Jefferson county outside of the municipalities of Birmingham, Bessemer, Fairfield, Tarrant City and Mountain Brook as one district, (b) the city of Birmingham as one district, (c) the city of Bessemer as one district, (d) the city of Fairfield as one district, (e) the city of Tarrant City as one district, and (f) the city of Mountain Brook as one district. No tax shall be levied hereunder unless the rate of

such tax, the time such tax is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors in each such district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. Any election on any such district tax shall be called and held, the results declared, and the tax levied and collected in the same manner as now or hereafter provided by law in the case of school district taxes authorized by amendment III [3] to the Constitution of Alabama, except that no county-wide tax shall be required as a condition precedent for a district tax under this amendment. The holding of one election shall not preclude a later election in the same district but no election in a district shall be held within two years from the date of the last election held in such district under the authority of this amendment. The proceeds of any special district tax authorized by this amendment shall be expended for the support of education in the district in which levied.

Amendment 176 ratified

Additional Tax for School Purposes in Lamar County.

Section 1. The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of Lamar county shall have power to levy and provide for collection of an additional county tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the county, for public school purposes, in the same manner and subject to the same election requirements as provided in the third amendment to this Constitution with respect to other county school taxes. The tax herein authorized shall be in addition to all other county taxes authorized in this Constitution as amended, and the proceeds thereof shall be spent for public school purposes only.

Section 2. If this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of Lamar county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the additional tax provided for in section 1 may be levied and collected thereafter for a period of 20 years without any other election having been held thereon. But if this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax shall not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year, and shall be called, held, and conducted in the same way, according to the general laws, as other elections on the question of levying special county school taxes.

Amendment 177 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in Lauderdale County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue or like governing body of Lauderdale county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes, now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding one-half of one per cent on the value of the taxable property in the county situated outside the corporate limits of Florence, as such property was assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, but may be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for public school purposes, which pledges shall take priority as provided in such bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county residing outside the corporate limits of Florence, and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Elections on proposals to levy this tax on the property in the county situated outside the corporate limits of Florence shall be called and held in the same manner as now provided by law for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX, of the Constitution of Alabama. The tax on property situated outside the corporate limits of Florence shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected, and the revenues derived from such tax shall be used for school construction and other educational purposes solely in the territory of the county outside the corporate limits of Florence.

If any proposal to levy a tax hereunder is defeated in any election, subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than two years.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 178 ratified

Special School Tax for City of Florence.

Section 1. The court of county commissioners or other like governing body of Lauderdale county may levy and collect a special tax at a rate not exceeding one-half of one percent on the value of the taxable property within the city of Florence, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public school purposes, but shall not be used for or pledged to the payment of bonds or warrants, by the board of education of the city of Florence or its successor in function, provided the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election.

Section 2. Elections may be called, held and conducted pursuant to this amendment in accordance with general laws providing for and regulating elections on district school taxes authorized by the third amendment to this Constitution, but subsequent elections thereon may be held at intervals of not less than two years.

Amendment 179 ratified

Special Property Tax for School Capital Outlay Purposes in Mobile County.

The county commission; or other governing body by whatever named called or styled; of Mobile county is authorized and shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of the state of Alabama, of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) on the value of the taxable property in the county, as such property was assessed for taxation during the preceding year. The proceeds of such tax shall be used exclusively for public school capital outlay purposes but may be pledged to secure the payment of principal and interest on warrants or other evidence of indebtedness issued and sold for public school capital outlay purposes by the board of school commissioners of Mobile county or other public body charged with the duties, powers and authority of conducting and operating public schools in Mobile county; which pledge shall take priority as provided in such warrants or other evidence of indebtedness and is in consonance with the provisions of existing law, at the time of the issuance and sale of the said warrants, touching the issue and sale of warrants by school bodies, for capital outlay purposes; provided that before such tax shall be levied, there shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Mobile county a statement of the rate of the tax, the time that it shall continue, and whether or not it shall be levied; and such tax shall be levied if a majority of the qualified electors voting at the said election should vote in favor thereof; and provided further, that if a majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county participating in the election on the adoption of this Constitutional amendment shall vote for the adoption of this amendment, then the approval of this amendment, expressed by said vote in said county in favor of its adoption, shall of itself authorize the levy and collection of the said special property tax for a period of thirty years commencing with the levy for the tax year of said county for which taxes will become due and payable to said county on October 1, 1962. Subsequent elections held hereunder shall be called, held and governed in all respects by the law that at the time of the said elections, is in effect for elections to determine whether or not a special county-wide school tax shall be levied and collected under the provisions of amendment III [3] (article XIX) of the Constitution of Alabama. The proceeds of the said tax shall be used solely for public school capital outlay purposes.

The power to levy, granted by this amendment, will not be exhausted by one election but shall remain a continuing grant unless and until it be repealed by subsequent Constitutional action.

Should, at any election by the qualified electors of Mobile county held hereunder, as hereinbefore provided for, the proposal to tax be defeated; the proposal to tax may be renewed and another election had at any time, upon complying with the requisites of law for the calling of such elections; provided, however, that no such subsequent

election may be had within one year after the election in which the proposal was defeated.

This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 180 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in School District No. 1, Randolph County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of Randolph county may levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, at a rate not exceeding one-half of one percent on the value of the taxable property in school district number one, as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes; provided, that the rate of such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof, and the time such tax is to be continued, which shall not exceed thirty years, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of district one and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. If any proposal to levy a tax is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. The elections shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for elections on school district taxes as authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX, of the Constitution, and by article 7, of chapter 10, Title 52, Code of Alabama 1940, as heretofore or hereafter amended.

Amendment 181 ratified

Special School Tax in Talladega County.

In addition to all taxes of every kind now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the court of county commissioners, the board of revenue or other like governing body of Talladega county may levy and collect a special school tax not to exceed three-tenths of one percent of the value of the taxable property within the county, or the value of the taxable property within any school district in the county, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public school purposes, provided the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county; and if voted for by a majority of the qualified electors of the county, such tax shall be levied on all taxable property within the county, and if not voted for by a majority of the qualified electors of the county but voted for by a majority of the qualified electors of one or more school districts within the county then such tax shall be levied on all taxable property within each school district in which a majority of the qualified electors of such district vote for such tax, and the proceeds of such tax shall be used exclusively for public school purposes within the school districts of the county which vote for the tax. The question of the levy of such tax may be presented to the qualified electors of the county as a whole or to the qualified electors of any school district within the county and if rejected by the qualified electors of the county or by the qualified electors of any school district, may be re-submitted to the qualified electors of the county or of such school district after the expiration of one year from the last election. The court of county commissioners or other like governing body of Talladega county shall call all elections herein provided for upon being presented with a resolution of the Talladega county board of education requesting that an election be called.

Amendment 182 ratified

Additional School Tax in Washington County.

Section 1. The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of Washington county shall have power to levy and provide for collection of an additional county tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the county, for public school purposes, in the same manner and subject to the same election requirements as provided in the third amendment to this Constitution with respect to other county school taxes. The tax herein authorized shall be in addition to all other county taxes authorized in this Constitution as amended, and the proceeds thereof shall be spent for public school purposes only.

Section 2. If this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the additional tax provided for in section 1 may be levied and collected thereafter without any other election having been held thereon. But if this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax may not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year, and shall be called, held, and conducted in the same way, according to the general laws, as other elections on the question of levying special county school taxes.

Amendment 183 ratified

Economic Development of Autauga County and Municipalities Therein.

Autauga county and the incorporated municipalities therein, jointly or severally, after an election held in accordance herewith shall have full and continuing power and authority to:

1. Purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
 2. Lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, or give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
 3. Promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
 4. Become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
 5. Lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
 6. Become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
 7. Levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the county or in any municipality in Autauga county or upon all property in any district to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
 8. Pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
 9. Create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of Autauga county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county or any municipality.
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The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of Autauga county or any municipality therein for the purpose of determining their borrowing capacity under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature may enact laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Neither the county nor any municipality therein shall make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the locality affected thereby. The governing body of the county or any municipality may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.

Amendment 184 ratified

Legislation as to DeKalb County.

The legislature shall not pass a special, private, or local law changing the form of government of DeKalb county, or abridging the term of any officer thereof, by the abolition of his office or otherwise, or increasing or decreasing or altering the salary or other compensation, fees, commissions, percentages, or allowances of any officer thereof, by the imposition of new, different, and additional duties, or by expense allowances, during the term for which he was elected or appointed, or at any time, unless the operation of such law shall be approved by a vote of the duly qualified electors of such county at an election held for such purpose, in the manner prescribed by such law. Nor shall the legislature authorize the governing body of DeKalb county to increase or decrease or alter the salary or other compensation, fees, commissions, percentages, or allowances of any officer thereof, by the imposition of new, different, and additional duties, or by expense allowances, during his term, or at any time, unless the operation of the law providing therefor shall be approved by a vote of the duly qualified electors of the county, at an election held for such purpose, in the manner prescribed by such law.

Amendment 185 ratified

Compensation of Certain Officers of Elmore County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Elmore county, fix, regulate, and alter the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, tax assessor, tax collector, and clerk and register of the circuit court of Elmore county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid. Provided, that no law changing the method or basis for compensating such officers shall become effective unless it is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose.

Amendment 186 ratified

Economic Development of Franklin County and Municipalities Therein.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, Franklin county, or any municipality in Franklin county, shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend this credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of Franklin county, or the municipality therein, as the case may be, or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in Franklin county, or upon all property in the municipality, as the case may be, or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of the county or the municipality, as the case may be, shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body, and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the county or the governing body of the municipality, as the case may be, may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon Franklin county or any municipality therein.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further, and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an

indebtedness of Franklin county or any municipality therein for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county or any such municipality, as the case may be, under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. Neither Franklin county, nor any municipality in Franklin county, shall make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county or of the municipality therein, as the case may be. The governing body of the county, or of the municipality, as the case may be, may provide for holding such election, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 187 ratified

Bond Issue for Construction and Equipment of Courthouse and Jail in Geneva County.

Geneva county is hereby authorized to incur indebtedness to the extent of not exceeding \$600,000 in principal amount, and to issue its bonds in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred, for the purpose of constructing and equipping a new courthouse and jail in said county and, in order to provide for the payment for the principal of and interest on said bonds and any redemption premium necessary for the redemption thereof and the expense of maintaining the courthouse and jail so constructed, to levy and collect a special ad valorem tax on all taxable property in said county at a rate not exceeding 2 1/2 mills on each dollar of the assessed valuation of said property as assessed for state taxation; provided, that the said special tax shall cease to be levied when the principal of and interest on the bonds issued under the authority contained in this amendment shall have been paid. Said bonds may be issued and said tax may be levied only after the question of the issuance of said bonds and the levy of said tax shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of said county at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of said county and a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of said bonds and the levy of said tax, which election shall be called, held, conducted, canvassed and may be contested, and notice thereof shall be given, in the manner provided by the then existing laws of Alabama with respect to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties; provided further, that if a majority of the qualified electors of said county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof then the approval of this amendment expressed by the vote in said county in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds and the levy of the tax herein authorized, and in that event no additional election by the electors of said county shall be required to authorize the issuance of said bonds or the levy of said tax. At any election held under this amendment the question of the issuance of said bonds and the levy of said tax shall be submitted as a single proposition. In the event the majority vote in said county on the adoption of this amendment is against the adoption hereof, or in the event the majority vote at any election held in said county pursuant to the provisions of this amendment after its adoption is not in favor of the issuance of the bonds and the levy of the tax proposed at such election, the governing body of said county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of said bonds and the levy of said tax, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. The power to become indebted, to issue bonds in evidence of such indebtedness, and to levy the tax as herein authorized shall be in addition to all other powers which the said county may have under the Constitution and laws of Alabama, and shall not be chargeable against the amount of indebtedness which may be incurred or the rate of taxes which may be levied under the Constitution and laws in effect prior to the adoption of this amendment.

All bonds issued under this amendment shall be general obligations of the county secured by an irrevocable pledge of its full faith and credit and of the said special tax to the extent necessary to pay the principal of and interest on said bonds. The governing body of said county may further, if it deems such action desirable, pledge for payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds any other tax which said county may be authorized to levy under any provision of the Constitution. All bonds issued hereunder shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the sale of said bonds respecting the maturities, sale, execution and redemption of bonds by counties. Any special tax which may be levied hereunder shall be levied and collected in accordance with the general laws of Alabama at the time in force respecting the levy and collection of ad valorem taxes by counties.

Amendment 188 ratified

Economic Development of Greene County.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, Greene county shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
 2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
 3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses in the county.
 4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
 5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association or corporation whatever.
 6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding \$250,000, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidence of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of Greene county, or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
 7. To apply the proceeds from taxes levied and collected under the provisions of section 215 of the Constitution and amendments thereto to the purchase, construction, lease, or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or for the furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment, provided the proceeds from such taxes have not been pledged for debts or liabilities now existing.
 8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness the annual proceeds from taxes levied and collected under authority of section 215 of the Constitution and amendments thereto which have not been pledged for debts and liabilities now existing, and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to use the proceeds from such tax until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
 9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body, and subject to such limitations as the governing body of Greene county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate of the county or secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county.
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The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that proceeds from taxes authorized under section 215 of the Constitution and amendments thereto have been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligation or evidence of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of Greene county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution.

This amendment shall be self executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. Greene county shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county. The governing body of the county may provide for holding such election, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the substance of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 189 ratified

Economic Development of Municipalities in Lamar County.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, any municipality in Lamar county, or any one or more of them, shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
 2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
 3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
 4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
 5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
 6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
 7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in any municipality in Lamar county or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
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8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.

9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of any municipality in Lamar county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon any such municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further, and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of any municipality in Lamar county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of such municipality under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. Any municipality in Lamar county may make engagements or commitments or undertake projects authorized under the provisions of this Constitution and amendments thereto provided any such engagement, commitment, or undertaking is first approved by a majority of the qualified electors of such municipality voting in a referendum election held for such purpose. The governing body of any municipality may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 190 ratified

Economic Development of Lawrence County and Municipalities Therein.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, Lawrence county and any municipality located therein shall have full and continuing power and authority to do any one or more of the following provided that such action is first approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county or the municipality who vote at an election held for such purpose.

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
 2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange or give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
 3. To promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
 4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
 5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
 6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not
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exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.

7. To levy and collect, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special county or municipal privilege license tax or taxes of not exceeding one percent paralleling the state sales and use taxes imposed by chapter 20 of Title 51, Code of Alabama 1940 as amended.

8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.

9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of Lawrence county or any municipality may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body and all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county and municipalities.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of Lawrence county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of such county under section 224 of the Constitution.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Amendment 191 ratified

Promotion of Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Development in Madison County and City of Huntsville.

For the promotion of local industrial, commercial or agricultural development, Madison county and the city of Huntsville shall each have full and continuing power (a) to purchase, construct, lease and otherwise acquire industrial, commercial and agricultural projects, including real and personal property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind whatsoever, (b) to lease, sell, exchange or otherwise convey all or any part of any such project to any person, firm or corporation, and (c) after an approving election as hereinafter provided, to sell and issue for such purposes interest-bearing general obligation bonds. Neither the county nor the city shall issue any bonds under the authority of this amendment unless the question of the issuance of such bonds has first been submitted to the qualified electors of the county or the city, as the case may be, and approved at such election by a majority of the qualified electors voting thereat. Each such election shall be called, held and conducted, and may be contested, in the manner provided by law for county or municipal bond elections, as the case may be. Bonds issued under the authority of this amendment shall not be considered indebtedness of the county or the city, as the case may be, within the meaning of sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution of Alabama, but neither the county nor the city shall at any time issue any bonds under the authority of this amendment if as a result thereof it will have outstanding an aggregate principal amount of bonds issued hereunder in excess of twenty per cent of the

assessed value of the property in the county or the city, as the case may be. Neither shall the county or the city issue any bonds under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto or contemporaneously therewith the county or the city, as the case may be, has entered into a lease or other similar agreement, with respect to the project being financed by such bonds, providing for the payment to the county or the city, as the case may be, of net rentals sufficient to pay the principal of and the interest on such bonds at the respective maturities of such principal and interest, and any bonds issued hereunder shall be secured by a pledge of such rentals and may be secured by a foreclosable mortgage on such project and by a pledge of any other taxes and revenues which the county or the city, as the case may be, is authorized by law to pledge to the payment of its bonded indebtedness. All bonds issued under the authority of this amendment shall be sold at public sale in the manner required by law for the sale of county or municipal bonds, as the case may be, and shall mature and be payable in annual or semiannual installments in such amounts and at such times as to result in the aggregate amount of principal and interest maturing thereon in each year following the year of their issuance being substantially equal, but shall not be subject to any other provisions of law relating to maturities of county or municipal bonds. In the event that any such action is necessary to prevent or cure a default in payment of the principal of or the interest on any bonds issued under the authority of this amendment, the county or the city, as the case may be, is authorized to levy and collect ad valorem taxes, without limitation as to rate or amount, on the assessed value of all taxable property in the county or the city, as the case may be, but only so long as and only to such extent as necessary to prevent or cure any such default.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Madison county nor the city of Huntsville shall be subject to the provisions of section 93 of the Constitution of Alabama, and the taxes which the county and the city are hereinabove authorized to levy and collect are in addition to all other taxes which the county and the city are authorized to levy and collect. This amendment shall be self-executing, but, notwithstanding any contrary provisions of section 104 of the Constitution of Alabama, the legislature shall have the power, by general, special or local act, to enact laws supplemental hereto or in furtherance of the purposes hereof.

Amendment 192 ratified

Pensions of Former Officers of Mobile County and Municipalities Therein.

Any provision of the Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding, any person who served as an officer of Mobile county or any municipality therein before the establishment of a pension or retirement system for the benefit of the elected or appointed officers of such county or municipalities shall be eligible to receive a pension or retirement benefit in all respects equal to officers serving when such pension or retirement system was established. The governing body of the county and of each municipality therein is hereby authorized to expend any funds not otherwise appropriated that may be required to pay the benefits payable to such former officers.

Amendment 193 ratified

Bond Issue for Capital Improvements in Mobile County.

Mobile county is hereby authorized to issue its bonds not exceeding \$1,737,000 in aggregate principal amount for the purpose of acquiring, providing, constructing and equipping capital improvements in said county, including the acquisition of sites therefor, of which bonds \$500,000 in principal amount shall be issued to pay costs of acquiring, providing, constructing and equipping public school buildings in said county, and \$500,000 in principal amount shall be issued to pay all or a part of the costs of acquiring, providing, constructing and equipping a building or buildings for use for educational purposes on the college level in said county, \$606,000 in principal amount shall be issued to pay a portion of the costs of acquiring, providing, constructing and equipping one or more public hospital buildings in said county whether such buildings shall be owned by said county or by any public corporation therein, and \$131,000 in principal amount shall be issued to pay all or part of the costs of acquiring, providing, constructing and equipping one or more buildings in the county for the Alabama State College; provided, that the aggregate principal amount of any series of bonds at any time issued hereunder, when added to the aggregate principal amount of all

bonds then outstanding that are payable from or secured by the special annual ad valorem tax authorized in Amendment XVIII [18] of the Constitution of Alabama, as amended, shall not exceed six and one-half per centum (6 1/2 %) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property situated in said county, as assessed for state taxation for the state tax year next preceding the issuance of such bonds hereunder; provided, further, that no bonds may be issued under the authority of this constitutional amendment until after the question of the issuance of such bonds shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of Mobile county at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of said county and a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of such bonds, any such election to be called, held, conducted, and canvassed, and notice thereof to be given, in the manner provided by the then existing general laws of Alabama pertaining to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties; provided, however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county participating in the election on the adoption of this constitutional amendment shall vote for adoption of this amendment, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the said vote in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds provided for herein and in that event no additional election by the electors of Mobile county, shall be required to authorize the issuance of said bonds. If the majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment should not vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment, or if the majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county voting at any election held under the provisions of this amendment should not vote in favor of the issuance of the bonds proposed at such election, the governing body of Mobile county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of such bonds, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve months.

The bonds issued hereunder shall be general obligations of Mobile county for the payment of the principal of and interest on which the full faith and credit of said county shall be irrevocably pledged, and in addition thereto there shall be irrevocably pledged for payment of said principal and interest, at the respective maturities thereof, so much as may be necessary for said purpose of the said special tax, each such pledge to be on a parity with all valid pledges of said special tax at any time made, to such extent as shall not impair the obligation of then existing valid pledges. The principal of each series of bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment shall mature in annual installments, the first of which installments shall mature not later than three (3) years after the date of the bonds of said series and the last of which shall mature not later than thirty (30) years after the date of the bonds of said series; provided, that the maturities of each series of bonds issued hereunder shall be so arranged at the time of the issuance of such series of bonds that (a) no annual installment of principal of the bonds of such series maturing during any fiscal year of said county shall be more than four times as great as the smallest installment of principal of the same series maturing during any prior fiscal year, and (b) the aggregate amount of principal and interest that will mature in any one fiscal year with respect to that series of bonds, and all other bonds then outstanding that are payable out of or secured by a pledge of the aforesaid special tax, shall not exceed the amount of the proceeds collected from the said tax during the then next preceding tax year. Except as herein otherwise provided, all bonds issued hereunder shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the issuance of such bonds respecting the sale, execution, issuance, and redemption of bonds by counties. The indebtedness evidenced by the bonds issued hereunder or under any other amendment to the constitution which are payable out of or secured by a pledge of said special tax shall be in addition to and shall not be charged against the limitation on the indebtedness of said county provided for in Section 224 of the constitution.

For payment of the principal of and interest on all bonds that may be issued hereunder, and so long as any of said principal and interest remains unpaid, the governing body of Mobile county is hereby authorized to continue the levy of the said special annual ad valorem tax provided for in said Amendment XVIII [18] at such rate as may be sufficient to pay such principal and interest at their respective maturities; provided, that the total rate of said special tax that may be levied and collected for payment of said bonds and all other bonds payable out of or secured by a pledge of said tax shall not exceed one-half of one per centum (1/2 of 1%) of the assessed valuation of taxable property in said county.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and authorization from or other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder or the levy of said special tax for payment thereof.

Amendment 194 ratified

Budget of Mobile County Public Hospital Board.

A. The following terms, wherever used in this amendment, shall be given the respective meanings hereinafter set forth. "The board" means Mobile county public hospital board, a public corporation existing under Act No. 46 adopted at the 1949 regular session of the legislature of Alabama, as amended. "The 1955 board" means Mobile county hospital board created and provided for in Act No. 105 adopted at the 1955 regular session of the said legislature, as amended. "Public hospital facilities" means public hospitals of all types, public clinics, public health centers, related public health facilities such as laboratories, out-patient departments, nurses' homes, and nurses' training facilities, and other facilities operated in connection with public hospitals. "Public hospital purposes" means the acquisition, by purchase, lease, donation or otherwise, and the construction, equipment, operation and maintenance of public hospital facilities, including the treatment and care of indigent patients; "Participating municipality" means each municipality in Mobile county having a population in excess of one thousand, according to the last federal census or any subsequent federal or other official census. "Local subdivision" means Mobile county and each participating municipality.

B. The board is hereby authorized and directed to prepare a budget for each of its fiscal years setting forth (a) the estimated amount of all expenditures that the board anticipates making during such fiscal year for payment of administering, operating and maintaining any public hospital facilities owned or managed by the board, including expenses for treatment and care of indigent patients, payment of rentals with respect to any such public hospital facilities, payment of costs of the acquisition and equipment of public hospital facilities, and payment of installments of principal and interest, or either, maturing during that fiscal year on obligations incurred or securities issued by the board for any of the aforesaid purposes; and (b) the estimated amount of all moneys that the board anticipates receiving during the same fiscal year and that the board has the right lawfully to apply for payment of the estimated expenditures set forth in the same budget, including revenue of the board from the operation of any public hospital facilities owned or operated by it, and any donations, taxes, appropriations, contributions by the United States and any income or receipts from any other source that the board has the right lawfully to use for payment of the said expenditures. Whenever the board shall determine that the estimated amount of the said expenditures during any fiscal year will exceed the estimated amount of the said receipts during any fiscal year, as shown by the budget for that fiscal year, then the board shall have the power to allocate the said deficit among Mobile county and each participating municipality, the amount allocated to each local subdivision being a sum constituting the same proportion of the total of the said deficit that the population of that local subdivision bears to a figure equal to the population of the entire of Mobile county plus the population of each participating municipality, all such population figures to be based on the last federal census or any subsequent federal or other official census, and shall have the power to assess, levy and collect from Mobile county and each participating municipality a sum equal to the portion of the deficit allocated by the board to each local subdivision, which sum shall be payable to the board by each local subdivision in twelve (12) equal monthly installments on the first day of each month in the fiscal year with respect to which the said budget was made; provided, however, that if a special annual ad valorem county tax for public hospital purposes shall be voted in Mobile county, then the power of the board to allocate any deficit among the local subdivisions and to assess, levy, and collect the amounts so allocated shall terminate after payment of the monthly installment falling due on the January 1 next succeeding the October 1 on which any such ad valorem tax so voted shall first be payable. The assessments and levies that the board is herein authorized to make, shall constitute binding obligations and debts of the local subdivisions collectible by suit or action brought by the board in any court of competent jurisdiction; but such obligations on the part of the aforesaid local subdivisions shall not be deemed to constitute debts of any local subdivision within the meaning of either section 224 or section 225 of the Constitution.

The legislature shall have the continuing power by local or special legislation adopted at any time and from time to time, and without compliance with the provisions of section 106 of the Constitution, to specify the character and the maximum capacity or size of the public hospital facilities with respect to which items of expenditure may be included in any budget prepared by the board hereunder. Any such legislation adopted prior to the effective date of this amendment is hereby validated. The requirements of this amendment, and of any such legislation at any time adopted, as to the character and capacity or size of the public hospital facilities with respect to which items of expenditures may be included in any budget prepared by the board hereunder shall cease to be effective upon the termination, under the provisions hereof, of the power of the board to make allocation of the aforesaid deficit among the local subdivisions.

C. The 1955 board is hereby authorized to transfer to the board, and the board is hereby authorized to assume, all assets, contracts, properties, obligations and liabilities of the 1955 board. The corporate existence of the 1955 board and all of its acts in acquiring property, making contracts and incurring obligations and liabilities are hereby validated; and the transfer by the 1955 board to the board of all of the said assets, contracts, properties, obligations and liabilities and the assumption of all thereof by the board, to such extent as the said transfer and assumption shall have taken place on the date when this amendment becomes a part of the Constitution, are hereby validated. Following the completion of such transfer and assumption, the governing body of Mobile county is authorized to adopt a resolution declaring the 1955 board to be dissolved, whereupon it shall be dissolved.

D. Bonds and other securities issued by the board shall not be deemed to constitute debts of Mobile county within the meaning of section 224 of the Constitution or debts of any participating municipality within the meaning of section 225 of the Constitution, and shall not be deemed to constitute bonds of Mobile county or of any political subdivision thereof within the meaning of section 222 of the Constitution, regardless of whether any such bonds or other securities may be made payable from, or secured by a pledge of, the assessments herein provided for, the proceeds of any contract between the board and any local subdivision, all or part of the proceeds from any tax of any kind that may be allocated or appropriated to the board, revenues from operation of public hospital facilities owned or operated by the board, or any other revenues of the board. All pledges of any revenues of the board that may be made by it for the benefit of any securities issued by it shall take precedence in the order in which made and shall create a charge on the revenues so pledged prior to the expenses of operating and maintaining any public hospital facilities.

Amendment 195 ratified

Special Tax for Public Hospital Purposes in Mobile County.

A. The following terms, wherever used in this amendment, shall be given the respective meanings hereinafter set forth. "The special tax" means the special county tax herein provided for. "The board" means Mobile county public hospital board, a public corporation existing under Act No. 46 adopted at the 1949 regular session of the legislature of Alabama, as amended. "Public hospital facilities" means public hospitals of all types, public clinics, public health centers, related public health facilities such as laboratories, outpatient departments, nurses' homes, and nurses' training facilities and other facilities operated in connection with public hospitals. "Public hospital purposes" means the acquisition by purchase, lease, donation or otherwise, and the construction, equipment, operation and maintenance of public hospital facilities, including the treatment and care of indigent patients.

B. If authorized by the vote of the majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county who participate in any election called for the purpose, the governing body of Mobile county must, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of this amendment, levy and collect, in addition to all other taxes authorized by law, a special annual ad valorem county tax at a rate not exceeding three mills on each dollar of taxable property in Mobile county, the proceeds from which shall be used solely for public hospital purposes.

C. If a majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for adoption of this amendment, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the said

vote in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the special tax and in that event no additional election by the voters of Mobile county shall be required to authorize the levy of the special tax. If the majority vote at any election held hereunder is not in favor of the levy of the tax, or if at any such election the special tax shall be voted at a rate of less than three mills on each dollar of taxable property in Mobile county, then the governing body of Mobile county may from time to time thereafter call other elections hereunder on the levy of the special tax or on the increase of the rate thereof, up to but not exceeding three mills on each dollar of taxable property, and must call any such election within three months after the receipt by the said governing body of a petition for the calling of such election signed by not less than five percent of the qualified electors of Mobile county; provided, however, that not more than one election upon the levy of the special tax or upon the increase in the rate thereof, up to but not exceeding three mills as aforesaid, shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. After the special tax shall have been levied for a period of five years, the governing body of Mobile county may from time to time thereafter call other elections hereunder on the question of the discontinuance of the tax or a reduction in the rate thereof, such discontinuance or reduction to become effective for the tax year of the county next succeeding the tax year during which any obligations of the board that may be outstanding at the time of the election and that are payable out of or secured by any part of the special tax shall be finally retired; and after said five year period, the said governing body must call an election on the question of said discontinuance or reduction within three months after receipt by the said governing body of a petition for such election signed by not less than five percent of the qualified electors of Mobile county. If a majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county voting in any election upon the discontinuance of the special tax or reduction of the rate thereof should vote in favor of such discontinuance or reduction, then the special tax shall be discontinued or its rate reduced, as the case may be, such discontinuance or reduction to become effective for the tax year next succeeding the tax year when any of the aforesaid obligations outstanding at the time of the election shall be retired; provided, however, that not more than one election upon the discontinuance of the special tax or a reduction in the rate thereof shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. If the special tax shall be discontinued or its rate reduced pursuant to any election held hereunder, its levy or an increase in its rate up to the aforesaid maximum of three mills may be authorized at a subsequent election or elections held hereunder, and the special tax may thereafter again be discontinued or reduced in rate pursuant to subsequent election or elections held hereunder, it being the intention hereof that the power of the governing body of Mobile county to call elections hereunder, and its duty to call them upon receipt of petition as herein provided, shall be continuous, subject only to the requirement that not more than one election may be held hereunder during any period of twelve consecutive months. All elections held under the provisions of this amendment shall be called, held, conducted, and canvassed in such manner as the governing body of Mobile county shall prescribe.

D. Not later than February 1 in each tax year for which the special tax may be authorized hereunder to be levied, the board will certify to the governing body of Mobile county the rate of the special tax, not exceeding the rate at the time authorized by vote of the qualified electors of Mobile county as herein provided, that the board has determined should be levied in order to supply the funds needed for public hospital purposes during the next ensuing fiscal year of the board. During the month of February in each such tax year the governing body of Mobile county shall levy the special tax at such rate as may be certified by the board to be necessary, up to but not exceeding the rate then authorized as aforesaid, and the special tax so levied shall be due and payable on the then ensuing October 1. If the board should fail to make such certification with respect to the rate to be levied in any tax year, the governing body of Mobile county shall levy the special tax for that tax year at the maximum rate then authorized by vote of the qualified electors of the county as herein provided. All moneys derived from the collection of the special tax (after deduction of costs of assessment and collection thereof pursuant to any statutory provisions at the time applicable) shall be paid over to the board as received and used by the board for public hospital purposes in the county. The board may anticipate the proceeds from the special tax by issuing for any one or more public hospital purposes the bonds, warrants, or other securities, of the board and may pledge for payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon not exceeding 75% of the annual proceeds from the special tax. All such pledges of the special tax shall take

precedence in the order in which they are made and shall create a charge on the special tax prior to the expenses of operating and maintaining any public hospital facilities. Bonds and other securities issued by the board, including those that may be issued in anticipation of the special tax and also any other securities issued by the board, shall not be deemed to constitute debts of Mobile county within the meaning of section 224 of the Constitution and shall not be construed to be bonds of the county or of any political subdivision thereof within the meaning of section 222 of the Constitution.

E. The rate of ad valorem taxation for general municipal purposes that is at the time otherwise permitted by the Constitution to each particular municipal corporation in Mobile county shall be reduced for the tax year of the municipality next succeeding any tax year of Mobile county for which the special tax shall have been levied at a rate exceeding one and one-half mills on each dollar of taxable property in the county, any such reduction to be by a rate of millage equal to the rate of millage by which the special tax so levied shall exceed one and one-half mills on each dollar of taxable property in the county.

F. The rate of ad valorem taxation for general county purposes that is at the time otherwise permitted to Mobile county by the Constitution shall be reduced, for any tax year for which the special tax shall be levied, any such reduction to be by the same rate of millage at which the special tax shall be levied for the same tax year or by one mill on each dollar of taxable property in the county, whichever shall be the lesser reduction.

G. The rate of that certain ad valorem tax authorized by amendment XVIII [18] to the Constitution, as amended by the amendment to the Constitution known as amendment XLII [42], and provided for also in those certain amendments to the Constitution known as amendments LX [60], C [100], CXXII [122], and CLI [151] and in the constitutional amendment proposed by that certain act of the 1961 regular session of the legislature of Alabama that was introduced in the said legislature as House Bill 1067 [amendment No. 193] shall be reduced, for each tax year for which the special tax shall have been levied at a rate exceeding one mill on each dollar of taxable property in the county, any such reduction to be by one-half mill on each dollar of taxable property in the county or by a rate of millage equal to the rate by which the special tax levied for that tax year exceeds one mill on each dollar of such taxable property, whichever shall be the lesser reduction.

H. Mobile county and each municipal corporation therein are hereby prohibited from making any appropriation or payment to the board during any tax year of the county in which the special tax shall be collected, except to provide funds for constructing and equipping public hospital facilities, unless any such appropriation or payment shall have been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors of the political subdivision proposing to make such appropriation or payment at an election held on the question in the said political subdivision.

Amendment 196 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Certain Officers, in St. Clair County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws, to become effective only if approved by a majority of the qualified electors of St. Clair county voting at a referendum election held not less than three months after the final adjournment of the legislative session at which such law is enacted, fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of courts in St. Clair county and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and salary, including the method or basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, tax assessor, tax collector, register, circuit clerk, and any other officer of St. Clair county, including the right to place any of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees charged or collected by them to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries shall be paid.

Amendment 197 ratified

Economic Development of St. Clair County and Municipalities Therein.

St. Clair county and the incorporated municipalities therein, jointly or severally, after an election held in accordance herewith shall have full and continuing power and authority to:

1. Purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. Lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, or give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. Promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. Become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. Lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. Become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. Levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the county or in any municipality in St. Clair county or upon all property in any district to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. Pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. Create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of St. Clair county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county or any municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of St. Clair county or any municipality therein for the purpose of determining their borrowing capacity under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature may enact laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Neither the county nor any municipality therein shall make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the locality affected thereby. The governing body of the county or any municipality may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.

Amendment 198 ratified

Hospital Tax and Tax Anticipation Bonds, etc., in Tallapoosa County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the governing body of Tallapoosa county shall levy and cause to be collected annually a special district tax, not exceeding 50 cents on each 100 dollars assessed valuation of taxable property in districts three and four of Tallapoosa county, Alabama, to be used exclusively for public hospital purposes (as the term "public hospital purposes" is defined in amendment LXXVI [76] to the Constitution proposed by Acts of 1949, page 897, submitted December 13, 1949, and proclaimed ratified December 21, 1949) within said districts three and four; provided that the time during which such tax is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in districts three and four of Tallapoosa county and voted for by a majority of such electors voting at such election. The governing body of Tallapoosa county may call an election at any time, and it shall be the duty of such governing body to call an election to be held within ninety days after receipt by it of a petition signed by not less than 5% of the qualified electors of said districts three and four, requesting that such election be called. The governing body may call such election to be held at the same time that this amendment is submitted to the electors of the state for ratification and such election shall be effective to require the levy and collection of such tax in the event that this amendment shall be ratified. The notice of such election, ballots to be used at such election and procedures for holding and determining the results of such election shall be prescribed by the governing body of Tallapoosa county. No election shall be held hereunder within one year from the date of the last election so held.

Whenever such tax shall have been authorized by vote of such qualified electors, and levied by the governing body of Tallapoosa county, such governing body may anticipate the proceeds therefrom for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, by issuing, without further election, interest bearing tax anticipation bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said county payable solely from and secured by a pledge of a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax received by the county.

The governing body of Tallapoosa county shall have power to designate as the agency of the county, to construct, acquire, equip, operate and maintain public hospital facilities for said districts three and four, any public corporation heretofore or hereafter organized for hospital purposes in the county. When a public corporation shall have been so designated, the proceeds of said tax thereafter collected shall be paid to it and shall be used by it for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted; provided, that payments of the proceeds of said tax to said public corporation shall be made only to such extent as will not result in the impairment of the obligation of any contract theretofore made with respect to said tax. Said public corporation may anticipate the proceeds from said tax so required to be paid to it by issuing, for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, the bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said corporation, and may pledge for the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax so paid to it.

No securities issued or contracts made by Tallapoosa county under the authority of this amendment, which are payable solely out of the proceeds of said tax, and no securities issued or contracts made by any such public corporation, whether or not issued or made under the authority of this amendment, shall be construed to be bonds of Tallapoosa county or of a political subdivision thereof within the meaning of section 222 of the Constitution, or construed to create or constitute an indebtedness of the county within the meaning of section 224 of the Constitution.

Said securities shall be construed to be negotiable instruments notwithstanding the fact that they may be payable solely from a limited source. All pledges of said tax and all contracts made with respect thereto pursuant to the provisions of this amendment shall take precedence in the order in which they are made and shall create a charge on the proceeds of said tax prior to the expenses of operating and maintaining any public hospital facilities.

The districts three and four of Tallapoosa county herein referred to are the districts three and four provided for in Act No. 241, Local Laws of Alabama, approved September 7, 1923 (Local Acts of 1923, pages 144, 145).

Amendment 199 ratified

Special Tax and Bond Issue for Public Buildings in Washington County.

Section 1. Washington county may become indebted in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding one million dollars in addition to the indebtedness of the county outstanding on the effective date hereof, for the sole purpose of financing the construction and equipment of a courthouse and jail and acquiring sites therefor. The county may issue and sell interest bearing general obligation bonds and pledge to the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon the full faith and credit of the county and the proceeds of the special county tax provided for in section 2.

Section 2. In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by law, the court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of Washington county shall have the power to levy and collect, for a period not exceeding twenty years, a special ad valorem tax on property situated within said county, at a rate not exceeding four mills on each dollar of property as assessed for state taxation for the preceding year, the proceeds of said tax to be used solely for acquiring sites and constructing and equipping a courthouse and jail within said county or to pay any debt incurred for that purpose pursuant to section 1. Before any special ad valorem tax is levied, however, the question as to whether the tax shall be levied shall be first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county at an election to be called by the governing body of the county, and shall be approved by a majority of the electors who vote thereon at said election. The election shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed, and may be contested in the same manner as provided by law for calling, holding, conducting and canvassing county bond elections. Upon the expiration of any tax authorized pursuant to this amendment, no further tax shall be authorized hereunder.

Section 3. In the event the qualified electors of Washington county do not authorize the levy of the special county tax provided for in section 2 at any election called hereunder, then other elections may be called by the county governing body from time to time until the electors of the county do authorize and approve the levy, provided that not more than two elections shall be held in the same year. If a majority of the electors of Washington county who participate in the election as to the adoption of this constitutional amendment vote to approve the amendment, such expression of the will of the electors of Washington county shall of itself authorize the levying of the special tax provided for and the issuance of the bonds. Approval of the tax levy at any election held hereunder shall be sufficient authority for issuance of the bonds as provided in section 1.

Section 4. Bonds issued pursuant to this amendment and the income therefrom shall be exempt from taxation.

Section 5. The legislature may enact appropriate legislation to implement the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 200 ratified

Bonds for Voting Machines.

Section 1. The several counties of the state may become indebted and issue and sell general obligation bonds or other evidence of such indebtedness for the purpose of paying the cost of installing and providing for the use of voting machines at all elections held within the county and the municipalities therein, (any provision of article 12 of this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding). Such debts may be created and evidence thereof issued without a vote of the qualified electors of the county, but any debt so created shall be repaid within 20 years from the date of its creation.

Section 2. The legislature may enact general, special or local laws to enforce and implement this amendment.

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Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 201-300

Amendment 201 ratified

Promotion of Cattle Industry.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, marketing, use, improvement and sale of cattle. The legislature may provide for the promotion of cattle and the cattle industry by research, education, advertising and other methods, and the legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby owners of cattle may by referendum held among the owners of cattle in this state levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of cattle for the financing of any promotional program or activity in cooperation with processors, dealers and handlers of cattle. Provided, no assessment levied hereunder shall exceed ten cents (10¢) per head on any cattle or calves sold by cattle producers and no assessments shall be levied or deducted from the sale price of any cattle or calves which sell for less than ten dollars (\$10.00) per head. The legislature shall make provisions for the nonpayment of assessments by cattle owners, and for the refund of assessments to any cattle owner dissatisfied with the assessment program. The legislature shall provide for the collection and distribution of any such assessments or charges by dealers, handlers, processors and purchasers of cattle and provide penalties for failure to make collection and distribution of such assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization organized for the promotion and betterment of cattle and beef products to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among cattle owners. The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities authorized herein by the department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted in pursuance hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof. Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon cattle and beef products.

Amendment 202 ratified

Additional Property Tax for County Educational Purposes.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of each of the several counties in the state shall have the power to levy and collect a special county tax of not to exceed fifty cents on each one hundred dollars of taxable property, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, for educational purposes, on the value of the taxable property in the county as assessed for state taxation, provided the purpose thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. If any proposal to levy the tax is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. The election provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in constitutional amendment III [3].

Amendment 203 ratified

Additional Property Tax for Educational Purposes in Jackson County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or like governing body of Jackson county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of five mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property in the county as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, provided that the question of levying the tax, the purpose thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; and provided further, that the total of all taxes levied for educational or school purposes in any school district of the county shall not exceed a total of fourteen and one-half mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property located in the district. If any proposal to levy the tax is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. The election provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article III [XIX], of the Constitution of Alabama, by article 7, chapter 10, Title 52, Code of Alabama 1940. The tax shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected. The proceeds of the tax authorized by this amendment shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, provided that the revenue derived from four and one-half mills of the total rate of taxation authorized herein shall be devoted only to purposes of capital outlay, and the revenue derived from the remaining three mills shall be devoted to current operating expenses.

Amendment 204 ratified

Special School Taxes in Walker County.

Section 1. If authorized at an election held for such purpose, the governing body of Walker county may levy and collect a special county tax at a rate not exceeding one-half of one percent on the value of the taxable property within the county as assessed for state taxation, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public school purposes; provided, however, that the governing body of Walker county shall not levy the special county property tax authorized by this amendment in addition to any tax authorized by a constitutional amendment proposed by the legislature at the same session of the legislature at which this amendment was proposed authorizing the governing body of each of the several counties in the state to levy an additional property tax for school purposes [amendment No. 202]. This tax shall be apportioned among the county and city school systems on a teacher unit basis in the manner that minimum program funds are distributed.

Section 2. An election shall be ordered by the county governing body to determine whether or not a special tax shall be levied for public school purposes as authorized herein upon the request of the county board of education, and the election shall be held and conducted in accordance with general laws providing for school tax elections pursuant to constitutional amendment III [3].

Amendment 205 ratified

Special Property Taxes for School Purposes in Marion County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue or other like governing body of Marion county may levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, at a rate not exceeding one-half of one percent on the value of the property in the county as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for current operating expenses of public schools, excluding capital outlays or debt service; provided that the rate of such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; provided, further that the funds derived by the county under this amendment shall be apportioned between the county and any

independent city school system existing in the county in the same proportion that state funds are distributed under the minimum program funds. If any proposal to levy a tax as provided in this amendment is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. The elections provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for elections on school district taxes authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX of the Constitution, as prescribed by article 7, chapter 10, Title 52, Code 1940.

Amendment 205 ratified

Special Property Taxes for School Purposes in Marion County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue or other like governing body of Marion county may levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, at a rate not exceeding one-half of one percent on the value of the property in the county as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for current operating expenses of public schools, excluding capital outlays or debt service; provided that the rate of such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; provided, further that the funds derived by the county under this amendment shall be apportioned between the county and any independent city school system existing in the county in the same proportion that state funds are distributed under the minimum program funds. If any proposal to levy a tax as provided in this amendment is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. The elections provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for elections on school district taxes authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX of the Constitution, as prescribed by article 7, chapter 10, Title 52, Code 1940.

Amendment 207 ratified

Amendment of Section 178. SECTION 178

Residency, registration and poll tax requirements for electors.

To entitle a person to vote at any election by the people, he shall have resided in the state at least one year, in the county six months, and in the precinct or ward three months, immediately preceding the election at which he offers to vote, and he shall have been duly registered as an elector, and shall have paid on or before the first day of February next preceding the date of the election at which he offers to vote, all poll taxes due from him for the two calendar years next preceding. Provided, that any elector who, within three months next preceding the date of the election at which he offers to vote, has removed from one precinct or ward to another precinct or ward in the same county, incorporated town, or city, shall have the right to vote in the precinct or ward from which he has so removed, if he would have been entitled to vote in such precinct or ward but for such removal.

Amendment 208 ratified

Amendment of Section 215. SECTION 215

Limitation on county property tax rates; special county taxes for public buildings, bridges or roads; disposition of revenue from special tax.

No county in this state shall be authorized to levy a greater rate of taxation in any one year on the value of the taxable property therein than one-half of one per centum; provided, that to pay debts existing on the sixth day of December, eighteen hundred and seventy-five, an additional rate of one-fourth of one per centum may be levied and collected which shall be appropriated exclusively to the payment of such debts and the interest thereon; provided, further, that to pay any debt or liability now existing against any county, incurred for the erection, construction, or maintenance of the necessary public buildings or bridges, or that may hereafter be created for the erection of necessary public buildings, bridges, or roads (a) any county may levy and collect such special taxes, not to exceed

one-fourth of one per centum, as may have been or may hereafter be authorized by law. The proceeds of taxes levied under said proviso (a) for public building, road, or bridge purposes in excess of amounts payable on bonds, warrants, or other securities issued by the county may be spent for general county purposes, in such manner as the court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like county governing body may determine.

Amendment 209 ratified

Additional Tax in City of Mountain Brook.

Any provision of the Constitution and laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the city of Mountain Brook, in Jefferson county, shall have, in addition to the power to levy and collect ad valorem tax each year at the rate authorized immediately prior to the adoption of this amendment, the further power to levy and collect each year an additional tax of one-fourth of one per centum based upon the value of the property therein as fixed for state taxation; provided, that before any such additional tax may be so levied and collected a majority of the qualified electors of said municipal corporation voting at an election called for that purpose shall vote in favor of the levy thereof; and provided further, that the adoption of this amendment or the levying of said tax shall in no wise affect, limit, modify, abridge or impair the power, authority or right of such municipality to levy and collect the special school taxes now or hereafter vested or conferred upon it under the Constitution, or any amendment thereto. Each election held under the provisions hereof shall be ordered, held, canvassed and may be contested in the same manner as may be provided by law applicable to municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds. The ballots used at such elections shall contain the words "for 1/4 % additional rate of taxation," and "Against 1/4 % additional rate of taxation," so that the voter may record his choice for or against said additional tax.

Amendment 210 ratified

Warrants Payable Out of Proceeds of Special Taxes for Educational Purposes in DeKalb County.

In addition to all other purposes for which the county board of education or any city board of education in DeKalb county is authorized by law to issue and sell warrants payable out of the proceeds from any special school tax or special tax for educational purposes generally, duly levied pursuant to this Constitution or amendments thereto, the county board of education of DeKalb county or the city board of education of any city in such county is authorized to issue and sell warrants payable out of the proceeds of such special taxes for the purpose of refinancing any deficit created by proration of school funds prior to June 1, 1962. Before any warrants are issued hereunder the existence of such deficit and the amount thereof shall be determined by the state department of examiners of public accounts and certified to the board of education desiring to issue the warrants. All warrants issued hereunder shall be issued, sold, redeemed and otherwise handled in the same manner and upon the same terms and conditions as warrants issued pursuant to article 4, chapter 10, Title 52, Code of 1940.

Amendment 211 ratified

Further Provisions as to Additional Tax for School Purposes in Franklin County.

1. The court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of Franklin county shall have power to levy and collect the special property tax authorized by amendment CLXXIII [173] on all the taxable property in the county situated outside the corporate limits of the city of Russellville, as such property was assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public school purposes; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time the tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of Franklin county residing outside the city of Russellville, and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Elections on proposals to levy the tax on the property in the county situated outside the city of Russellville shall be called and held in the same manner as now provided by law for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX, of the

Constitution.

2. The county governing body may likewise levy and collect said special property tax on the property situated within the city of Russellville, as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city of Russellville and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election.

3. The additional taxes levied on property under amendment CLXXIII [173] and this amendment shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as other taxes levied on property for public school purposes.

Amendment 212 ratified

State Tax on Net Income of Corporations.

The legislature shall have power to levy and provide for the collection of taxes for state purposes on net income of corporations, from whatever source derived, for the calendar year 1963, or for any fiscal year beginning in the calendar year 1963, and each year thereafter, at a rate not exceeding five percent. However, all federal income taxes paid or accrued within the taxable year by corporations shall always be deductible in computing net income taxable under the income tax laws of this state, provided that in the case of foreign corporations the amount of federal income tax deductible shall be in proportion to income derived from sources within Alabama, to be determined in accordance with such laws as the legislature may enact.

Amendment 213 ratified

Bonds for State Docks Facilities.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for improvements at the Alabama state docks and the refunding of state docks revenue bonds, and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to issue and sell, in addition to all other bonds of the state, interest bearing general obligation bonds of the state not exceeding ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) in principal amount. The full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon. The Alabama state docks department (which term as used herein shall be construed to include any other agency of the state that may succeed to said department's functions) shall pledge and use so much of the revenues derived from its seaport facilities as may be necessary to pay at their maturities the principal of and interest on said bonds, and may pledge, agree to use, and use so much of said revenues as the said department with the approval of the governor may determine shall be necessary or desirable to build up and maintain a reserve for the payment of said principal and interest and for the maintenance, replacement and improvement of its seaport facilities.

The proceeds from the sale of any such bonds shall, after payment of the reasonable and necessary expenses of their issuance, be set aside in a special fund in the state treasury and shall be paid out of the Alabama state docks department upon authorization by the governor and shall be held by the said department in a special trust fund designated "state docks bond fund" and therefrom be disbursed as follows:

(a) Not exceeding \$3,000,000 may be used to pay the reasonable and necessary costs of constructing and equipping works of internal improvement for use and operation as a part of the state docks facilities; provided that, if said department shall have issued subsequent to July 1, 1963, any notes in anticipation of the sale of bonds for any of said purposes, then so much as may be necessary, not exceeding \$1,000,000, of said \$3,000,000 shall be used to retire or fund said notes; and

(b) Not exceeding \$7,000,000 may be used to refund and provide for the retirement of all or such part of the outstanding revenue bonds heretofore issued by said department as the director thereof, with the approval of the governor, shall deem advantageous, including payment of any redemption premiums required under the terms of said outstanding bonds to be paid in order to effect redemption thereof prior to their maturities; provided, that pending

any redemption date or dates on which the outstanding bonds so refunded can be redeemed under their terms, any part of said \$7,000,000 and any other funds of the said department may be invested in securities that are direct obligations of the United States of America, and such securities may be deposited by said department under irrevocable trust agreements, which said department is hereby authorized to enter into with any corporate trustee, and used to pay principal, interest and redemption premiums on said outstanding bonds.

Alabama state docks department is hereby vested with full authority, except as limited herein, to prescribe the terms of the bonds and to provide for the issuance and sale thereof. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal or interest or both, with rights of conversion into another form, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates, payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state to be exercised by the state docks department at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said department in the order or orders under which the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amounts as shall be specified in the authorizing order or orders, the first of which installments shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty years after the date of the bonds of the same series. The largest installment of principal and interest maturing on each series of the bonds in any one year shall not exceed twice the preceding smallest installment of principal and interest maturing thereon in any prior year. None of the bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest thereon to the date of delivery. The bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said department to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said department is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the governor and countersigned by the state docks director, and the great seal of the state of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the secretary of state; provided, that facsimile signatures of any one or any two (but not all) of said officers may be reproduced on any of such bonds in lieu of being manually signed thereon. Coupons attached to the bonds and representing installments of interest thereon shall be signed with the facsimile signature of the state treasurer, which facsimile signature shall constitute due and sufficient authentication of said coupons.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from taxation in this state.

The authorization to incur debt and issue bonds contained in this amendment shall supersede and take the place of any authorization for Alabama state docks department to issue revenue bonds granted by act of the legislature on the effective date of this amendment.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and authorization from or other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder.

Amendment 214 ratified

Promotion of Poultry and Poultry Products.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, marketing and use of poultry and poultry products. The legislature may provide for the promotion of poultry and poultry products and the poultry industry by research, education, advertising and other methods, and the legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby producers, owners or growers of poultry may by referendum held among such producers, owners or growers of poultry in this state levy upon

themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of poultry and poultry products for the financing of any such promotional program or activity in cooperation with processors, dealers, handlers and other buyers of poultry and poultry products. Provided, no assessment levied hereunder shall exceed one cent (1¢) per hen or other domesticated fowl or any other classes of poultry sold by producers thereof. The legislature is authorized to make provisions for nonpayment and for the refund of assessments levied upon owners, producers or growers of poultry to any such person who does not desire to participate in the promotional program. The legislature shall provide for the collection and distribution of assessments or charges authorized hereunder and to provide penalties for failure to make such collection and distribution of assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization organized for the promotion and betterment of poultry and poultry products in Alabama to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include conducting elections or referendum among producers, owners or growers of poultry. The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities authorized herein by the department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof. Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon poultry and poultry products.

Amendment 215 ratified

Costs and Charges of Court and Fees, etc., of Officers of Marshall County.

The legislature may, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and salaries, including the method or basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, circuit clerk, register of the circuit court, tax assessor, tax collector, or any other officer of Marshall county, and may place any of such officers on a salary and provide that the fees, commissions, percentages, and allowances collected by such officers shall be paid into the county treasury from which their salaries shall be paid. The compensation of such officers shall not be increased or diminished during their terms.

Amendment 216 ratified

Warrants Payable from Proceeds of Special School Taxes in Coffee County.

In addition to all other purposes for which the county board of education or any city board of education in Coffee county is authorized by law to issue and sell warrants payable out of the proceeds from any special school tax or special tax for educational purposes generally, duly levied pursuant to this Constitution or amendments thereto, the county board of education of Coffee county or the city board of education of any city in such county is authorized to issue and sell warrants payable out of the proceeds of such special taxes for the purpose of refinancing any deficit created by proration of school funds prior to June 1, 1963. Before any warrants are issued hereunder the existence of such deficit and the amount thereof shall be determined by the state department of examiners of public accounts and certified to the board of education desiring to issue the warrants. All warrants issued hereunder shall be issued, sold, redeemed and otherwise handled in the same manner and upon the same terms and conditions as warrants issued pursuant to article 4, chapter 10, Title 52, Code of 1940.

Amendment 217 ratified

Economic Development of Clarke County and Municipalities Therein.

Clarke county and the incorporated municipalities therein, jointly or severally, after an election held in accordance herewith shall have full and continuing power and authority to:

1. Purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. Lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, or give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. Promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. Become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. Lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. Become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. Levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the county or in any municipality in Clarke county or upon all property in any district to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. Pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. Create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of Clarke county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county or any municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of Clarke county or any municipality therein for the purpose of determining their borrowing capacity under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature may enact laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Neither the county nor any municipality therein shall make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the locality affected thereby. The governing body of the county or any municipality may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.

Amendment 218 ratified

Special School Tax in City of Huntsville.

Section 1. In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied a special school tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the school tax district of the city of Huntsville in Madison county to be used solely for public school purposes; provided the levy of said tax shall first have been approved by the qualified electors of the school district as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. The proceeds of said tax shall be used exclusively for constructing and improving school buildings and acquiring sites therefor in the school tax district of the city of Huntsville, Alabama.

Section 3. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the city of Huntsville who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the additional tax provided for in section 1 shall be levied and collected for a period of thirty years without any other election having been held hereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the city of Huntsville who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax shall not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the city of Huntsville and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year and shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in constitutional amendment III [3].

Amendment 219 ratified

Levy of Certain Privilege Licence Taxes by Municipalities in Mobile County.

No incorporated municipality in Mobile county shall have power to levy, impose, or collect a privilege license tax upon or in respect of the employees of an employer which is measured by or based on income derived from wages, salaries, commissions, or bonuses, for personal services rendered, unless the levying thereof shall have been authorized before the enactment of such ordinance by a vote of the duly qualified electors of the city or town at an election held for such purpose, in the manner prescribed by the city or town council or commission.

Amendment 220 ratified

Promotion of Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Development in City of Bayou La Batre.

Any provision or limitations in this Constitution or laws to the contrary notwithstanding, the city of Bayou La Batre shall have full and continuing power and authority to do any act hereinafter described or engage in any activity mentioned if the same is first approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose. The city or governing body thereof may purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind and may lend its credit or grant public money and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation, to promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses in the city. The city or the governing body thereof may borrow money and pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any special

tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full, and may pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased, or sold by it. The provisions of this article of amendment shall be self-executing; however, the governing body of the city shall have power to enact appropriate ordinances to implement and enforce the provisions hereof.

Amendment 221 ratified

Economic Development of City of York.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the municipality of York in Sumter county shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend this credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) to be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipality of York, or may be limited as to the sources of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the municipality of York in Sumter county, or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body, and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the municipality of York in Sumter county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or

authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive, no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the municipality of York in Sumter county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county under section 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. The municipality of York in Sumter county shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the municipality. The governing body of the municipality may provide for holding such election, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 222 ratified

Bonds for State Docks Facilities.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for improvements at the Alabama state docks and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to issue and sell, in addition to all other bonds of the state, interest bearing general obligation bonds of the state not exceeding three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in principal amount. The full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon.

The Alabama state docks department (which term as used herein shall be construed to include any other agency of the state that may succeed to said department's functions) shall, subject to the provisions of the bond order relating to the sale of \$10,000,000 principal amount of general obligation seaport facilities bonds of the state of Alabama dated March 1, 1964, pledge and use so much of the revenues derived from its seaport facilities as may be necessary to pay at their maturities the principal of and interest on said bonds, and may pledge, agree to use, and use so much of said revenues as the said department with the approval of the governor may determine shall be necessary or desirable to build up and maintain reserves for the payment of said principal and interest for the maintenance, replacement and improvement of its seaport facilities. The proceeds from the sale of any such bonds shall, after payment of the reasonable and necessary expense of their issuance, be set aside in a special fund in the state treasury and shall be paid out to the Alabama state docks department upon authorization by the governor and shall be held by the said department in a special trust fund designated "Alabama state docks expansion bond fund" and therefrom be disbursed to pay the reasonable and necessary costs of constructing and equipping works of internal improvement for use and operation as a part of the state docks facilities; provided that, if said department shall have issued any notes in anticipation of the sale of bonds for any of said purposes, then so much as may be necessary, not exceeding \$1,000,000, shall be used to retire or fund said notes.

The Alabama state docks department is hereby vested with full authority, subject to the provisions of the bond order relating to the sale of \$10,000,000 principal amount of general obligation seaport facilities bonds of the state of Alabama dated March 1, 1964, and except as limited herein, to prescribe the terms of the bonds and to provide for the issuance and sale thereof. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal or interest or both, with rights of conversion into another form, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates, payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state to be

exercised by the state docks department at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said department in the order or orders under which the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amount as shall be specified in the authorizing order or orders, the first of which installments shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty years after the date of the bonds of the same series. The largest installment of principal and interest maturing on each series of the bonds in any one year shall not exceed twice the preceding smallest installment of principal and interest maturing thereon in any prior year. None of the bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest thereon to the date of delivery. The bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said department to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said department is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the governor and countersigned by the state docks director, and the great seal of the state of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the secretary of state; provided, that facsimile signatures of any one or any two (but not all) of said officers may be reproduced on any of such bonds in lieu of being manually signed thereon. Coupons attached to the bonds and representing installments of interest thereon shall be signed with the facsimile signature of the state treasurer, which facsimile signature shall constitute due and sufficient authentication of said coupons.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from taxation in this state.

The authorization to incur debt and issue bonds contained in this amendment shall supersede and take the place of any authorization for Alabama state docks department to issue revenue bonds granted by act of the legislature in effect on the effective date of this amendment.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and authorization from or other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder.

Amendment 223 ratified

Qualifications and Registration of Electors; Repeal of Section 181.

1. The following persons, and no others, who, if they are citizens of the United States over the age of twenty-one years and have the qualifications as to residence prescribed in section 178 of this Constitution, as amended, shall be qualified to register as electors provided they are not disqualified under section 182 of this Constitution: Those who can, except for physical disability, read and write any article of the Constitution of the United States in the English language, and makes proof of the same in such manner as may be prescribed by the legislature. The legislature shall enact general registration laws whereby upon personal application a voter may be registered and his registration continued so long as he shall remain qualified to vote from the same address, and may provide by law for ascertaining by proper proofs, the citizens who shall be entitled to the right of suffrage.

2. Article VIII, section 181, of this Constitution, as amended, is hereby repealed.

Amendment 224 ratified

Bonds for Display of Certain Exhibits in Madison County.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for the purpose of providing and equipping permanent facilities in Madison county, Alabama for displaying certain exhibits in cooperation with the United States Department of the Army and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to sell and issue, in addition to all other bonds of the state, interest bearing general obligation bonds of the state not exceeding one million nine hundred thousand dollars (\$1,900,000) in principal amount. The bonds shall be general obligations of the state of Alabama and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon. The proceeds from the sale of such bonds are hereby appropriated and shall be used exclusively for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance thereof and for the construction, alteration, improvement, enlargement and equipment of exhibition buildings and related facilities, including parking areas and ramps, roadways, sewers, curbs, and gutters, but not including the purchase of sites therefor. Such buildings and facilities shall be constructed by a space science exhibit commission, or such other state agency as may be created by act of the legislature, and shall be operated by or in cooperation with the Department of the Army and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration under such arrangements as may be authorized by law.

The Alabama Space Science Exhibit Commission or any instrumentality of the state created and established for the purpose of providing for such facility, its management or control, is hereby vested with the authority to provide for the sale and terms of the bonds and the issuance thereof, subject to the approval of the governor. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal or interest or both with rights of conversion into another form, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state to be exercised by said commission at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said commission in the resolution or resolutions whereunder the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such an amount as shall be specified in the resolution or resolutions of the said commission under which they are issued, the first of which installments shall mature not later than two years after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty-one years after the date of the bonds of the same series. When each series of bonds is issued, the maturities of the bonds of that series shall, to such extent as may be practicable, be so arranged that during each then succeeding fiscal year of the state the aggregate installments of principal and interest that will mature on all bonds that will be outstanding hereunder, immediately following the issuance of the bonds of that series, will be substantially equal; provided, that the determination by the said commission that the requirements of this sentence have been complied with shall be conclusive of such compliance and the purchasers of the bonds with respect to which such determination is made and all subsequent holders thereof shall be fully protected thereby. None of the bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest thereon to the date of delivery, and all of the bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said commission, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said commission is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the governor and countersigned by the chairman of the commission and the great seal of the state of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the secretary of state; provided that facsimile signatures of any one or any two (but not all) of said officers may be reproduced on such bonds in lieu of their manually signing the same. Coupons attached to the bonds and representing installments of interest thereon shall be signed with the

facsimile signature of the state treasurer, which facsimile signature is hereby adopted as due and sufficient authentication of said coupons.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from taxation in this state.

The proceeds from the sale of bonds hereby authorized, after the payment of all expenses of the sale thereof shall be set apart in a special fund in the state treasury to be designated The Alabama Space Science Exhibit Commission Fund; and such proceeds shall be used solely for the purposes, hereinabove enumerated, for which the bonds are authorized to be issued.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and no further authorization from the legislature shall be a prerequisite to the validity of any bonds issued hereunder. However, the legislature may enact appropriate legislation implementing its provisions.

Amendment 225 ratified

Deduction of Federal Income Tax From Gross Income When Computing State Income Tax.

In computing net income for state income tax purposes for the calendar year 1965 and each year thereafter, a resident individual taxpayer shall be allowed to deduct from his gross income the amount of federal income tax paid or accrued within the taxable year. A nonresident individual income taxpayer shall be allowed to deduct only that amount of federal income tax paid or accrued in the taxable year on income received from sources within the state.

Amendment 226 ratified

Designation of Circuit Solicitor as District Attorney.

The solicitor or prosecuting officer who prosecutes criminal cases for the state in each judicial circuit of Alabama as provided for in article 6, section 167 of this Constitution shall hereafter be designated and known as the district attorney. Wherever the words circuit solicitor or words of like import are used in any law of this state they shall be taken to mean the district attorney, unless the context in which such words are used requires a different meaning.

Amendment 227 ratified

Development of Irrigation Districts.

The legislature may by general, special or local laws authorize the formation of a body corporate for the development of one or more irrigation districts for the purposes of providing irrigation and water conservation in the state of Alabama, and may authorize the counties and municipalities lying within the boundaries of such district or districts to contribute public funds to such body corporate, and may authorize such body corporate to enter into contract with the government of the United States or any agency thereof, and with other states or political subdivisions thereof, and with other bodies corporate organized within this or other states for the development of one or more irrigation districts in the state of Alabama, and may authorize such body corporate to issue revenue bonds payable solely out of revenues accruing to such body corporate, and may authorize such body corporate to do and perform all other such acts necessary and proper for the full development of said Alabama irrigation district or districts provided, however, nothing herein shall authorize any such public corporation to engage in or finance, directly or indirectly, the production, transmission or sale of electric power.

Amendment 228 ratified

Bonds for Enlargement, etc., of Municipally-Owned Manufacturing, Industrial or Commercial Projects.

Revenue bonds at any time issued by a municipality (a) for the purpose of enlarging, improving or expanding any manufacturing, industrial or commercial project then owned by such municipality and acquired by it pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 756 enacted at the 1951 regular session of the legislature of Alabama as heretofore amended, or (b) for the combined purpose of so enlarging, improving or expanding any such project and of refunding any revenue bonds theretofore issued by it under said Act 756, shall not be deemed to constitute bonds or indebtedness of such municipality within the meaning of sections 222 and 225 of this Constitution if by their terms such bonds are not made a charge on the general credit or tax revenues of the issuing municipality and are made payable solely out of revenues to be derived by such municipality from the leasing of such project as so enlarged, improved or expanded. Each municipality in the state is hereby authorized so to issue such revenue bonds, for either or both such purposes, at any time and from time to time and on the same terms and conditions, with the necessary changes in details, as prescribed in said Act No. 756 for the issuance of revenue bonds for the purpose of acquiring such a project, anything in the Constitution of this state or in said Act No. 756 to the contrary notwithstanding.

Amendment 229 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Certain Officers, in Baldwin County.

1. The legislature may, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and salaries, including the method or basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, circuit clerk, register of the circuit court, tax assessor, tax collector, or any other officer of Baldwin county, and may place any of such officers on a salary and provide that the fees, commissions, percentages, and allowances collected by such officers shall be paid into the county treasury from which their salaries shall be paid. The compensation of such officers shall not be increased or diminished during their terms.
2. This article of amendment shall not become operative unless the same is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Baldwin county who vote thereon upon its submission.

Amendment 230 ratified

Special District Tax for Public Hospital Purposes in Baldwin County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the governing body of Baldwin county shall levy and cause to be collected annually a special district tax, not exceeding 50 cents on each 100 dollars assessed valuation of taxable property in election precincts numbered one through seven of Baldwin county, Alabama, to be used exclusively for public hospital purposes (as the term "public hospital purposes" is defined in amendment LXXVI [76] to the Constitution proposed by Acts of 1949, page 897, submitted December 13, 1949, and proclaimed ratified December 21, 1949) within said election precincts numbered one through seven; provided that the time during which such tax is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in election precincts numbered one through seven of Baldwin county and voted for by a majority of such electors voting at such election. The governing body of Baldwin county may call an election at any time, and it shall be the duty of such governing body to call an election to be held within ninety days after receipt by it of a petition signed by not less than 5% of the qualified electors of said election precincts numbered one through seven, requesting that such election be called. The governing body may call such election to be held at the same time that this amendment is submitted to the electors of the state for ratification and such election shall be effective to require the levy and collection of such tax in the event that this amendment shall be ratified. The notice of such election, ballots to be used at such election and procedures for holding and determining the results of such election shall be prescribed by the governing body of Baldwin county. No election

shall be held hereunder within one year from the date of the last election so held.

Whenever such tax shall have been authorized by vote of such qualified electors, and levied by the governing body of Baldwin county, such governing body may anticipate the proceeds therefrom for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, by issuing, without further election, interest bearing tax anticipation bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said county payable solely from and secured by a pledge of a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax received by the county.

The governing body of Baldwin county shall have power to designate as the agency of the county, to construct, acquire, equip, operate and maintain public hospital facilities for said election precincts numbered one through seven any public corporation heretofore or hereafter organized for hospital purposes in the county. When a public corporation shall have been so designated, the proceeds of said tax thereafter collected shall be paid to it and shall be used by it for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted; provided, that payments of the proceeds of said tax to said public corporation shall be made only to such extent as will not result in the impairment of the obligation of any contract theretofore made with respect to said tax. Said public corporation may anticipate the proceeds from said tax so required to be paid to it by issuing, for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, the bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said corporation, and may pledge for the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax so paid to it.

No securities issued or contracts made by Baldwin county under the authority of this amendment, which are payable solely out of the proceeds of said tax, and no securities issued or contracts made by any such public corporation, whether or not issued or made under the authority of this amendment, shall be construed to be bonds of Baldwin county or of a political subdivision thereof within the meaning of section 222 of the Constitution, or construed to create or constitute an indebtedness of the county within the meaning of section 224 of the Constitution. Said securities shall be construed to be negotiable instruments notwithstanding the fact that they may be payable solely from a limited source. All pledges of said tax and all contracts made with respect thereto pursuant to the provisions of this amendment shall take precedence in the order in which they are made and shall create a charge on the proceeds of said tax prior to the expenses of operating and maintaining any public hospital facilities.

As used in this article, the term "election precincts" means the election precincts or beats of the county as they existed on July 27, 1965.

Amendment 231 ratified

Compensation of Certain Officers of Bullock County.

The legislature may by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and compensation, and the method or basis of fixing the compensation to be charged or received by the tax assessor and the tax collector of Bullock county, and may put such officers on a salary basis and provide that the fees, commissions, percentages, and allowances payable to such officers according to law shall be paid into the county treasury.

Amendment 232 ratified

Special School Tax in City of Anniston.

(A) In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied a special school tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the school tax district of the city of Anniston in Calhoun county, to be used solely for public school purposes, such tax to be levied and collected for a period of thirty years commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1977, with the first year's tax being payable October 1, 1978; provided such tax and the time it is to continue shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the school district in which such tax is

to be collected, and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; otherwise said tax shall not be collected. A special separate election is hereby called on the first Tuesday after sixty days following the date this amendment becomes effective, to be held in the school tax district of the city of Anniston in Calhoun county, at which election the qualified voters in said school tax district may vote as to whether said special school tax herein levied shall be effective; and if the majority of those voting at said election vote in favor of said special school tax, such school tax shall, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1977, be levied and collected as other property taxes in said school district are levied and collected for a period of thirty years. If the proceeds of the tax are pledged to the payment of the principal and interest of the bonds hereinafter provided for, the tax collector of Calhoun county shall, upon collection thereof, pay such proceeds to the city of Anniston, and if the proceeds of the tax are not so pledged, he shall pay such proceeds to the board of education of the city of Anniston. This section shall be self-executing.

(B) After said tax has been voted, and without further authorization, and notwithstanding that any such request may be made prior to October 1, 1977, the city of Anniston shall, as and when requested by the board of education of Anniston, issue and sell interest bearing bonds, with principal and interest to be paid from the proceeds to be derived from said special school tax, for the sole purpose of construction and improvement of school buildings within such school tax district, and acquiring sites therefor. The net proceeds of the sale of such bonds shall be immediately paid to the board of education of the city of Anniston. The proceeds to be derived from said special school tax may be pledged by the city of Anniston for the payment of said bonds and the interest thereon, but said bonds shall not be a general obligation of the city of Anniston or of Calhoun county, and shall not be charged to the constitutional debt limit of the city of Anniston or of Calhoun county.

(C) Except as herein otherwise provided the election hereinabove provided for shall be called, held and conducted as provided for by law for the calling, holding and conducting of district school tax elections; provided, however, that the governing body of the city of Anniston shall call said election, it shall give at least thirty days' notice thereof by publication in some newspaper published in the city of Anniston and by written notices posted in three public places within the city for at least thirty days prior to said election, it shall appoint and designate the officers, managers, clerks and returning officers to conduct said election, it shall furnish the supplies and facilities necessary for the holding of said election, it shall pay out of the city treasury the expenses incident to the holding of said election, it shall designate the polling places to be used in said election, and it shall canvass, tabulate and declare the result of said election.

Amendment 233 ratified

Legislation as to Costs and Charges of Courts in Dallas County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts in Dallas county, and the method of disbursement thereof.

Amendment 234 ratified

Special School Tax for City of Fort Payne.

(A) In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied a special school tax of one dollar on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the school tax district of the city of Fort Payne in DeKalb county to be used solely for public school purposes; provided such tax and the time it is to continue shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the said school tax district in which such tax is to be collected and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election; otherwise said tax shall not be collected. A special separate election is hereby called on the first Tuesday after sixty days following the date this amendment becomes effective in the school tax district of the city of Fort Payne, in DeKalb county, at which election the qualified voters in the said school tax district of DeKalb county may vote as to whether said special school tax herein levied shall be effective; and if the majority of those voting at

said election vote in favor of said special school tax, such school tax shall immediately be levied and collected annually thereafter on the first day of October by the tax collector of DeKalb county and paid to the city of Fort Payne. The proceeds of the tax are hereby solely for public school purposes. This section shall be self-executing.

(B) Except as herein otherwise provided the election hereinabove provided for shall be called, held and conducted as provided by law for calling, holding and conducting of district school tax elections. The governing body of the city of Fort Payne shall appoint and designate the officers, managers, clerks and returning officers and shall call, canvass, tabulate, and declare the result of the election provided for in the city of Fort Payne. The election shall otherwise be conducted, held, canvassed, tabulated and the results declared as general elections are conducted, held, canvassed, tabulated and the results declared in Alabama.

Amendment 235 ratified

Trial Tax or Charge on Litigation in Etowah County.

The legislature may by general or local law provide that a trial tax or charge on litigation of not more than ... dollars (\$...) shall be taxed as costs in any case, action, or proceeding hereafter filed in the circuit court of Etowah county, whether at law or in equity, and that a like tax or charge of not more than ... dollars (\$...) shall be taxed as cost in any case hereafter filed in the Etowah county court, the proceeds of such tax or charge shall be used for establishing, equipping, maintaining and operating the public law library in Etowah county established pursuant to Act No. 191, H. 596, which became effective August 1, 1955 (Acts of Alabama 1955, page 485), including the payment of the salaries of the personnel needed to operate such library.

Amendment 236 ratified

Compensation of Certain Officers of Greene County.

1. In Greene county the sheriff and the clerk and register of the circuit court shall be compensated on a salary basis. The sheriff shall be entitled to receive an annual salary of seven thousand five hundred dollars, payable in equal monthly installments from the general fund of the county; the clerk and register of the circuit court shall be entitled to receive an annual salary of five thousand dollars, payable in equal monthly installments from the county treasury, and a clerk-hire allowance of one thousand dollars a year, payable from the county treasury in equal monthly installments. The salaries of these officers shall be their entire compensation for the performance of the duties of their respective offices and shall be in lieu of all costs and charges of courts, commissions, fees, percentages, and allowances collected by them, which shall be paid into the general fund of the county. However, the court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or other like governing body of Greene county shall provide the sheriff such deputies, clerks, and assistants as may be necessary for the performance of the duties of his office, and pay their compensation from the county treasury.

2. This article of amendment shall be inoperative and of no effect unless it shall have been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Greene county who voted thereon upon its submission. If the amendment be so approved, the provisions hereof shall be effective from the first of the month next following the date of the election.

Amendment 237 ratified

Bonds for Courthouse and Jail in Henry County.

Henry county is hereby authorized to incur indebtedness to the extent of not exceeding \$700,000 in aggregate principal amount, and to issue its bonds in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred, for the combined purpose of constructing and equipping a new courthouse and a new jail in said county. Said bonds may be issued only after the question of the issuance thereof shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of said county at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of said county and a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of said bonds, which election shall be called, held, conducted,

canvassed and may be contested in the manner provided by the then existing laws of Alabama with respect to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties; provided however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of said county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof then the approval of this amendment expressed by the vote in said county in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds, and in that event no additional election by the electors of said county shall be required to authorize the issuance of said bonds. In the event the majority vote in said county on the adoption of this amendment is against the adoption hereof, or in the event the majority vote at any election held in said county pursuant to the provisions of this amendment after its adoption is not in favor of the issuance of the bonds proposed at such election, the governing body of said county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of said bonds, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. The power to become indebted and to issue bonds in evidence of such indebtedness shall be in addition to all other powers which the said county may have under the Constitution and laws of Alabama, and any bonds issued pursuant to this amendment shall not be chargeable against the amount of indebtedness which said county may incur under the Constitution and laws in effect prior to the adoption of this amendment.

All bonds issued under this amendment shall be general obligations of the county secured by an irrevocable pledge of its full faith and credit. The governing body of said county may further, if it deems such action desirable, pledge for payment of the principal of and the interest on said bonds any tax which said county may be authorized to levy under any provision of the Constitution. All bonds, issued hereunder shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the sale of said bonds respecting the maturities, sale, execution and redemption of bonds by counties.

Amendment 238 ratified

Bonds for Civic Centers in Certain Counties.

Any corporation heretofore or hereafter created in any county of the state having a population of 500,000 according to the last or any subsequent federal census, for the purpose of establishing, maintaining and operating a civic center in the municipality in which the county seat of such county is situated, shall be authorized, without the necessity of any election, to issue bonds, warrants or other evidence of indebtedness, and to pledge for the payment of the principal and interest due thereon the revenue received, or to be received, by such corporation, and also to pledge for such payment the proceeds derived, or to be derived, from any taxes made payable by the act, or acts, levying such taxes to the said public corporation, any provision of the Constitution of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding. No securities issued by such corporation shall be considered indebtedness of such county or any municipality therein within the meaning of sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution of Alabama. The rent or rentals that the county or the said municipality may be obligated to pay under the terms of any lease between the said corporation and the said county or the said municipality shall not be considered in determining whether the county or the municipality has exceeded the debt limitation prescribed for the county or the municipality, as the case may be, by any provision of the Constitution of Alabama.

Amendment 239 ratified

Fire Protection or Garbage and Trash Disposal Districts in Jefferson County.

The legislature may provide for the formation of districts in Jefferson county, Alabama, for establishing and maintaining a system for fighting or preventing fires or for the collection and disposal of garbage and trash; provided, however, that no territory lying within the limits of a municipal corporation at the time of the establishment of any such district shall be included within such district; and, provided further, that no such district shall be established unless the establishment thereof has been first approved by the qualified electors residing within the proposed district at an election held as provided for by a law or laws adopted by the legislature. A district may be established for either or both of the aforesaid purposes. The legislature may provide for submitting to the qualified

electors residing within the proposed district the question of whether the district shall be created to establish and maintain a firefighting and fire prevention system, or the question of whether the district shall be created to establish and maintain a garbage collection and garbage disposal system; and to provide that the two questions may be submitted separately at the same election.

The expenses of establishing and maintaining any such firefighting and fire prevention system or any such garbage collection and disposal system in a district, as the case may be, shall be paid for exclusively by the proceeds of a service charge, which shall be levied and collected in an amount sufficient to pay the said expenses.

No service charge shall be levied unless the same has been first approved at an election by the qualified electors residing within the district, or in the proposed district if the question of the levy of the service charge is submitted simultaneously with the question of whether the district shall be created.

Said service charges shall be levied upon and collected from the persons and property to whom and to which such services are available; and the service charge shall be a lien upon any such property.

The legislature may provide for the enlargement of a district by the addition of territory thereto, subject to the following conditions: (1) No territory lying within a municipal corporation at the time the additional territory is brought within the district shall be included; (2) no territory shall be added unless the qualified electors of the territory to be added have approved the inclusion of said territory within the district at an election held for that purpose within the territory proposed to be added; (3) no territory shall be added unless the majority of the electors residing within the territory proposed to be added have first approved at an election held within such territory every service charge in effect within the district at the time the said addition is proposed.

The legislature shall have the authority to adopt laws providing for the administration of the affairs of the district by the governing body of the county or by an agency of the county.

The legislature may provide for the issuance of bonds for such districts with or without an election; provided, however, that all bonds issued hereunder shall be payable only out of the proceeds of the service charge authorized hereby, and no such bond shall be a general obligation of the county.

Amendment 240 ratified

Special Ad Valorem Tax for Paying Principal and Interest on Bonds of City of Birmingham.

Section 1. In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by law, the governing body of the city of Birmingham shall have the power and authority to levy and collect each year a special ad valorem tax of fifty cents (50¢) on each one hundred (\$100) dollars worth of taxable property in the city of Birmingham, based on the valuation of such property as assessed for state taxation for the tax year ending on the 30th day of September next succeeding the levy, to be used by the city of Birmingham solely for paying principal and interest on general obligation bonds of the city of Birmingham heretofore or hereafter issued under authority of law; provided that the authority to levy such tax in accordance with this amendment to the Constitution shall first have been approved by the qualified electors of the city of Birmingham, prior to the first annual levy thereof, as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the city of Birmingham who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the governing body of the city of Birmingham shall have the power and authority to levy and collect thereafter each year the special ad valorem tax provided for in section 1 hereof. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the city of Birmingham who vote thereon vote against its approval, the authority to levy and collect said tax shall not be given unless the rate of the tax and the purpose thereof shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city of Birmingham and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election prior to the first annual levy of such tax. Each such election shall be ordered, held, canvassed and may be contested in the same manner as is or may be provided by the law applicable to the city of Birmingham for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds. The ballots used at such election shall contain the words "For Special Ad Valorem Tax

of fifty cents per One Hundred Dollars of Taxable Property" and "Against Special Ad Valorem Tax of fifty cents per One Hundred Dollars of Taxable Property." The voter shall record his choice, whether for or against the special ad valorem tax by placing a cross mark before or after the words expressing his choice. Voting machines shall be used in any such election to the extent required by law. In the event the authority to levy the special ad valorem tax is defeated, subsequent elections for the approval of such tax may nevertheless be held again but no election shall be held within one year of any previous such election. Once the authority to levy such tax has been approved no further election shall be required thereon.

Amendment 241 ratified

Compensation of Certain Officers of Lauderdale County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Lauderdale county, fix, regulate, and alter the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, tax assessor, tax collector, and clerk and register of the circuit court of Lauderdale county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

Amendment 242 ratified

Special Property Tax for Recreational Purposes in City of Auburn.

The city of Auburn may levy and collect annually an additional tax of one-fifth of one per centum upon the value of the property therein as assessed for state taxation, the proceeds of which shall be applied exclusively for public recreational projects, provided the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue, which shall not exceed twenty-five years, and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. The taxes authorized in this article shall be in addition to the taxes heretofore or hereafter authorized by this Constitution and the laws of this state. The council or commission of the city may on its own motion, and shall upon written petition of not less than five per centum of the qualified electors of the city, call and provide for holding elections under this article.

Amendment 243 ratified

Development of Elk River Watershed Area in Lauderdale and Limestone Counties.

Any provision of sections 93 or 104 of the Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding and either with or without compliance with section 106 of the Constitution, the legislature shall have full power and authority to enact laws to provide for the formation of a public body corporate which shall be an instrumentality of the state for purposes of development, management, and control of the Alabama portion of the Elk river watershed area, in Lauderdale and Limestone counties, and any such legislation which may have been enacted by the 1965 legislature authorizing the formation of such public bodies corporate is hereby ratified, confirmed, and given full effect in all respects.

Amendment 244 ratified

Economic Development of Town of Lester.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the town of Lester in Limestone county shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend this credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the town of Lester, or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the municipality, or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the municipality for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county under section 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body, and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the town of Lester may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate of Limestone county or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the municipalities.

10. The town of Lester shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the municipality. The governing body of the municipality may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in Limestone county.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Amendment 245 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 191.

For the promotion of local industrial, commercial or agricultural development, Madison county and the city of Huntsville shall each have full and continuing power (a) to purchase, construct, lease and otherwise acquire industrial, commercial and agricultural projects, including real and personal property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind whatsoever, (b) to lease, sell, exchange or otherwise convey all or any part of any such project to any person, firm or corporation, and (c) after an approving election if required as hereinafter provided, to sell and issue for such purposes interest-bearing general obligation bonds. Neither the county nor the city shall issue any bonds under the authority of this amendment, other than bonds issued to finance the acquisition [acquisition] of industrial sites, unless the question of the issuance of such bonds has first been submitted to the qualified electors of the county or the city, as the case may be, and approved at such election by a majority of the qualified electors voting thereat. Each such election shall be called, held and conducted, and may be contested, in the manner provided by law for county or municipal bond elections, as the case may be. Bonds issued under the authority of this amendment shall not be considered indebtedness of the county or the city, as the case may be, within the meaning of sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution of Alabama, but neither the county nor the city shall at any time issue any bonds under the authority of this amendment if as a result thereof it will have outstanding an aggregate principal amount of bonds issued hereunder in excess of twenty percent of the assessed value of the property in the county or the city, as the case may be. Neither shall the county or the city issue any bonds under the authority of this amendment, except bonds issued to finance the acquisition of industrial sites, unless prior thereto or contemporaneously therewith the county or the city, as the case may be, has entered into a lease or other similar agreement, with respect to the project being financed by such bonds, providing for the payment to the county or the city, as the case may be, of net rentals sufficient to pay the principal of and the interest on such bonds at the respective maturities of such principal and interest, and any bonds issued hereunder shall be secured by a pledge of such rentals and may be secured by a foreclosable mortgage on such project and by a pledge of any other taxes and revenues which the county or the city, as the case may be, is authorized by law to pledge to the payment of its bonded indebtedness. All bonds issued under the authority of this amendment shall be sold at public sale in the manner required by law for the sale of county or municipal bonds, as the case may be, and shall mature and be payable in annual or semi-annual installments in such amounts and at such times as to result in the aggregate amount of principal and interest maturing thereon in each year following the year of their issuance being substantially equal, but shall not be subject to any other provisions of law relating to maturities of county or municipal bonds. In the event that any such action is necessary to prevent or cure a default in payment of the principal of or the interest on any bonds issued under the authority of this amendment, the county or the city, as the case may be, is authorized to levy and collect ad valorem taxes, without limitation as to rate or amount, on the assessed value of all taxable property in the county or the city, as the case may be, but only so long as and only to such extent as necessary to prevent or cure any such default.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Madison county nor the city of Huntsville shall be subject to the provisions of section 93 of the Constitution of Alabama, and the taxes which the county and the city are

hereinabove authorized to levy and collect are in addition to all other taxes which the county and the city are authorized to levy and collect. This amendment shall be self-executing, but, notwithstanding any contrary provisions of section 104 of the Constitution of Alabama, the legislature shall have the power, by general, special or local act, to enact laws supplemental hereto or in furtherance of the purposes hereof.

Amendment 246 ratified

Refunding of Securities by Certain Municipalities in Marion County.

Any provision of the Constitution or the laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, any municipality in Marion county, Alabama, that has heretofore issued, or that may hereafter issue, interest-bearing bonds, warrants, notes or other securities pursuant to the provisions of that certain amendment to the Constitution of Alabama that was proposed by Act No. 1 [amendment No. 84] enacted at the 1950 second special session of the legislature of Alabama (herein called "the 1950 amendment"), shall have full and continuing power and authority to do any one or more of the following:

- (1) To refund, or provide for the refunding of, any bonds, warrants, notes or other securities issued by it pursuant to the provisions of the 1950 amendment or pursuant to the provisions hereof (whether before, at or after the maturity of the securities being so refunded and whether or not all or any part of such securities are then subject to redemption) by the sale and issuance of refunding bonds, warrants, notes or other securities in a principal amount not in excess of the principal amount of securities being refunded plus any premium necessary to redeem or retire the securities being refunded and any interest accrued on, or to accrue to the date of payment or redemption of, such securities;
- (2) In the event any of the securities being so refunded cannot, by their terms, be redeemed or otherwise retired simultaneously with the issuance of the refunding securities, to invest, until the earliest date on which such redemption or retirement can be effected, such portion of the principal proceeds from the sale of such refunding securities as may not then be used for redemption or retirement of the refunded securities, in any investments in which municipal sinking funds are authorized to be invested by the provisions of section 265 of Title 37 of the Code of Alabama of 1940, as it exists at the time of the adoption of this amendment;
- (3) To issue bonds, warrants, notes or other securities for the combined purpose of so refunding any such securities and of acquiring, constructing, extending or improving any one or more industrial or manufacturing plants or properties within the corporate limits or the police jurisdiction of such municipality, in which case the provisions of the preceding subdivisions (1) and (2) of this amendment shall apply to those of such bonds, warrants, notes or other securities that are being issued for refunding purposes;
- (4) To pledge for payment of any securities issued by it pursuant to the provisions hereof not only any taxes and revenues authorized to be pledged for securities authorized to be issued pursuant to the provisions of the 1950 amendment, but also any other taxes or revenues that such municipality is authorized by law to pledge for payment of its general obligation bonds;
- (5) To mortgage, as security for payment of any securities issued by it hereunder, (a) any industrial or manufacturing plants and properties acquired, constructed, extended or improved, in whole or in part, out of the proceeds from the sale of any securities being refunded, in whole or in part, by such securities, and (b) any industrial or manufacturing plants and properties to be acquired, constructed, extended or improved, in whole or in part, out of the proceeds from the sale of such securities; and to pledge for payment of any such securities the revenues and receipts to be derived from the leasing or sale of any such plants and properties; and
- (6) In connection with the issuance of any securities by it hereunder, to reserve the right to issue additional such securities hereunder, on a parity with the securities then being issued, on such terms and conditions as shall be specified in the proceedings of its governing body or other documents under which such securities are being issued.

Any securities issued by a municipality pursuant to the provisions of this amendment may be issued on the full faith and credit of such municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment, all as the governing body of such municipality may determine. Any securities so issued, in whole or in part, for refunding purposes hereunder may be in the form of bonds, warrants, notes or other securities, irrespective of whether the securities being refunded thereby consist of bonds, warrants, notes or other securities or any combination thereof, and may be limited as to the source of their payment, as aforesaid, even though the securities being refunded thereby were issued on the full faith and credit of such municipality. Any securities issued by a municipality pursuant to the provisions hereof that are payable, as to both principal and interest, solely out of revenues and receipts to be derived from the leasing or sale of one or more industrial or manufacturing plants or properties owned by it shall not be considered indebtedness of such municipality for the purpose of determining its borrowing capacity under section 225 of the Constitution or under the 1950 amendment. No municipality in Marion county, Alabama, shall issue any securities pursuant to the provisions of the 1950 amendment or of this amendment, other than securities that are payable (as to both principal and interest) solely out of revenues to be derived from the leasing or sale of one or more industrial or manufacturing plants or properties owned by it, unless the principal amount of such securities, when added to the aggregate of the principal amount of any other securities of such municipality then outstanding hereunder or the 1950 amendment, does not exceed fifty percent of the assessed value of the taxable property therein, as determined for state taxation; provided however, that securities for the payment of the principal of and the interest on which an irrevocable trust fund consisting of cash or securities that are direct general obligations of the United States of America, or both, has been established shall not, for the purposes of this amendment or the 1950 amendment, be considered as outstanding to the extent that the retirement thereof shall be provided by said fund (including the cash therein and all sums due to be paid by the United States of America under the terms of any such United States securities that form a part of said trust fund).

No municipality shall exercise any power and authority hereunder unless the question of whether such municipality shall have the full and continuing power to exercise all the powers and authority referred to herein shall have first been submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of said municipality at an election to be called for that purpose by the governing body of said municipality and the full and continuing exercise of said powers and authority shall have been authorized by a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election. Each election provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed, and may be contested, in the manner provided by law for the calling, holding, conducting, canvassing and contesting of municipal bond elections; provided however, that if a majority of the qualified electors in any municipality in Marion county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption hereof, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the vote in said municipality in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the full and continuing exercise by such municipality of all the powers and authorities granted hereunder and in that event no additional election by the electors of said municipality shall be required to authorize the exercise of such powers.

Amendment 247 ratified

Development of Bear Creek Watershed Area.

The legislature may by general, special, private or local laws authorize the formation in any manner of a public corporation for the development of Bear Creek, its tributaries and watershed, for the purposes of navigation, water conservation and supply, flood control, irrigation, industrial development, public recreation, and related purposes, and may authorize the counties of Marion, Colbert, Franklin and Winston and all municipalities lying within Marion, Colbert, Franklin and Winston counties to donate or contribute public funds to such public corporation and may authorize such public corporation to enter into contracts with the United States of America or any agency thereof, and with the several states or political subdivisions thereof, and with other public or private corporations organized within any of the several states, for the development of the Bear Creek watershed, and may authorize such public corporation to acquire by purchase, construction, lease, gift, condemnation, or otherwise property of any kind, real,

personal or mixed, to mortgage or sell its property and to issue revenue bonds and other revenue securities payable solely out of revenues accruing to such public corporation, and may exempt such public corporation from all taxation in the state of Alabama, and may grant such public corporation all other powers and privileges which may be necessary and proper for the full development of said Bear Creek watershed. The provisions of sections 106, 222 and 225 of the Constitution of Alabama shall not apply to any public corporation which may be organized pursuant to enabling legislation herein authorized or to any revenue bonds and other revenue securities at any time issued by such public corporation. Such public corporation shall be deemed a political subdivision of the state of Alabama. Nothing herein shall authorize any such public corporation to engage in or finance, directly or indirectly the production, transmission, or sale of electric power. The area comprising the Bear Creek watershed shall include such land defined in enabling legislation herein authorized as shall lie within the counties of Marion, Colbert, Franklin and Winston.

Amendment 248 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 195.

A. The terms "three mills" be, and the same hereby are, changed to read "six mills" wherever the same appears in paragraphs B and C of amendment CXCV [195] to the Constitution of Alabama.

B. The parenthetical phrase "(after deduction of costs of assessment and collection thereof pursuant to any statutory provisions at the time applicable)" appearing in paragraph D of amendment CXCV [195] to the Constitution of Alabama be, and the same hereby is, deleted therefrom.

C. Paragraph E of amendment CXCV [195] to the Constitution of Alabama be, and the same hereby is, amended to read as follows: "The rate of ad valorem taxation for general municipal purposes that is at the time otherwise permitted by the Constitution to each particular municipal corporation in Mobile county shall be reduced for the tax year of the municipality next succeeding any tax year of Mobile county for which the special tax shall have been levied at a rate exceeding one and one-half mills on each dollar of taxable property in the county, any such reduction to be by a rate of millage equal to the rate by which the special tax levied for that tax year exceeds one and one-half mills on each dollar of such taxable property or by one and one-half mills on each dollar of taxable property in the county, whichever shall be the lesser reduction."

D. If a majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote in favor thereof, then the approval of this amendment expressed by said vote shall of itself authorize the special tax and in that event no additional election by the voters of Mobile county shall be required to authorize the levy of the special tax.

Amendment 249 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of County Officers, in Shelby County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter and regulate the costs and charges of court in Shelby county and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and compensation to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, tax assessor, tax collector, clerk of the circuit court, register in chancery, and any other officer of Shelby county, including the right to place any of such officers on a salary, provide for the operation of their respective offices on such basis, and provide that any and all fees, commissions, percentages, or allowances charged or collected by them, including all fees, allowances, commissions, and percentages of the tax assessor and tax collector for assessing and collecting municipal taxes, shall be paid into the county treasury; provided, that no law shall be effective to change the method of compensating any officer, nor to diminish his compensation, during the term for which he shall have been elected or appointed, and no law changing the method of compensating county officers shall be effective unless it shall have been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose.

Amendment 250 ratified

Economic Development of Sumter County.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, Sumter county acting through the county governing body shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidence of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of Sumter county, or may be limited as to the source of their payment.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidence of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of Sumter county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county under section 224 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 215 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the county, or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such county shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidence of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body subject to such limitations as the governing body of Sumter county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county.

Sumter county shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose. The governing body of the county may provide for holding such election, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published once a week for three successive weeks before the election.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature may enact general, special or local laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Amendment 251 ratified

Economic Development of Municipality of Livingston.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the municipality of Livingston in Sumter county shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend this credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipality of Livingston, or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the municipality of Livingston in Sumter county, or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body, and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the municipality of Livingston in Sumter county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the municipality of Livingston in Sumter county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county under section 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. The municipality of Livingston in Sumter county shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the municipality. The governing body of the municipality may provide for holding such election, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 252 ratified

Special School Tax in School District No. 1 of Talladega County.

1. The governing body of Talladega county shall have power to levy and collect annually a special school district tax not exceeding thirty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in school district number one, Talladega county, as assessed for state taxation, for public school purposes, provided the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. Such tax shall be in addition to all other taxes provided for by law. The funds arising from such special district tax levied and collected by the county shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the district. Elections under this amendment shall be called, held, and conducted in the same way that elections are called, held, and conducted in relation to the levying of special school district taxes under the third amendment to the Constitution.

2. If a majority of the qualified electors of school district number one, Talladega county, who participate in the election on the adoption of this article of amendment vote in favor of such adoption, then the approval of the amendment as expressed by such vote shall of itself authorize the levying of the special tax provided for herein at the maximum rate specified for a period not exceeding twenty years.

Amendment 253 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in City of Jasper.

1. The council or commissioners or other like governing body of the city of Jasper may levy and collect a special tax at a rate not exceeding one-half of one percent on the value of the taxable property within the city, the proceeds of which tax shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, provided the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city of Jasper and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election.

2. Elections may be called, held and conducted under this amendment in accordance with general laws providing for and regulating elections on district school taxes as authorized by the third amendment to this Constitution.

Amendment 254 ratified

Additional Taxes for Hospital Purposes in Winston County.

In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by law, the court of county commissioners, board of revenue, or like governing body of Winston county shall have the power to levy and collect, for a period not exceeding twenty years, a special ad valorem tax on property situated within said county, at a rate of five mills on each dollar of property as assessed for state taxation for the preceding year, the proceeds of said tax to be used solely for acquiring, by purchase, lease, or otherwise, constructing, operating, equipping, or maintaining county hospitals or other public hospitals, nonprofit hospitals, and public health facilities. Provided, the question of levying the tax, the purpose thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Winston county voting at a referendum to be held for that purpose. The referendum shall be held on the same day as the first countywide primary, general, or special election held in the county after the ratification of this amendment. The board of revenue, court of county commissioners or like governing body of the county shall order and provide for holding the referendum on such date.

Amendment 256 ratified

Economic Development of Municipalities of Addison and Lynn.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the municipalities of Addison and Lynn in Winston county shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend this credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipalities of Addison and Lynn, or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the municipalities of Addison and Lynn, or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect

such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.

9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body, and subject to such limitations as the governing bodies of the municipalities of Addison or Lynn may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the municipalities.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the municipalities of Addison and Lynn for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county under section 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. The municipalities of Addison and Lynn shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the respective municipality. The governing body of each of the two municipalities may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 257 ratified

Water Management Districts.

Section 1. The legislature may provide for the formation of water management districts for the establishment of works of improvement for the drainage of wet, swamp, and overflowed lands of the state, and for flood prevention or the conservation, development, utilization, and disposal of water within the state; confer the right of eminent domain for such purposes, provide for the taxing of the whole or part of the cost of such improvements against the lands and property in such district to the extent of the increased value thereof by reason of special benefits derived from such improvements; and provide for the issuance of bonds for such districts with or without an election; provided, however, that nothing herein shall authorize any such water management districts to engage in or finance, directly or indirectly, the production, transmission or sale of electric power.

Section 2. The provisions of this amendment are cumulative and shall not be construed to repeal amendment XV [15] or amendment XXII [22].

Amendment 258 ratified

Legislation as to Jurisdiction of Inferior Courts Established in Lieu of Justices of the Peace in Jefferson County.

The legislature of Alabama may by general or local laws fix, regulate, and change the jurisdiction of any or all inferior courts established in lieu of justices of the peace in Jefferson county, in all civil cases so long as the amount in controversy does not exceed five hundred dollars, except in cases of libel, slander, assault and battery, and ejectment. All acts of the legislature of Alabama, whether general or local providing for such courts or for such enlargement of jurisdiction prior to the adoption of this amendment, and all judgments of such courts rendered pursuant to such acts, are hereby ratified, validated and confirmed.

Amendment 259 ratified

Promotion of Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Development in City of Evergreen.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the city of Evergreen in Conecuh county shall have full and continuing power and authority, subject to the election hereinafter provided for, to promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses in the city or anywhere inside the county within fifteen miles of said city, whenever such action shall be deemed by the governing body of said city to be in furtherance of such purposes; also full and continuing power and authority to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, or give and convey any such property described in subparagraph 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation, which shall locate or agree to locate a new industry or business in the city or anywhere inside the county within fifteen miles of said city.
3. To become a stockholder in any corporation which shall locate or agree to locate a new industry or business in the city or anywhere inside the county within fifteen miles of said city.
4. To lend its credit or grant public monies and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation, which shall locate or agree to locate a new industry or business in the city or anywhere inside the county within fifteen miles of said city.
5. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes, evidences of indebtedness, or other obligations (all of which are hereinafter referred to as "obligations"), to a principal amount not exceeding 50% of the assessed valuation of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subparagraph 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subparagraph 7 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of said city or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
6. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes not exceeding 2% on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation in the same manner as other municipal taxes are levied and collected.
7. To pledge to the payment of any of its obligations the annual proceeds of any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations shall have been paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.

The recital in any obligations that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein granted or that any special tax herein authorized has

been levied and pledged to the payment of such obligations shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations shall have been paid in full. The obligations which may be issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of said city for the purposes of determining its borrowing capacity under section 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 216 of the Constitution, as amended.

The exercise of the powers and authority hereinabove set forth are subject to the prior approval thereof at an election called by the governing body of said city at which a majority of the qualified electors voting at said election shall vote in favor of such proposal. Notice of such election shall be given by publication for three consecutive weeks, the first publication to be at least thirty days before the date of the election, in a newspaper circulated in the city. The notice and ballot shall briefly summarize the proposal and in so doing may make reference to documents on file and available for public inspection in the office of the city clerk. In the event that the proposal shall include the issuance of any obligations, the principal amount of such obligations, the maturities thereof, and the maximum rate or rates of interest which they shall bear shall be set forth in the notice and on the ballot. In the event that the proposal shall include the levy and collection of any tax, the notice and ballot shall state the maximum rate of such tax. No further or other election shall be required by section 222 of the Constitution for the issuance of bonds herein authorized to be issued.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act, to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Amendment 260 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 175.

That subsection (a) of section 1 of amendment CLXXV [175] to the Constitution of Alabama shall be amended so that said subsection (a) as amended shall read as follows:

"That part of Jefferson county outside of the municipalities of Birmingham, Bessemer, Fairfield, Tarrant city and Mountain Brook as one district, except that the Jefferson county board of education is authorized and empowered to designate any part or portion of said district as a separate school district."

Amendment 261 ratified

Promotion of Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Development in City of Bayou La Batre.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the city of Bayou La Batre, Mobile county, Alabama, shall have full and continuing power and authority, subject to the election hereinafter provided for, to promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses in or within 15 miles of said city, and whenever such action shall be deemed by the governing body of said city in its discretion to be in furtherance of such purposes, also full and continuing power and authority to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
 2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, or give and convey any such property described in subparagraph 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation, which shall locate or agree to locate a new industry or business in or within 15 miles of said city.
 3. To become a stockholder in any corporation which shall locate or agree to locate a new industry or business in or within 15 miles of said city.
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4. To lend its credit or grant public monies and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation, which shall locate or agree to locate a new industry or business in or within 15 miles of said city.
5. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes, evidences of indebtedness, or other obligations (all of which are hereinafter referred to as "obligations"), to a principal amount not exceeding 50% of the assessed valuation of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subparagraph 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subparagraph 7 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of said city or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
6. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes not exceeding 2% on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation in the same manner as other municipal taxes are levied and collected.
7. To pledge to the payment of any of its obligations the annual proceeds of any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligation shall have been paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.

The recital in any obligations that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein granted or that any special tax herein authorized has been levied and pledged to the payment of such obligations shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations shall have been paid in full. The obligations which may be issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of said city for the purposes of determining its borrowing capacity under section 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 216 of the Constitution, as amended.

The exercise of the powers and authority hereinabove set forth are subject to the prior approval thereof at an election called by the governing body of said city at which a majority of the qualified electors voting at said election shall vote in favor of such proposal. Notice of such election shall be given by publication for three consecutive weeks, the first publication to be at least thirty days before the date of the election, in a newspaper circulated in the city. The notice and ballot shall briefly summarize the proposal and in so doing may make reference to documents on file and available for public inspection in the office of the city clerk. In the event that the proposal shall include the issuance of any obligations, the principal amount of such obligations, the maturities thereof, and the maximum rate or rates of interest which they shall bear shall be set forth in the notice and on the ballot. In the event that the proposals shall include the levy and collection of any tax, the notice and ballot shall state the maximum rate of such tax. No further or other election shall be required by section 222 of the Constitution for the issuance of bonds herein authorized to be issued.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act, to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Amendment 262 ratified

Hospital Tax in Districts 1, 2 and 3 of Franklin County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the governing body of Franklin county shall levy and cause to be collected annually a special district tax, not exceeding 50 cents on each 100 dollars assessed valuation of taxable property in districts one, two, and three of Franklin county, Alabama, to be used exclusively for public hospital purposes (as the term "public hospital purposes" is defined in amendment LXXVI [76] to the Constitution proposed by Acts of 1949, page 897, submitted December 13, 1949, and proclaimed ratified December 21, 1949) within said districts one, two, and three; provided that the time during which such tax is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in districts one, two, and three of Franklin county and voted for by a majority of such electors voting at such election. The governing body of Franklin county may call an election at any time, and it shall be the duty of such governing body to call an election to be held within ninety days after receipt by it of a petition signed by not less than 5% of the qualified electors of said districts one, two, and three, requesting that such election be called. The governing body may call such election to be held at the same time that this amendment is submitted to the electors of the state for ratification and such election shall be effective to require the levy and collection of such tax in the event that this amendment shall be ratified. The notice of such election, ballots to be used at such election and procedures for holding and determining the results of such election shall be prescribed by the governing body of Franklin county. No election shall be held hereunder within one year from the date of the last election so held.

Whenever such tax shall have been authorized by vote of such qualified electors, and levied by the governing body of Franklin county, such governing body may anticipate the proceeds therefrom for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, by issuing, without further election, interest-bearing tax anticipation bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said county payable solely from and secured by a pledge of a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax received by the county.

The governing body of Franklin county shall have power to designate as the agency of the county, to construct, acquire, equip, operate and maintain public hospital facilities for said districts one, two, and three, any public corporation heretofore or hereafter organized for hospital purposes in the county. When a public corporation shall have been so designated, the proceeds of said tax thereafter collected shall be paid to it and shall be used by it for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted; provided, that payments of the proceeds of said tax to said public corporation shall be made only to such extent as will not result in the impairment of the obligation of any contract theretofore made with respect to said tax. Said public corporation may anticipate the proceeds from said tax so required to be paid to it by issuing, for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, the bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said corporation, and may pledge for the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax so paid to it.

No securities issued or contracts made by Franklin county under the authority of this amendment, which are payable solely out of the proceeds of said tax, and no securities issued or contracts made by any such public corporation, whether or not issued or made under the authority of this amendment, shall be construed to be bonds of Franklin county or of a political subdivision thereof within the meaning of section 222 of the Constitution, or construed to create or constitute an indebtedness of the county within the meaning of section 224 of the Constitution. Said securities shall be construed to be negotiable instruments notwithstanding the fact that they may be payable solely from a limited source. All pledges of said tax and all contracts made with respect thereto pursuant to the provisions of this amendment shall take precedence in the order in which they are made and shall create a charge on the proceeds of said tax prior to the expenses of operating and maintaining any public hospital facilities.

Districts one, two, and three of Franklin county herein referred to are the commissioners districts one, two, and three now established in Franklin county as authorized by law.

Amendment 263 ratified

Economic Development of Municipalities in Geneva County.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, any municipality in Geneva county, or any one or more of them, shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, or give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in any municipality in Geneva county or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of any municipality in Geneva county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon any such municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of any municipality in Geneva county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of such municipality under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to

those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

No municipality in Geneva county shall make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the locality affected thereby who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose. The governing body of any municipality may provide for holding such election, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published once a week for at least three successive weeks before the election in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality.

Amendment 264 ratified

Bonds for Courthouse in Marengo County.

Marengo county is hereby authorized to incur indebtedness to the extent of not exceeding \$400,000 in aggregate principal amount, and to issue its bonds in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred, for the purpose of constructing and equipping a new courthouse in said county. Said bonds may be issued only after the question of the issuance thereof shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of said county at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of said county and a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of said bonds, which election shall be called, held, conducted, canvassed and may be contested in the manner provided by the then existing laws of Alabama with respect to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties; provided however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of said county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof then the approval of this amendment expressed by the vote in said county in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds, and in that event no additional election by the electors of said county shall be required to authorize the issuance of said bonds. In the event the majority vote in said county on the adoption of this amendment is against the adoption thereof, or in the event the majority vote at any election held in said county pursuant to the provisions of this amendment after its adoption is not in favor of the issuance of the bonds proposed at such election, the governing body of the said county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of said bonds, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. The power to become indebted and to issue bonds in evidence of such indebtedness shall be in addition to all other powers which the said county may have under the Constitution and laws of Alabama, and any bonds issued pursuant to this amendment shall not be chargeable against the amount of indebtedness which said county may incur under the Constitution and laws of Alabama in effect prior to the adoption of this amendment. All bonds issued under this amendment shall be general obligations of the county secured by an irrevocable pledge of its full faith and credit, shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the sale of said bonds respecting the maturities, sale, execution and redemption of bonds by counties.

If the said bonds are authorized to be issued, either by a majority of the qualified electors of said county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment voting for the adoption thereof or by a majority of the qualified electors of said county voting in favor of the issuance of said bonds at a separate county bond election on the question of the issuance of said bonds, and if the said bonds or any part thereof are actually issued, the governing body of said county shall thereafter have the power, without any further election, to agree to levy and collect, and to levy and collect, for a period of not exceeding seven years and for the sole purpose of paying the principal and interest on such bonds and creating a reserve therefor, a special additional annual ad valorem tax of not exceeding two mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property in said county, as assessed for state taxation for the preceding tax year. The said county shall not, however, in any event have the power to levy said tax or any part thereof with respect to any tax year beginning after final payment and retirement of said bonds. The term "taxable property" as

used in this amendment shall include any property that has heretofore been or may hereafter be exempted from county taxes pursuant to the provisions of sections 3 to 5, inclusive, of Title 51 of the Code of Alabama of 1940, as amended, or other similar statute, and the tax herein provided for, if authorized, levied and collected, shall be levied on and collected with respect to all such property just as if it had not been exempted from county taxes. Any provision of section 71 of Title 51 of the Code of Alabama of 1940 to the contrary notwithstanding, the tax herein provided for may, if authorized to be levied, be levied by the governing body of the county at any time prior to the September 1 next preceding the date on which such tax is to become due and payable.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 265 ratified

Compensation of Certain Officers of Marengo County.

The legislature may hereafter, from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances or salaries to be charged or received by the tax assessor or the tax collector of Marengo county, and may put such officers on a salary basis and provide for operation of their offices on such basis.

Amendment 266 ratified

Bond Issue for Acquisition, Improvement, etc., of Mental Health Facilities.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted and to sell and issue interest-bearing bonds, in addition to all other bonds of the state, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$15,000,000. The proceeds derived from the sale of said bonds shall be used solely for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance thereof and for the acquisition, construction and improvement of mental health facilities, including (a) improvements to the existing state hospitals for the mentally ill known as Bryce and Searcy hospitals and to the existing state facilities for treatment and care of the mentally retarded known as Partlow School, for which improvements not exceeding \$3,000,000 of the proceeds from the said bonds may be used, (b) acquisition by construction and otherwise of one or more new state facilities and regional centers, or either, for treatment and care of the mentally retarded, for which purpose not exceeding \$9,000,000 of the proceeds from the said bonds may be used, and (c) acquisition by construction and otherwise of regional and community-based mental health centers and regional and community-based centers for treatment and care of the mentally retarded, for which purpose not exceeding \$3,000,000 of the proceeds from the said bonds may be used; provided, that bond proceeds may be used for a center referred to in the foregoing clause (c) only if a portion of the cost of that center is to be paid out of funds supplied by federal grant or by contribution of local political subdivisions or other local sources, or by both federal grant and such contribution. The improvement of a facility shall be deemed to include the renovation, modernization, remodeling, and equipment thereof and the construction of additions thereto; and the construction of a facility shall be deemed to include the acquisition of real estate sites and equipment therefor. Said bonds shall be sold only at a duly advertised public sale or sales, upon sealed bids or at auction, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state for the bonds offered for sale, and shall be sold at not less than their face value plus accrued interest thereon. Said bonds shall be direct general obligations of the state and for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon the full faith and credit of the state are hereby irrevocably pledged. In addition thereto, there is hereby specially and irrevocably pledged for payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds, pro rata and without priority of one bond over another by reason of prior issuance or otherwise, that portion of an additional privilege and license tax on the sale, storage, use, consumption, or delivery of cigarettes, levied by an act adopted at the 1967 regular session of the legislature of Alabama, that was appropriated in the said act to the purpose of acquiring and constructing mental health facilities in the state. The said special pledge shall create a charge on the tax proceeds herein specially pledged prior to all other charges or expenses for any purpose. The bonds issued under this amendment and the income therefrom shall be exempt from all taxation in the state. The legislature shall adopt appropriate enabling legislation to carry out the intent and purpose of this amendment.

Amendment 267 ratified

Bond Issue to Acquire, Develop, etc., State Parks and Park Facilities.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for acquiring, providing, constructing, developing, and equipping state parks and park facilities, and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to issue and sell, in addition to all other bonds of the state, interest-bearing general obligation bonds of the state, not exceeding forty-three million dollars (\$43,000,000) in principal amount. The proceeds from the sale of any such bonds shall, after payment of the reasonable and necessary expenses of their issuance, be set aside in the state treasury in a special trust fund designated "state parks bond proceeds fund" and shall be disbursed therefrom on order of the director of conservation, approved by the governor, for payment of costs of acquiring, providing, constructing, developing and equipping state parks and park facilities; provided, that any proceeds held in the state parks bond proceeds fund for more than thirty days shall be invested in securities which are direct and general obligations of the United States of America. The said bonds shall be direct general obligations of the state, and for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon the full faith and credit of the state are hereby irrevocably pledged. In addition thereto, there is hereby specially and irrevocably pledged for payment of the principal of and interest on said bonds, pro rata and without priority of one bond over another by reason of prior issuance or otherwise, so much as may be necessary for said purpose of that portion of an additional privilege and license tax on the sale, storage, use, consumption, or delivery of cigarettes, levied by an act introduced at the 1967 regular session of the legislature of Alabama as Senate Bill 280, that was appropriated in the said act to the development of state parks and state park facilities. The said special pledge shall create a charge on the tax proceeds herein specially pledged prior to all other charges or expenses for state park purposes or any other purposes whatever.

The governor, the director of finance, and the director of conservation are hereby constituted a bond commission with full authority, except as herein specified or limited, to provide the terms of the bonds and to provide for the sale and issuance thereof. The governor shall be the chairman of the commission, which shall meet at his call; its proceedings shall be signed by its members and filed with the secretary of state. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal or interest or both, with rights of conversion into another form, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates, payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said commission in the order or orders under which the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amounts as shall be specified in the authorizing order or orders; provided, that the first such installment shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series, and the last such installment shall mature not later than twenty years after the date of the bonds of the same series; and provided further, that at the time of the issuance of each series of bonds, the maturities of the bonds of that series shall, to such extent as may be practicable, be so arranged that during each then succeeding fiscal year of the state the aggregate installments of principal and interest that will mature on all bonds that will be outstanding hereunder, immediately following the issuance of the bonds of that series, will be substantially equal. The determination by the commission that the requirements of the last proviso of the preceding sentence have been complied with shall be conclusive of such compliance.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the governor and countersigned by the director of finance and the great seal of the state of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the secretary of state; provided, that the facsimile signatures of any one or any two (but not all) of said officers may be reproduced on any of such bonds in lieu of being manually signed thereon. Coupons attached to the bonds and representing installments of interest thereon shall be signed with the facsimile signature of the state treasurer, which facsimile signature shall constitute due and sufficient authentication of said coupons.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from taxation in this state.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and authorization from or other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder.

Amendment 268 ratified

Amendment of Section 225. SECTION 225

Indebtedness of municipal corporations — Limitation; exception as to Sheffield and Tuscumbia; limitation not applicable to obligations or indebtedness exempted by Constitution or amendments thereto.

No city, town or other municipal corporation having a population of less than six thousand, except as hereafter provided, shall become indebted in an amount, including present indebtedness, exceeding twenty per centum of the assessed value of the property therein, except for the construction of or purchase of waterworks, gas or electric lighting plants, or sewerage, or for the improvements of streets, for which purposes an additional indebtedness not exceeding three per centum may be created; provided, this limitation shall not affect any debt now authorized by law to be created, nor any temporary loans to be paid within one year, made in anticipation of the collection of taxes, not exceeding one fourth of the annual revenues of such city or town. All towns and cities having a population of six thousand or more are hereby authorized to become indebted in an amount, including present indebtedness, not exceeding twenty per centum of the assessed valuation of the property therein, provided that there shall not be included in the limitation of the indebtedness of such last described cities and towns the following classes of indebtedness, to-wit: Temporary loans, to be paid within one year, made in anticipation of the collection of taxes and not exceeding one fourth of the general revenues, bonds, or other obligations already issued, or which may hereafter be issued for the purpose of acquiring, providing, or constructing school houses, waterworks, and sewers; and obligations incurred and bonds issued for street or sidewalk improvements, where the cost of the same, in whole or in part, is to be assessed against the property abutting said improvements; provided, that the proceeds of all obligations issued as herein provided in excess of said twenty per centum shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which said obligations were issued. Nothing contained in this article shall prevent the funding or refunding of valid obligations existing at the time of such funding or refunding. This section shall not apply to the cities of Sheffield and Tuscumbia.

The limitations specified in this section shall not be applicable to any obligations or indebtedness that may be exempted from the said limitations by the provisions of any portion of this Constitution, including any amendment thereto at any time adopted.

Amendment 269 ratified

Special Property Tax by Counties or Municipalities for Library Purposes.

In addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution of Alabama, any county or any incorporated municipality within the state which supports, jointly supports, or proposes to support a public library is hereby authorized to levy and collect a special tax not exceeding five one hundredths of one per centum on the value of the taxable property within such county or municipality as assessed for state taxation, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public library purposes; provided, that the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county or municipality and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. Elections under this amendment shall be called, held and conducted in the same way as elections on special school district tax levies.

Amendment 270 ratified

Navigable Waterway Between Demopolis and Tennessee River and Flood Control Projects on Tributary Streams of Tombigbee River.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama or amendments thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, the legislature may by appropriate laws authorize the state to engage in works of internal improvement by fulfilling the requirements of local contribution, participation and cooperation now or hereafter established by the United States in connection with (1) the construction and maintenance of a navigable waterway (herein called "the waterway") between Demopolis, Alabama, and the Tennessee river and (2) the implementation and maintenance of flood control projects on the tributary streams of the Tombigbee river (herein called "the flood control projects").

The legislature may by appropriate laws authorize the state to become indebted and, in evidence of such indebtedness, to sell and issue its interest-bearing bonds, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$10,000,000, for the purpose of enabling the state to discharge obligations at any time authorized by the legislature to be undertaken in connection with the waterway and the flood control project; provided, that the expenses incurred in connection with the sale and issuance of the bonds may also be paid from the proceeds thereof. Bonds evidencing the herein provided for indebtedness may be issued as direct general obligations of the state, and the state may pledge its full faith and credit to the prompt payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon. The herein provided for indebtedness shall not be construed to prohibit or limit appropriations from the general fund of the state which from time to time may be made for the purpose of enabling the state to discharge obligations at any time authorized by the legislature to be undertaken in connection with the waterway and the flood control projects.

The legislature may by appropriate laws establish a public corporation and may confer upon it, in addition to all other necessary powers, full power to undertake the obligations that the state is permitted under the foregoing provisions of this amendment to undertake in connection with the waterway and the flood control projects. The legislature may from time to time appropriate money from the general fund of the state to be expended by such public corporation and may also authorize the herein provided for general obligation bonds of the state to be sold from time to time under the supervision of such public corporation; provided, that all moneys received by such public corporation from the state, whether as appropriations from the state's general fund or as proceeds of the sale of the state's bonds, shall be expended, except for reasonable administrative expenses, in discharging obligations that the state is permitted under the foregoing provisions of this amendment to undertake in connection with the waterway and the flood control projects and shall have directed such public corporation to undertake in its stead.

Amendment 271 ratified

Amendment of Section 164. SECTION 164

Appointment of clerk of supreme court; selection of clerks of inferior courts.

The clerk of the supreme court shall be appointed by the justices thereof; and the clerks of such inferior courts as may be established by law shall be selected in such manner as the legislature may provide.

Amendment 272 ratified

Game and Fish Fund.

There is hereby created and shall be a fund in the state treasury, which shall be known as the game and fish fund. This fund shall consist of:

- a. All monies received from all occupational licenses or privilege taxes imposed by the state on any person, firm or corporation for engaging in any business or activity relating to taking, catching, capturing or killing any fur-bearing or game animal or game bird in this state or the taking, catching, capturing or killing of any freshwater fish or aquatic animal in the public waters of this state;

- b. All monies derived from the levying or imposition upon any person, firm or corporation of any tax, license, permit, certificate, fee or any other charge, by whatsoever name called, pursuant to the game and fish laws of this state or rules and regulations promulgated thereunder;
- c. All monies paid, derived, received or arising from fines, penalties and forfeitures pursuant to the game and fish laws of this state and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder;
- d. All monies derived from the administration and enforcement of the game and fish laws of this state or rules and regulations promulgated thereunder;
- e. All monies derived from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses or permits;
- f. All monies derived from the sale of lands, timber or other natural resources owned by the game and fish division of the department of conservation;
- g. All monies accruing to the game and fish fund from any other source whatsoever.

No funds accruing to the game and fish fund of the state of Alabama from any source whatsoever shall be expended for any other purpose than the payment of administrative costs of the game and fish activities of the department of conservation and for the protection, propagation, preservation, investigation of game and fish and public use of the game and fish resources of this state.

Amendment 273 ratified

Bonds for State Docks Facilities

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for additional improvements for the Alabama state docks and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to issue and sell, in addition to all other bonds of the state, interest-bearing general obligation bonds of the state not exceeding four million dollars (\$4,000,000) in principal amount. The full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon.

The Alabama state docks department (which term as used herein shall be construed to include any other agency of the state that may succeed to said department's functions) shall, subject to the provisions of the bond order relating to the sale of \$10,000,000 principal amount of general obligation seaport facilities bonds of the state of Alabama dated March 1, 1964, pledge and use so much of the revenues derived from its seaport facilities as may be necessary to pay at their maturities the principal of and interest on the bonds herein authorized, and may pledge, agree to use, and use so much of said revenues as the said department with the approval of the governor may determine shall be necessary or desirable to build up and maintain reserves for the payment of said principal and interest and for the maintenance, replacement and improvement of its seaport facilities. The proceeds from the sale of any such bonds shall, after payment of the reasonable and necessary expense of their issuance, be set aside in a special fund in the state treasury and shall be paid out to the Alabama state docks department upon authorization by the governor and shall be held by the said department in a special trust fund designated "Alabama state docks capital extension bond fund" and therefrom be disbursed to pay the reasonable and necessary costs of constructing, dredging of approaches thereto and equipment of works of internal improvement for use and operation as a part of additional state docks facilities; provided that, if said department shall have issued any notes in anticipation of the sale of bonds for any of said purposes, then so much as may be necessary, not exceeding \$2,000,000, shall be used to retire or fund said notes.

The Alabama state docks department is hereby vested with full authority, subject to the provisions of the bond order relating to the sale of \$10,000,000 principal amount of general obligation seaport facilities bonds of the state of Alabama dated March 1, 1964, and except as limited herein, to prescribe the terms of the bonds and to provide for the issuance and sale thereof. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal or interest or both, with rights of conversion into another form, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates,

payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state to be exercised by the state docks department at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said department in the order or orders under which the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amount as shall be specified in the authorizing order or orders, the first of which installments shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty years after the date of the bonds of the same series. The largest installment of principal and interest maturing on each series of the bonds in any one year shall not exceed twice the preceding smallest installment of principal and interest maturing thereon in any prior year. None of the bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest thereon to the date of delivery. The bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said department to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said department is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the governor and countersigned by the state docks director, and the great seal of the state of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the secretary of state; provided, that facsimile signatures of any one or any two (but not all) of said officers may be reproduced on any of such bonds in lieu of being manually signed thereon. Coupons attached to the bonds and representing installments of interest thereon shall be signed with the facsimile signature of the state treasurer, which facsimile signature shall constitute due and sufficient authentication of said coupons.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from taxation in this state.

The authorization to incur debt and issue bonds contained in this amendment shall supersede and take the place of any authorization for Alabama state docks department to issue revenue bonds granted by act of the legislature in effect on the effective date of this amendment.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and authorization from or other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder.

Amendment 274 ratified

Works of Internal Improvement Along Navigable Waterways.

When authorized by appropriate laws passed by the legislature, the state of Alabama may, in promoting and aiding the commercial flow of agricultural products within the state or in aid of commerce and use of the waterways of the state, at a cost not exceeding \$2,000,000 engaged in works of internal improvement by promoting, developing, constructing, maintaining and operating within the state or along navigable streams and waterways now or hereafter existing within the state all manner of elevators, facilities, warehouses, docks, water and rail terminals and other structures and facilities and improvements needful for the convenient use of the same; provided that any such works or improvements shall always be and remain under the management and control of the state through the Alabama state docks department or other state governing agency and shall become part of the inland waterways facilities of the state. When authorized by appropriate laws passed by the legislature, the state may, in addition to all other bonds of the state, become indebted in an aggregate principal amount of not exceeding \$2,000,000 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this amendment and may cause to be issued its general direct obligation bonds for the repayment of such indebtedness and interest thereon and pledge the faith and credit of the state thereto.

Amendment 275 ratified

Special Property Tax for Public Hospital Purposes in Mobile County.

Mobile county shall have power to levy and collect a special county tax not exceeding twenty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the county as assessed for state taxes in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized, for public hospital purposes, provided the rate of the tax and the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election.

If a majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof, the governing body of Mobile county must levy and collect the special tax as herein authorized at the maximum rate specified for each of the four tax years next ensuing.

If a majority of the qualified electors of Mobile county voting on this amendment vote against its adoption, the governing body of Mobile county may thereafter from time to time call other elections on the question of levying the special tax as herein authorized and must call such an election within three months after receipt by the said county governing body of a petition signed by not less than five percent of the qualified electors of Mobile county. After the special tax herein authorized shall have been levied for a period of four years, the governing body of Mobile county shall, on petition signed by not less than five percent of the qualified electors of the county, call an election on the question of discontinuance of the tax. If a majority of the electors voting upon the question shall vote in favor of discontinuance of the tax then the special tax shall be discontinued at the end of the tax year following the election. Such elections shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed in such manner as the governing board of Mobile county shall provide.

The county governing body and any city or town of Mobile county may from time to time appropriate county or municipal funds, as the case may be, for the use and benefit of any public hospital located in the county.

Amendment 276 ratified

Hospital Tax in District 2 of Walker County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the governing body of Walker county shall levy and cause to be collected annually a special district tax, not exceeding 50 cents on each 100 dollars assessed valuation of taxable property in district two of Walker county, Alabama, to be used exclusively for public hospital purposes (as the term "public hospital purposes" is defined in amendment LXXVI [76] to the Constitution proposed by Acts of 1949, page 897, submitted December 13, 1949, and proclaimed ratified December 21, 1949) within said district two; provided that the time during which such tax is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in district two of Walker county and voted for by a majority of such electors voting at such election. The governing body of Walker county may call an election at any time, and it shall be the duty of such governing body to call an election to be held within ninety days after receipt by it of a petition signed by not less than 5% of the qualified electors of said district two, requesting that such election be called. The governing body may call such election to be held at the same time that this amendment is submitted to the electors of the state for ratification and such election shall be effective to require the levy and collection of such tax in the event that this amendment shall be ratified. The notice of such election, ballots to be used at such election and procedures for holding and determining the results of such election shall be prescribed by the governing body of Walker county. No election shall be held hereunder within one year from the date of the last election so held.

Whenever such tax shall have been authorized by vote of such qualified electors, and levied by the governing body of Walker county, such governing body may anticipate the proceeds therefrom for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, by issuing, without further election, interest-bearing tax anticipation bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said county payable solely from and secured by a pledge of a sufficient

amount of the annual proceeds from said tax received by the county.

The governing body of Walker county shall have power to designate as the agency of the county, to construct, acquire, equip, operate and maintain public hospital facilities for said district two, any public corporation heretofore or hereafter organized for hospital purposes in the county. When a public corporation shall have been so designated, the proceeds of said tax thereafter collected shall be paid to it and shall be used by it for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted; provided, that payments of the proceeds of said tax to said public corporation shall be made only to such extent as will not result in the impairment of the obligation of any contract theretofore made with respect to said tax. Said public corporation may anticipate the proceeds from said tax so required to be paid to it by issuing, for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, the bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said corporation, and may pledge for the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax so paid to it.

No securities issued or contracts made by Walker county under the authority of this amendment, which are payable solely out of the proceeds of said tax, and no securities issued or contracts made by any such public corporation, whether or not issued or made under the authority of this amendment, shall be construed to be bonds of Walker county or of a political subdivision thereof within the meaning of section 222 of the Constitution, or construed to create or constitute an indebtedness of the county within the meaning of section 224 of the Constitution. Said securities shall be construed to be negotiable instruments notwithstanding the fact that they may be payable solely from a limited source. All pledges of said tax and all contracts, made with respect thereto pursuant to the provisions of this amendment shall take precedence in the order in which they are made and shall create a charge on the proceeds of said tax prior to the expenses of operating and maintaining any public hospital facilities.

District two of Walker county herein referred to is the commissioner's district two now established in Walker county as authorized by law.

Amendment 277 ratified

Economic Development of Town of Carbon Hill.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the town of Carbon Hill in Walker county shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
 2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
 3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
 4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
 5. To lend this credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
 6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the town of Carbon Hill, or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
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7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the municipality, or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.

8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the municipality for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county under section 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body, and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the town of Carbon Hill may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate of Walker county or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the municipality.

10. The town of Carbon Hill shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the municipality. The governing body of the municipality may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks in a newspaper having general circulation in Walker county.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Amendment 278 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Elmore County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the costs and charges of courts in the county of Elmore and the method of distribution thereof.

Amendment 279 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in City of Fort Payne.

In addition to all taxes now, or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the city of Fort Payne, DeKalb county, Alabama, shall have the power to levy and collect a special school tax up to 7 1/2 mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property in the city of Fort Payne, DeKalb county, Alabama, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for school purposes; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof, and the times such taxes are proposed to be continued, shall have first been submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the city of

Fort Payne, DeKalb county, Alabama, and voted for by the majority of those voting at such election. The special tax provided herein may be renewed from time to time, in the manner provided herein, for such periods of time as are necessary. If any proposal to levy the taxes is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. The elections provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, and paid for by the city of Fort Payne, DeKalb county, Alabama, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment three, article 19 of the Constitution of Alabama. By article 7, chapter 10, Title 52 of the Code of Alabama 1940.

The county tax collector shall collect the tax in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected, and he shall keep the proceeds of this tax separate and apart from all other funds, and shall keep clear account thereof. The tax collector shall distribute the proceeds of this special tax in such manner as to turn over to the custodian of the city school funds of the city of Fort Payne, DeKalb county, Alabama, the revenue derived from the tax levied on all taxable property situated in the city of Fort Payne, DeKalb county, Alabama. Such revenues to be used by the city board of education for educational purposes in connection with schools located in the corporate limits of the city of Fort Payne, DeKalb county, Alabama.

In the event that any special property tax herein authorized shall be authorized by a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question at the election, the city board of education of the city of Fort Payne, Alabama, may at such times as to them seem necessary and proper, sell and issue their tax anticipation bonds for the purposes for which the tax was authorized, which bonds shall be in such amounts as the respective board of education shall designate and, except as otherwise provided herein shall be subject to the provisions of the general laws now pertaining to the issuance by city boards of education of capital outlay warrants, and no further election shall be required for the issuance of such bonds. The revenue derived from the sale of these bonds shall be expended by the Fort Payne city board of education, for public school purposes only. Any bonds issued under the authority of this amendment shall be payable solely out of the proceeds of the special property tax hereby authorized, all or any part of which may be pledged therefor. The bonds issued under the authority of this amendment shall constitute negotiable instruments, although payable from a limited source, and shall be eligible for the investment of trust funds. The bonds shall not constitute general obligations of the city of Fort Payne, DeKalb county, Alabama, and shall be in addition to all other bonds or warrants which the city board of education have heretofore issued or are authorized to issue under the Constitution and laws of Alabama.

The proceeds of the tax herein levied may be used for any school purpose. In addition to capital outlay, may be used for operating purposes, or any other purpose in connection with the school system of the city of Fort Payne, DeKalb county, Alabama, as may be determined by the city board of education.

Amendment 280 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 238.

Any corporation heretofore or hereafter created in any county of the state having a population of 500,000 or more, according to the last or any subsequent federal census, for the purpose of establishing, maintaining and operating a civic center in the municipality in which the county seat of such county is situated, shall be authorized, without the necessity of any election, to issue bonds, warrants or other evidences of indebtedness, and to pledge for the payment of the principal and interest due thereon any revenues received, or to be received, by such corporation and any tax proceeds appropriated or allocated (in whole or in part) to such public corporation by or pursuant to any act of the legislature of Alabama or by or pursuant to any resolution or ordinance of such county or any municipality therein, any provision of the Constitution or laws of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding. No such bonds, warrants or other evidences of indebtedness issued by such corporation shall be considered indebtedness of such county or any municipality therein within the meaning of sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution of Alabama. The rent or rentals that the county or any such municipality may be obligated to pay under the terms of any lease between the said corporation and the said county or any such municipality shall not be considered as indebtedness of said county or

any such municipality within the meaning of sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution of Alabama.

No tax levied by the state or any municipality or county of the state shall apply to any such corporation, unless such tax applies to the county and the city wherein the corporation is located. The word "tax" as herein used, shall include any ad valorem tax, or other direct tax, and any excise, privilege or license tax.

The following are hereby in all things validated and confirmed, any provision or provisions of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 to the contrary notwithstanding: Acts numbered 524 [p. 767], 525 [p. 776] and 547 [p. 798] enacted at the 1965 regular session of the legislature of Alabama; Act No. 114 [p. 153] enacted at the second special session of 1965 of the legislature of Alabama; and all corporations established by said Act No. 547, as well as all acts done under the authority of any of said acts, including (without limitation) the acquisition of property, the making of contracts and the incurring of obligations and liabilities. Further, that certain bill introduced in the Alabama house of representatives on August 3, 1967 as House Bill 823, as said bill was finally enacted into law, is hereby validated and confirmed, any provision of the Constitution of 1901 to the contrary notwithstanding; provided that said bill (or a substitute therefor) is enacted by the legislature of Alabama and is approved by the governor (or becomes law without such approval).

Amendment 281 ratified

Application of Special School Taxes in City of Anniston.

(A) The purpose of this amendment is to clarify and make further provisions regarding the public school purposes for which the following special school taxes, heretofore voted in the school district of the city of Anniston, may be applied: (1) The special annual ad valorem school tax at the rate of fifty cents (50¢) on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of taxable property which was voted for public school purposes at the special election held in the said school district on March 16, 1948, pursuant to call of the said election made in that certain amendment to the Constitution proposed by Act No. 587 adopted at the 1947 regular session of the legislature (sometimes known as, and herein called, amendment 68), and which was levied by amendment 68 for public school purposes in the said school district for a period of thirty years commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1947, and with the last year's tax being payable October 1, 1977; and (2) the special annual ad valorem school tax at the same rate which was voted for public school purposes at the special election held in the said school district on February 15, 1966, pursuant to call of the said election made in that certain amendment to the Constitution proposed by Act No. 72 adopted at the 1965 regular session of the legislature (sometimes known as, and herein called, amendment 232), and which was levied by amendment 232 for public school purposes in the said school district for a period of thirty years commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1977, and with the first year's tax being payable October 1, 1978.

(B) In addition to the public school purposes specifically mentioned in amendment 68, in amendment 232, and in that certain amendment to the Constitution, supplemental to amendment 68, that was proposed by Act No. 1045 adopted at the 1961 regular session of the legislature (sometimes known as, and herein called, amendment 165), that portion of the proceeds from the special school tax levied by amendment 68 in the school district of the city of Anniston that is not needed to pay debt service on bonds heretofore issued by the city of Anniston under amendment 68 or under amendment 165, or to comply with any other covenants contained in proceedings authorizing the issuance of the said bonds, and also the proceeds from the special school tax levied by amendment 232 may be used to pay the principal of and interest on any securities (including, but without limitation to, warrants) that may hereafter be issued by the city of Anniston, pursuant to request by the city board of education of Anniston, for the purpose of (i) paying costs of acquiring, constructing and improving public school buildings in the said school district, (ii) refunding the principal of warrants or other securities issued by the said city, after the effective date of amendment 232, for payment of costs of acquisition, construction and improvement of public school buildings, or (iii) the combined purpose of payment of such costs and such refunding. Costs of constructing a school building shall be deemed to include the costs of acquiring a site therefor. Any such securities may be either general obligations of

the city of Anniston secured by a pledge of the proceeds of either or both of the said school taxes or may be special obligations of the said city payable solely out of and secured by a pledge of the proceeds of either or both of the said taxes; and any such securities shall be issued by the said city pursuant to the powers conferred on municipalities by existing statutes. Any pledges that may hereafter be made either hereunder or under amendment 232 with respect to the proceeds from the special school tax levied by amendment 232, shall take precedence in the order in which they are made. Any pledges that may hereafter be made either hereunder or under amendment 165, with respect to the proceeds from the special school tax levied by amendment 68 shall take precedence in the order in which they are made and shall be subordinate to the pledges heretofore made by the city of Anniston pursuant to either amendment 68 or amendment 165. If the proceeds of the tax levied by amendment 232 should at any time be pledged pursuant to either this amendment or amendment 232, the tax collector of Calhoun county shall, upon collection thereof, pay such proceeds to the city of Anniston; and until the proceeds of the special tax levied by amendment 232 are so pledged, he shall pay such proceeds to the board of education of the city of Anniston. If pledges are hereunder made with respect to either or both of the said special school taxes, and if the governing body of the city of Anniston shall hereafter determine that the proceeds from the tax or taxes so pledged are in excess of the amount needed to satisfy the said pledges and any other then outstanding pledges made under any of the other amendments herein referred to, then the said proceeds, to the extent of the said excess, may be applied for other public school purposes in the said school district.

(C) The provisions hereof are supplemental to amendments 68, 165, and 232 and the powers and authority herein granted shall be in addition to the powers and authority conferred by the said amendments.

(D) Each of the said special elections held as aforesaid on March 16, 1948, and on February 15, 1966, is hereby validated, in spite of any irregularities in connection with the giving of notice or the holding thereof or any other irregularity in connection therewith.

Amendment 282 ratified

Amendment of Section 116. SECTION 116

Governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education and commissioner of agriculture and industries — Term of office; officers may succeed selves for one additional term.

The governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state auditor, secretary of state, state treasurer, superintendent of education, and commissioner of agriculture and industries, shall hold their respective offices for the term of four years from the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January next succeeding their election and until their successors shall be elected and qualified. Each of said officers shall be eligible to succeed himself in office, but no person shall be eligible to succeed himself for more than one additional term.

Amendment 283 ratified

Legislation as to Jurisdiction of Inferior Courts Established in Lieu of Justices of the Peace in Jefferson County.

The legislature of Alabama may by general or local laws fix, regulate, and change the jurisdiction of any or all inferior courts established in lieu of justices of the peace in Jefferson county, in all civil cases so long as the amount in controversy does not exceed five hundred dollars, except in cases of libel, slander, assault and battery, and ejectment. All acts of the legislature of Alabama, whether general or local providing for such courts or for such enlargement of jurisdiction prior to the adoption of this amendment, and all judgments of such courts rendered pursuant to such acts, are hereby ratified, validated and confirmed.

Amendment 284 ratified

Selection, Qualifications, Powers, Duties and Tenure of State Board of Education and Superintendent of Education.

1. General supervision of the public schools in Alabama shall be vested in a state board of education, which shall be elected in such manner as the legislature may provide.
2. The chief state school officer shall be the state superintendent of education, who shall be appointed by the state board of education and serve at its pleasure. The authority and duties of the superintendent of education shall be determined by the state board of education according to such regulations as the legislature may prescribe. The superintendent of education shall receive an annual salary which shall be fixed by the legislature of Alabama and shall be paid from the state treasury in installments as the salaries of other state officers are paid.
3. The legislature shall enact appropriate laws to implement or enforce this article of amendment.
4. The provisions of article V and XIV of the Constitution of Alabama as amended in conflict with this article are expressly repealed. However, this amendment shall not be so construed as to effect the election or term of the state superintendent of education chosen before it becomes valid as a part of the Constitution.

Amendment 285 ratified

Registration of Certain Electors by Mail.

The legislature may enact appropriate legislation authorizing and providing for the following persons to register to vote by mail, if they possess the qualifications of an elector and are not disqualified from voting under the Constitution and laws of Alabama, namely, members of the armed forces of the United States, persons employed outside the United States, and the spouses and children of such persons, provided, however, that such persons shall be entitled to register only in the counties where they were residents prior to entering the status which makes them eligible for such registration.

Amendment 286 ratified

Bonds for Theodore Ship Channel Project in Mobile Harbor.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for the purpose of financing the work required of the Alabama state docks as the local sponsoring agency for the improvement in Mobile harbor, Alabama, known as the Theodore ship channel project or for additional improvements for the Alabama state docks and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to issue and sell, in addition to all other bonds of the state, interest-bearing general obligation bonds of the state not exceeding four million dollars (\$4,000,000) in principal amount. The full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon.

The Alabama state docks department (which term as used herein shall be construed to include any other agency of the state that may succeed to said department's functions) shall, subject to the provisions of the bond order relating to the sale of the \$10,000,000 principal amount of general obligation seaport facilities bonds of the state of Alabama dated March 1, 1964, pledge and use so much of the revenues derived from its seaport facilities as may be necessary to pay at their maturities the principal of and interest on said bonds, and may pledge, agree to use, and use so much of said revenues as the said department with the approval of the governor may determine shall be necessary or desirable to build up and maintain reserves for the payment of said principal and interest for the maintenance, replacement and improvement of its seaport facilities. The proceeds from the sale of any such bonds shall, after payment of the reasonable and necessary expense of their issuance, be set aside in a special fund in the state treasury and shall be paid out to the Alabama state docks department upon authorization by the governor and shall be held by the said department in a special trust fund and therefrom disbursed to pay the reasonable and necessary costs

required of the Alabama state docks as the local sponsoring agency for the improvement in Mobile harbor, Alabama, known as the Theodore ship channel project or to pay the reasonable and necessary costs of constructing, dredging of approaches thereto and equipment of works of internal improvement for use and operation as a part of additional state docks facilities; provided that, if said department shall have issued any notes in anticipation of the sale of bonds for any of said purposes, then so much as may be necessary, not exceeding \$2,000,000, shall be used to retire or fund said notes.

The Alabama state docks department is hereby vested with full authority, subject to the provisions of the bond order relating to the sale of \$10,000,000 principal amount of general obligation seaport facilities bonds of the state of Alabama dated March 1, 1964, and except as limited herein, to prescribe the terms of the bonds and to provide for the issuance and sale thereof. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be in registered or bearer form either as to principal or interest or both, with rights of conversion into another form, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates, payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state to be exercised by the state docks department at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said department in the order or orders under which the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amount as shall be specified in the authorizing order or orders, the first of which installments shall mature not later than one year after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty years after the date of the bonds of the same series. The largest installment of principal and interest maturing on each series of the bonds in any one year shall not exceed twice the preceding smallest installment of principal and interest maturing thereon in any prior year. None of the bonds shall be sold for less than face value plus accrued interest thereon to the date of delivery. The bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said department to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest net interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said department is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the governor and countersigned by the state docks director, and the great seal of the state of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the secretary of state; provided, that facsimile signatures of any one or any two (but not all) of said officers may be reproduced on any of such bonds in lieu of being manually signed thereon. Coupons attached to the bonds and representing installments of interest thereon shall be signed with the facsimile signature of the state treasurer, which facsimile signature shall constitute due and sufficient authentication of said coupons.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from taxation in this state.

The authorization to incur debt and issue bonds contained in this amendment shall supersede and take the place of any authorization for Alabama state docks department to issue revenue bonds granted by act of the legislature in effect on the effective date of this amendment.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and authorization from or other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder.

Amendment 287 ratified

Navigable Waterway Between Montgomery and Gadsden and to the Alabama-Georgia Boundary.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama or amendments thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, the legislature may by appropriate laws authorize the state to engage in works of internal improvement by fulfilling the requirements of local contribution, participation and cooperation now or hereafter established by the United States in connection with the construction and maintenance of a navigable waterway (herein called "the waterway") between Montgomery and Gadsden and to the Alabama-Georgia boundary.

The legislature may by appropriate laws authorize the state to become indebted, and in evidence of such indebtedness, to sell and issue its interest-bearing bonds, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$10,000,000, for the purpose of enabling the state to discharge obligations at any time authorized by the legislature to be undertaken in connection with the waterway project; provided, that the expenses incurred in connection with the sale and issuance of the bonds may also be paid from the proceeds thereof. Bonds evidencing the herein provided for indebtedness may be issued as direct general obligations of the state, and the state may pledge its full faith and credit to the prompt payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon. The herein provided for indebtedness shall not be construed to prohibit or limit appropriations from the general fund of the state which from time to time may be made for the purpose of enabling the state to discharge obligations at any time authorized by the legislature to be undertaken in connection with the waterway project.

The legislature may by appropriate laws establish a public corporation and may confer upon it, in addition to all other necessary powers, full power to undertake the obligations that the state is permitted under the foregoing provisions of this amendment to undertake in connection with the waterway project. The legislature may from time to time appropriate money from the general fund of the state to be expended by such public corporation and may also authorize the herein provided for general obligation bonds of the state to be sold from time to time under the supervision of such public corporation; provided, that all moneys received by such public corporation from the state, whether as appropriations from the state's general fund or as proceeds of the sale of the state's bonds, shall be expended, except for reasonable administrative expenses, in discharging obligations that the state is permitted under the foregoing provisions of this amendment to undertake in connection with the waterway project, and shall have directed such public corporation to undertake in its stead.

Nothing herein shall authorize the legislature to establish any such public corporation to acquire by purchase, license, lease, condemnation or otherwise a hydroelectric project (or any part thereof) heretofore or hereafter licensed by the federal power commission under the Federal Power Act of June 10, 1920, Public Law No. 280, 66th Congress, 2nd Session, and amendments thereto, or any such project (or any part thereof) otherwise authorized by act of congress.

Amendment 288 ratified

Works of Internal Improvement Along Navigable Waterways.

When authorized by appropriate laws passed by the legislature, the state of Alabama may, in promoting and aiding the commercial flow of agricultural products within the state or in aid of commerce and use of the waterways of the state, at a cost not exceeding \$10,000,000, engage in works of internal improvement by promoting, developing, constructing, maintaining and operating within the state or along navigable streams and waterways now or hereafter existing within the state all manner of elevators, facilities, warehouses, docks, water and rail terminals and other structures and facilities and improvements needful for the convenient use of the same; provided that any such works or improvements shall always be and remain under the management and control of the state through the Alabama state docks department or other state governing agency and shall become part of the inland waterways facilities of the state. When authorized by appropriate laws passed by the legislature, the state may, in addition to all other bonds of the state, become indebted in an aggregate principal amount of not exceeding \$10,000,000 for the purpose of

carrying out the provisions of this amendment and may cause to be issued its general direct obligation bonds for the repayment of such indebtedness and interest thereon and pledge the faith and credit of the state thereto.

Amendment 289 ratified

Title to Sixteenth Section of School Lands in Mobile County.

The legislature shall have power to divest the state of Alabama of title to that certain sixteenth section of school lands described as follows: section 16, township 4 south, range 2 west, St. Stephens meridian, in Mobile county, and may provide for the grant of such lands and the income therefrom to the board of trustees of the University of South Alabama.

Amendment 290 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Probate Judge and Sheriff, in Barbour County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Barbour county, and regulate the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and compensation to be charged or received by the probate judge and the sheriff of Barbour county, and may place the sheriff on a salary basis and provide for the fees charged or collected by him to be paid into the county treasury from which his salary shall be paid.

Amendment 291 ratified

Special Tax in School Districts of Calhoun County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, each school district in Calhoun county, except the school district comprising the city of Anniston, shall have the power to levy and collect for public school purposes in such district an annual special ad valorem tax on the taxable properties in such district at a rate not exceeding in any one year five mills on each dollar of the value of the said properties as the same shall be assessed for state taxation; provided that prior to the levy of any special tax authorized in this paragraph, there shall be submitted to the electors of the district in which the tax is proposed to be levied, at a special election called for that purpose in the said district, the question of whether the said tax or any part thereof shall be levied, the rate thereof, the time it is to continue (which shall not exceed thirty years), and the purpose thereof, and the said tax shall be authorized at such election by a majority of the qualified electors of the district voting at such election; provided further, that if a majority of the qualified electors of any of the said districts participating in the election on the ratification of this amendment shall vote for the ratification of this amendment, then the approval of this amendment as expressed by the vote in said district in favor of its ratification shall, of itself, authorize the levy and collection of the said special tax for public school purposes in that district for a period of thirty years commencing with the levy for the tax year for which taxes will become due and payable to the said district on the October 1 next following the date of the said election on the ratification of this amendment.

Elections on the question of the levy of a district tax under the provisions of this amendment may be held at any time and from time to time, provided, that if at any such election held after the ratification of this amendment the proposal to levy the tax so submitted should be defeated then the proposal may not be submitted at another election held in the same district within one year from the last election held under this amendment. Each such election held after the ratification of this amendment shall be called and held, the results declared, and the tax levied and collected in the same manner as now or hereafter provided by law in the case of school district taxes authorized by amendment III [3] to the Constitution of Alabama, except that no countywide tax shall be required as a condition precedent for a district tax under this amendment.

The funds arising from the district tax herein authorized to be levied in each school district shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the school district in which such district tax is levied. Nothing in this amendment shall be

deemed to prevent the consolidation of any two or more school districts in Calhoun county in accordance with the applicable provisions of general law.

Amendment 292 ratified

Special School Tax in School Districts Nos. 1 and 2 of Covington County.

1. The governing body of Covington county shall have power to levy and collect annually a special school district tax not exceeding fifty cents on each one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property in school districts number 1 and 2, Covington county as assessed for state taxation, for public school purposes, provided the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the districts and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. Such tax shall be in addition to all other taxes provided for by law. The funds arising from such special district tax levied and collected by the county shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the public schools in said districts. Election under this amendment shall be called, held, and conducted in relation to the levying of special school district taxes under the third amendment to the Constitution.

2. If a majority of the qualified electors of school districts number 1 and 2, Covington county, who participate in the election on the adoption, then the approval of the amendment as expressed by such vote shall of itself authorize the levying of the special tax provided for herein at the maximum rate specified for a period not exceeding twenty years.

Amendment 293 ratified

Special School Tax in School Districts Nos. 1 and 2 of Colbert County.

The governing body of Colbert county shall have power to levy and collect annually a special school district tax not exceeding one dollar on each one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property in school districts number one and number two in Colbert county, as assessed for state taxation, for public school purposes, provided the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the districts and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. Such tax shall be in addition to all other taxes provided for by law. The funds arising from such special district tax levied and collected by the county shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the districts. Elections under this amendment shall be called, held, and conducted in the same way that elections are called, held, and conducted in relation to the levying of special school district taxes under the third amendment to the Constitution.

Amendment 294 ratified

Special Tax in School Districts of Lawrence County and Change in Boundaries of School Districts.

Each school district of Lawrence county shall, subject to authorization at an election in such district as hereinafter provided, have power to levy and collect a special district tax, at a rate not exceeding five mills on each dollar (being equivalent to 50 cents on each \$100) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in such district for public school purposes therein, which special tax shall be in addition to all taxes now authorized or that may hereafter be authorized by the Constitution of Alabama to be levied in such district; provided, that no tax shall be levied under this amendment unless the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the district in which the tax is proposed to be levied and shall have been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors voting at the election at which the submission is made. Each election held under this amendment shall be called and held, the ballots canvassed, the results declared, and the tax levied and collected in the same manner as is now or may hereafter be provided by law in the case of school district taxes authorized by amendment III [3] to the Constitution of Alabama, except that no countywide tax shall be required to be levied as a condition precedent to either the authorization or levy of a district tax under this amendment. The holding of one election shall not preclude a later election in the same district under the authority of

this amendment. The proceeds of any special district tax authorized by this amendment shall be expended solely for public school purposes in the district in which the tax shall be levied.

The county board of education of Lawrence county may from time to time, without the necessity of any election, change the boundaries of any school district at any time existing in the county, or consolidate any two or more school districts therein, if the taxes authorized to be levied for public school purposes in all of the territory in such district after such change of boundaries or consolidation is effected shall be at the same aggregate rate and for the same duration of time; provided, that nothing contained herein shall be construed to impair or permit the impairment of the obligation of any contract created with respect to any securities theretofore issued with respect to any such school district. The provisions of the preceding sentence shall not be deemed to abridge any existing power conferred on the said county board of education by any existing law, but shall be in addition thereto.

Amendment 295 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in City of Ozark and Dale County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue or like governing body of Dale county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax in addition to all other taxes, now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding one half of one percent on the value of the taxable property in the county situated outside the corporate limits of Ozark, as such property was assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, but may be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for public school purposes, which pledges shall take priority as provided in such bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county residing outside the corporate limits of Ozark, and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Elections on proposals to levy this tax on the property in the county situated outside the corporate limits of Ozark shall be called and held in the same manner as now provided by law for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX, of the Constitution of Alabama. The tax on property situated outside the corporate limits of Ozark shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected, and the revenues derived from such tax shall be used solely for school construction and other educational purposes in the territory of the county outside the corporate limits of Ozark.

The city of Ozark shall likewise have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding [exceeding] one half of one percent on the value of the taxable property situated within the corporate limits of the city, as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, but may be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for public school purposes, which pledges shall take priority as provided in such bonds, warrants or other evidences of indebtedness; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Elections on proposals to levy this tax on property situated within the corporate limits of Ozark shall be ordered and held in the same manner as provided by the law applicable to municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds. The additional tax, authorized by this amendment to be levied on property situated within the corporate limits of Ozark shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as other taxes levied on property by the city of Ozark are collected, and the revenues derived from this tax shall be used solely for school construction and other educational purposes within the limits of the city of Ozark.

If any proposal to levy a tax hereunder is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 296 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in Etowah County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue or like governing body of Etowah county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes, now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding one half of one percent on the value of the taxable property in the county situated outside the corporate limits of Gadsden and Attalla, as such property was assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, but may be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for public school purposes which pledges shall take priority as provided in such bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county residing outside the corporate limits of Gadsden and Attalla, and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Elections on proposals to levy this tax on the property in the county situated outside the corporate limits of Gadsden and Attalla shall be called and held in the same manner as now provided by law for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX, of the Constitution of Alabama. The tax on property situated outside the corporate limits of Gadsden and Attalla shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected, and the revenues derived from such tax shall be used solely for schools and other educational purposes in the territory of the county outside the corporate limits of Gadsden and Attalla.

If any proposal to levy a tax hereunder is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time.

Nothing contained in this amendment shall be construed to authorize the levy and collection of an additional tax on property situated within the corporate limits of the cities of Gadsden or Attalla.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 297 ratified

Compensation of Certain Officers of Tallapoosa County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Tallapoosa county, fix, regulate, and alter the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, tax assessor, tax collector, and clerk and register of the circuit court of Tallapoosa county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid. Provided, that no law changing the method or basis for compensating such officers shall become effective unless it is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose.

Amendment 298 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 175.

That amendment CLXXV [175] to the Constitution of Alabama, as submitted December 5, 1961 and proclaimed ratified December 18, 1961 and amended by amendment CCLX [260] submitted November 8, 1966 and proclaimed ratified November 17, 1966, be further amended by striking out the last sentence in said amendments CLXXV [175] as amended and inserting in lieu thereof the following sentence:

The proceeds of any special district tax authorized by this amendment shall be expended for the support of education only in the special district or separate district in which the tax is levied.

Amendment 299 ratified

Special School Tax in City of Oneonta.

Section 1. In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied a special school tax of one dollar on each one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property in the school tax district of the city of Oneonta, Blount county, to be used solely for public school purposes; provided the levy of said tax shall first have been approved by the qualified electors of the school district as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the city of Oneonta who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the additional tax provided for in section 1 shall be levied and collected without any other election having been held thereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the city of Oneonta who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax shall not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the city of Oneonta and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year and shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in constitutional amendment III [3]; provided however, that it shall not be a condition precedent to any election on the school district tax herein provided for or to the levy and collection of such tax that a like or any other countywide school tax be [is] being levied and collected in Blount county.

Section 3. In the event the special school tax herein authorized shall be approved as herein provided and the board of education of the city of Oneonta anticipates the proceeds therefrom by issuing securities payable, in whole or in part, out of such proceeds, the provisions of sections 220, 221 and 224 of Title 52 of the Code of Alabama of 1940 shall not apply to any such securities.

Amendment 300 ratified

Bonds for Certain Public Buildings in Mobile County.

Section A. As used in this amendment the following terms shall be given the following respective meanings:

"County" means Mobile county.

"Special tax" means the annual ad valorem tax at the rate of 1/2 of 1 per centum (equivalent to 5 mills on each dollar) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county authorized to be levied by the county by the amendment known as amendment XVIII [18] to the Constitution of Alabama, as amended by the amendment to the Constitution known as amendment CLII [152], and also provided for in the amendments to the Constitution known as amendments C [100], CXXII [122], CLI [151], CXCV [193], and CXCIV [195].

Section B. Mobile county is hereby authorized to issue from time to time its bonds, not exceeding \$3,000,000 in aggregate principal amount, of which \$1,000,000 in principal amount shall be issued for the purpose of acquiring,

providing, constructing and equipping a building for use as a juvenile detention home for the county in conjunction with the juvenile court of the county, and \$2,000,000 in principal amount shall be issued for the purpose of acquiring, providing, constructing and equipping additions and improvements to the county courthouse building in the county; provided, that if all of the proceeds from the bonds issued for either of the said purposes shall not be needed for the purpose for which they were issued then the balance not so needed may in the sound judgment of the governing body of the county be expended for the said other purpose. The aggregate principal amount of all bonds at any time issued under this amendment, when added to the aggregate principal amount of all then outstanding bonds theretofore issued by the county under any other amendment to the Constitution of Alabama that are payable from or secured by the special tax shall not exceed 6 1/2 per centum of the assessed valuation of the taxable property situated in the county as assessed for state taxation for the state tax year next preceding that during which any bonds herein authorized shall be issued.

No bonds may be issued under the authority of this amendment until after the question of the issuance of such bonds shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of the county at any election called for that purpose by the governing body of the county and a majority of the said qualified electors voting at the said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of such bonds; provided, that if a majority of the qualified electors of the county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the said vote in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds provided for in this amendment and no additional election by the electors of the county shall be required to authorize the issuance of the said bonds. If the majority of the qualified electors of the county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment should not vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment, or if the majority of the qualified electors of the county voting at any election called by the governing body of the county under the provisions of this amendment should not vote in favor of the issuance of the bonds proposed at an election so called, the governing body of the county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of such bonds, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. Any such election called by the governing body of the county shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed, and may be contested, in the manner and within the time provided by the then existing general laws of Alabama pertaining to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties.

The bonds issued hereunder shall be general obligations of the county for the payment of the principal of and interest on which the full faith and credit of the county shall be irrevocably pledged, and in addition thereto there shall be irrevocably pledged for payment of the said principal and interest so much of the special tax as may be necessary to pay the said principal and interest at their respective maturities, each such pledge to be on a parity with all valid pledges of the special tax at any time heretofore or hereafter made, to such extent as shall not impair the obligation of any then existing valid prior pledges.

The principal of each series of bonds issued under this amendment shall mature in annual installments, the first of which installments shall mature not later than three (3) years after the date of the bonds of that series and the last of which shall mature not later than thirty (30) years after the date of the bonds of that series; provided, that the maturities of each series of bonds issued under this amendment shall be arranged so that (a) no annual installment of principal of the bonds of such series maturing during any fiscal year of the county shall be more than four times as great as the smallest installment of principal of the same series maturing during any prior fiscal year, and (b) the aggregate amount of principal and interest that will mature in any one fiscal year with respect to that series of bonds, and also all other bonds theretofore issued by the county and then outstanding that are payable out of or secured by a pledge of the special tax, shall not exceed the amount of the proceeds collected from the special tax during the then next preceding tax year. Except as herein otherwise provided, all bonds issued under this amendment shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the issuance of such bonds respecting the sale, execution, issuance and redemption of bonds by counties. The indebtedness evidenced by the bonds issued under this amendment or under any other amendment to the Constitution which are payable out of or are secured by a pledge of the special tax shall be in addition to and shall not be charged

against the limitation on the indebtedness of the county provided for in section 224 of the Constitution.

So long as the principal of or interest on any of the bonds issued under this amendment remains unpaid, the governing body of Mobile county shall continue the levy of the special tax at such rate as may be sufficient to pay the said principal and interest at their respective maturities; provided, that the total rate of the special tax that may be levied and collected for payment of the said bonds and all other bonds payable out of or secured by a pledge of the special tax shall not exceed 4 1/2 mills on each dollar of the assessed valuation of all properties subject to taxation by the county as assessed for state taxation and that the said rate of 4 1/2 mills on each dollar of the said assessed valuation shall be reduced for each tax year for which the special hospital tax authorized in paragraph G of the amendment to the Constitution known as amendment No. CXCV [195] shall have been levied at a rate exceeding 1 mill on each dollar of the taxable property in the county, any such reduction to be by 1/2 mill on each dollar of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county or by rate of millage equal to the rate by which the said special hospital tax levied for that tax year exceeds one mill on each dollar of the assessed valuation of such taxable property, whichever shall be the lesser reduction. The provisions of this paragraph shall be applicable, however, only to such extent as shall not impair the obligation of any pledges of the special tax heretofore made for the benefit of any bonds issued by the county prior to the adoption of this amendment.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and authorization from or other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder or the levy of the special tax for payment thereof.

Article Sources and Contributors

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Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 301-400

Amendment 301 ratified

Change in Purposes of Levy and Distribution of Special Tax Authorized by Amendment Nos. 18, 100, 122, 151, 193 and 195.

A. As used in this amendment the following terms shall be given the following respective meanings:

"County" means Mobile county.

"Special tax" means the annual ad valorem tax at the rate of 1/2 of 1 per centum (equivalent to 5 mills on each dollar) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county authorized to be levied by the county by the amendment known as amendment XVIII [18] to the Constitution of Alabama, as amended by the amendment to the Constitution known as amendment CLII [152], and also provided for in the amendments to the Constitution known as amendments C [100], CXII [112], CLI [151], CXCIII [193], and CXCV [195].

B. Commencing with the levy for the tax year beginning October 1, 1969 (for which tax year the special tax will become payable on October 1, 1970) the special tax shall be levied annually by the governing body of the county on the assessed valuation of all property subject to taxation by the county, as assessed for state taxation for the next preceding year, at the following rates for the following respective purposes:

(a) 1/2 mill on each dollar (equivalent to 1/20 of 1%) of the said assessed valuation shall be levied for the general purposes of the county to be paid into and disbursed by the governing body of the county out of the general fund of the county; and

(b) 4 1/2 mills on each dollar (equivalent to 9/20 of 1%) of the said assessed valuation shall be levied for payment of the principal of and interest on all bonds of the county heretofore and hereafter issued that are payable out of or secured by a pledge of the special tax; provided, that the said rate of 4 1/2 mills on each \$1.00 of the said assessed valuation shall be reduced for each tax year for which the special hospital tax authorized in paragraph G of the amendment to the Constitution known as amendment No. CXCV [195] shall have been levied at a rate exceeding 1 mill on each dollar of the taxable property in the county, any such reduction to be by 1/2 mill on each dollar of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county or by rate of millage equal to the rate by which the said special hospital tax levied for that tax year exceeds one mill on each dollar of the assessed valuation of such taxable property, whichever shall be the lesser reduction.

Amendment 301 ratified

Change in Purposes of Levy and Distribution of Special Tax Authorized by Amendment Nos. 18, 100, 122, 151, 193 and 195.

A. As used in this amendment the following terms shall be given the following respective meanings:

"County" means Mobile county.

"Special tax" means the annual ad valorem tax at the rate of 1/2 of 1 per centum (equivalent to 5 mills on each dollar) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county authorized to be levied by the county by the amendment known as amendment XVIII [18] to the Constitution of Alabama, as amended by the amendment to the Constitution known as amendment CLII [152], and also provided for in the amendments to the Constitution known as amendments C [100], CXII [112], CLI [151], CXCIII [193], and CXCV [195].

B. Commencing with the levy for the tax year beginning October 1, 1969 (for which tax year the special tax will become payable on October 1, 1970) the special tax shall be levied annually by the governing body of the county on the assessed valuation of all property subject to taxation by the county, as assessed for state taxation for the next

preceding year, at the following rates for the following respective purposes:

(a) 1/2 mill on each dollar (equivalent to 1/20 of 1%) of the said assessed valuation shall be levied for the general purposes of the county to be paid into and disbursed by the governing body of the county out of the general fund of the county; and

(b) 4 1/2 mills on each dollar (equivalent to 9/20 of 1%) of the said assessed valuation shall be levied for payment of the principal of and interest on all bonds of the county heretofore and hereafter issued that are payable out of or secured by a pledge of the special tax; provided, that the said rate of 4 1/2 mills on each \$1.00 of the said assessed valuation shall be reduced for each tax year for which the special hospital tax authorized in paragraph G of the amendment to the Constitution known as amendment No. CXCV [195] shall have been levied at a rate exceeding 1 mill on each dollar of the taxable property in the county, any such reduction to be by 1/2 mill on each dollar of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county or by rate of millage equal to the rate by which the said special hospital tax levied for that tax year exceeds one mill on each dollar of the assessed valuation of such taxable property, whichever shall be the lesser reduction.

Amendment 303 ratified

Promotion of Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Development in Morgan County and Cities of Hartselle and Decatur.

For the promotion of local industrial, commercial or agricultural development, Morgan county and the city of Hartselle and the city of Decatur shall each separately or any two or more of them jointly have full and continuing power (a) to purchase, construct, lease and otherwise acquire industrial, commercial and agricultural projects or sites, including real and personal property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind whatsoever; (b) to lease, sell, exchange or otherwise convey all or any part of any such project or site to any person, firm or corporation; (c) after an approving election as hereinafter provided, if required, to sell and issue for such purposes interest-bearing general obligation bonds. Neither the county nor the cities shall issue any bonds under the authority of this amendment, other than bonds issued to finance the acquisition or development of industrial sites, such development to include the extension and installation of streets and roadways and utility services, unless the question of the issuance of such bonds has first been submitted to the qualified electors of the county or the cities, as the case may be, and approved at such election by a majority of the qualified electors voting thereat. Each such election shall be called, held and conducted, and may be contested, in the manner provided by law for county or municipal bond elections, as the case may be. Bonds issued under the authority of this amendment shall not be considered indebtedness of the county or the cities, as the case may be, within the meaning of sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution of Alabama, but neither the county nor the cities shall at any time issue any bonds under the authority of this amendment if as a result thereof it will have outstanding an aggregate principal amount of bonds issued hereunder in excess of twenty percent of an assessed value of the property in the county or the cities, as the case may be. Neither shall the county or the cities issue any bonds under the authority of this amendment, except bonds issued to finance the acquisition or development of industrial sites, such development to include the extension and installation of streets and roadways and utility services, unless prior thereto or contemporaneously therewith the county or the cities, as the case may be, has entered into a lease or other similar agreement, with respect to the project being financed by such bonds, providing for the payment to the county or the cities, as the case may be, of net rentals sufficient to pay the principal of and the interest on such bonds at the respective maturities of such principal and interest, and any bonds issued hereunder shall be secured by a pledge of such rentals and may be secured by a foreclosable mortgage on such project and by a pledge of any other taxes and revenues which the county or the cities, as the case may be, is authorized by law to pledge to the payment of its bonded indebtedness. All bonds issued under the authority of this amendment shall be sold at public sale in the manner required by law for the sale of county or municipal bonds, as the case may be, and shall mature and be payable in annual or semiannual installments in such amounts and at such times as to result in the aggregate amount of principal and interest maturing

thereon in each year following the year of their issuance being substantially equal, but shall not be subject to any other provisions of law relating to maturities of county or municipal bonds. In the event that any such action is necessary to prevent or cure a default in payment of the principal of or the interest on any bonds issued under the authority of this amendment, the county or the cities, as the case may be, is authorized to levy and collect ad valorem taxes, without limitation as to rate or amount, on the assessed value of all taxable property in the county or the cities, as the case may be, but only so long as and only to such extent as necessary to prevent or cure any such default.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Morgan county nor the city of Hartselle nor the city of Decatur shall be subject to the provisions of section 93 of the Constitution of Alabama, and the taxes which the county and the cities are hereinabove authorized to levy and collect are in addition to all other taxes which the county and the cities are authorized to levy and collect. This amendment shall be self-executing, but notwithstanding any contrary provisions of section 104 of the Constitution of Alabama, the legislature shall have the power, by general, special or local act, to enact laws supplemental hereto or in furtherance of the purposes hereof.

Amendment 304 ratified

Special School Tax in School District No. 1 of Madison County.

Section 1. In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied a special school tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property in school tax district no. 1, Madison county, Alabama, which comprises all of Madison county, Alabama except the city of Huntsville, Alabama to be used solely for public school purposes; provided the levy of said tax shall first have been approved by the qualified electors of the school district as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said school tax district no. 1, Madison county, Alabama, who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the additional tax provided for in section 1 shall be levied and collected for a period of thirty years without any other election having been held thereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of school tax district no. 1, Madison county, Alabama, who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax shall not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of school tax district one, Madison county, Alabama, and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year and shall be called, held, conducted, paid for and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in constitutional amendment III [3].

Amendment 305 ratified

Special School Tax in City of Huntsville.

Section 1. In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied a special school tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property in the school tax district of the city of Huntsville in Madison county to be used solely for public school purposes; provided the levy of said tax shall first have been approved by the qualified electors of the school district as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the city of Huntsville who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the additional tax provided for in section 1 shall be levied and collected for a period of thirty years without any other election having been held hereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the city of Huntsville who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax shall not be levied unless the rate of the tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the city of Huntsville and voted for by a majority of those voting

at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year and shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in constitutional amendment III [3].

Amendment 306 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Sheriff, in Bibb County.

The legislature of Alabama may hereafter, from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, regulate, and alter the costs, charges of courts, fees, commissions, allowances, or compensation to be charged or received by the sheriff of Bibb county, and may also fix, regulate, and alter the method or basis of compensating such officer.

Amendment 307 ratified

Use of Proceeds of Special Tax Levied in Chambers County Pursuant to Amendment No. 72.

Whenever the tax authorized to be levied by amendment No. LXXII [72] to the Constitution shall have been approved by vote of the qualified electors of Chambers county and levied by the governing body of the county, the proceeds of such tax may be used for any health purposes of the county, including providing of health facilities of all kinds and of health services; and the governing body of Chambers county may, in its discretion, expend any part of the proceeds thereof in cooperation with any one or more of the municipalities of the county, or in cooperation with any public or private nonprofit hospital corporation; or the county governing body may cooperate in the consolidation of all such hospitals, facilities and services in Chambers county and expend all or any part of the proceeds of the said tax in support thereof.

Amendment 308 ratified

Economic Development of Marengo County.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, Marengo county acting through the county governing body shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
- 3 To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of Marengo county, or may be limited as to the source of their payment.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidence of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of Marengo county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county under section 224 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in section 215 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation in the same manner as other county taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the county, or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of such county shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.

8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidence of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidence of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.

9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body subject to such limitations as the governing body of Marengo county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county.

Marengo county shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose. The governing body of the county may provide for holding such election, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published once a week for three successive weeks before the election.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature may enact general, special or local laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

Amendment 309 ratified

Special School District Tax in Lee County.

In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized, the governing body of Lee county, in the state of Alabama, is authorized to levy, in the school district of the said county that comprises all of the territory of the said county outside of the corporate limits of the cities of Auburn and Opelika, a special district tax at a rate not exceeding 50¢ on each \$100 of the valuation of the taxable property in the said district as assessed for state taxation; provided, that no such tax shall be levied hereunder unless the rate of the said tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the said district and voted for by a majority of those voting in such election; provided, further, that if a majority of the qualified electors of the said district participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the said vote in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the levy of the said tax, without an additional election, for a period of thirty consecutive years commencing with the levy for the tax year beginning October 1, 1969. Each election on the levy of the said tax held subsequent to the ratification of this amendment shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed, and notice thereof shall be given, in the manner and within the time provided by the then existing general laws of Alabama pertaining to elections on the levy of district

school taxes under the provisions of amendment III [3] to the Constitution, except that the holding of any such election in the said district or the collection of the said tax therein shall not be dependent upon the levy and collection of any other tax, including specifically the three-mill special county school tax provided for in the said amendment III [3]. If the majority of the qualified electors of the said district participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment should not vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment, or if the majority of the qualified electors of the said district voting at any election called by the governing body of Lee county under the provisions of this amendment should not vote in favor of the levy of the said tax proposed at the election so called, the governing body of Lee county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the levy of the said tax, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months.

Nothing contained in this amendment shall be construed to authorize the levy of an additional tax on any property within the corporate limits of either the city of Auburn or the city of Opelika.

Amendment 310 ratified

Special School District Taxes in Talladega County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the several school districts of Talladega county shall have the power to levy and collect a special district tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars' worth of taxable property in such districts for public school purposes; provided, that the time during which such tax is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in each such district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election, the election to be held in the same manner as provided by Code of Alabama 1940, Title 52, chapter 10, article 7 for an election on the school district tax authorized in article XIX [amendment No. 3, article XIX] of the Constitution of Alabama. The funds arising from such special tax levied in any district which votes the same independently of the county shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the district as the law may direct.

Amendment 311 ratified

Special Property Tax for General Health Purposes in Lawrence, Limestone and Morgan Counties.

In addition to all taxes now, or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the counties of Lawrence, Limestone and Morgan, in this state, each, shall have the power to levy and collect a special tax up to 3 mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property in the county, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for general health purposes; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof, and the times such taxes are proposed to be continued, shall have first been submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of each of such counties, and voted for by the majority of those voting at such elections in all three such counties. The special tax provided herein may be renewed from time to time, in the manner provided herein, for such periods of time as are necessary. If any proposal to levy the taxes is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time. The elections provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in amendment III [3], article XIX, of the Constitution of Alabama and by article 7, chapter 10, Title 52 of the Code of Alabama 1940; but the governing bodies of the counties of Lawrence, Limestone and Morgan shall each provide for paying the expense of the election in its county.

The county tax collector of each of such counties shall collect the tax in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as the taxes of the state are collected, and he shall keep the proceeds of this tax separate and apart from all other funds, and shall keep clear accounts thereof. The tax collector shall distribute the proceeds of this special tax in the manner prescribed by the governing body of the county and the revenue derived from the tax levied hereunder shall be used for general health purposes in the county where levied or in cooperation with the other two counties named above.

Amendment 312 ratified

Economic Development of Bibb County and Municipalities Therein.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the county governing body and/or any municipality in Bibb county, or any one or more of them, shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid or [of], or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers of authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the county or any municipality in Bibb county or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of the county or a municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocable [irrevocably] to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.
9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the county or any municipality in Bibb county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the governing body of the county or any municipality in Bibb county.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the county or any municipality in Bibb county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity

of the county or any such municipality under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. Neither the county nor any municipality shall make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county or the affected municipality. The governing body of the county or any municipality in the county may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 313 ratified

Economic Development of Hale County and Municipalities Therein.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the county governing body and/or any municipality in Hale county, or any one or more of them, shall have full and continuing power and authority, after an election held in accordance herewith, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery and equipment of any kind.
2. To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision 1 above, to any person, firm, association or corporation.
3. To promote local industrial, commercial or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
4. To become a stockholder in any corporation, association or company.
5. To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to, any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
6. To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding fifty percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision 1 above or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may (in addition to any pledge or pledges authorized by subdivision 8 of this amendment) be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
7. To levy and collect annually, in addition to all other taxes now authorized or permitted, a special tax or taxes of not exceeding two percent on the value of all taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in the same manner as other county or municipal taxes are levied and collected. Such tax may be upon all property in the county or any municipality in Hale county or upon all property in any district the boundaries of which the governing body of the county or municipality shall describe and which it shall determine to be specially improved and benefited by any proposed use or expenditure of the proceeds of such tax.
8. To pledge to the payment of any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness the annual proceeds from any such special tax or taxes and to obligate itself irrevocably to continue to levy and collect such taxes annually until such obligations or evidences of indebtedness are paid in full and to pledge thereto any rental or sales proceeds of property leased or sold by it.

9. To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the county or any municipality in Hale county may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the secretary of state, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the governing body of the county or any municipality in Hale county.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized or that any special tax herein authorized has been pledged to the payment thereof shall be conclusive; no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further; and the levy and collection of such tax shall continue until the principal of and interest on such obligations or evidences of indebtedness shall have been paid in full. The bonds, warrants, notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the county or any municipality in Hale county for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county or any such municipality under sections 224 and 225 of the Constitution; and the taxes herein authorized shall be in addition to those provided for or permitted in sections 215 and 216 of the Constitution and all amendments thereto.

This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.

10. Neither the county nor any municipality shall make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county or the affected municipality. The governing body of the county or any municipality in the county may provide for holding such elections, but in no case shall an election be held until notice of the election and of the proposition to be voted on has been published for at least three successive weeks.

Amendment 314 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 239.

Amendment CCXXXIX [239] of the Constitution of Alabama. The legislature may provide for the formation of districts in Jefferson county, Alabama, for establishing and maintaining a system for fighting or preventing fires, also for the collection and disposal of garbage and trash; provided, however, that no territory lying within the limits of a municipal corporation at the time of the establishment of any such district shall be included within such district; and provided further, that no such district shall be established unless the establishment thereof has been first approved by the qualified electors residing within the proposed district at an election held as provided for by a law or laws adopted by the legislature. A district may be established for either or both of the aforesaid purposes. The legislature may provide for submitting to the qualified electors within the proposed district the question of whether the district shall be created for either or both of the aforesaid purposes.

The expenses of establishing and maintaining any such fire-fighting and fire prevention system or any such garbage collection and disposal system in a district, as the case may be, shall be paid for exclusively by the proceeds of a service charge, which shall be levied and collected in an amount sufficient to pay the said expenses.

Said service charges shall be levied upon and collected from the persons and property to whom and to which such services are available; and the service charge shall be a lien upon any such property.

The legislature may provide for the enlargement of a district by the addition of territory thereto, subject to the following conditions: (1) No territory lying within a municipal corporation at the time of such enlargement shall be added to a district; (2) subject to (3), next below, no territory shall be added unless the qualified electors thereof have approved the addition of such territory to the district; (3) the legislature may provide a procedure whereby territory

will be included in a district upon the written petition for its inclusion signed by at least seventy percent (70%) of the qualified electors residing within said territory.

The legislature shall adopt laws providing for the administration of the affairs of the district by the governing body of the district, the governing body of the county or by any agency of the county, and empowering the body administering the affairs of the district to levy and collect the service charge, subject to such restrictions and conditions as the legislature imposes. The legislature may provide that any such service charge shall not become effective unless approved by the electors of the territory, and may provide the conditions on which an election on such service charge shall be held.

The legislature shall be authorized to enact laws providing for the collection and enforcement of the service charges and of the lien for such charges.

The legislature may provide for the issuance of bonds for such districts with or without an election; provided, however, that all bonds issued hereunder shall be payable only out of the proceeds of the service charge authorized hereby, and no such bond shall be a general obligation of the county.

Amendment 315 ratified

Promotion of Soybean Industry.

The legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, improvement, marketing, use and sale of soybeans. The legislature may provide for the promotion of soybeans and soybean products by research, education, advertising and other methods, and the legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby producers of soybeans may by referendum among such producers levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of soybeans for the financing of any such promotional program or activity in cooperation with buyers, processors, dealers, and handlers of soybeans. Provided, no assessment levied hereunder shall exceed one-half cent (1/2 ¢) per bushel on any soybeans sold by producers thereof. The legislature may make provisions for the nonpayment of assessments by soybean producers, and shall make provisions for the refund of assessments to any soybean producer who does not desire to participate in an assessment program. The legislature shall provide for the collection, disbursement, distribution or expenditure of assessments or charges authorized hereunder and to provide penalties for failure to make collection and distribution of assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization for the promotion and betterment of soybeans and soybean products to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among producers of soybeans. The legislature may provide the manner by which such referendum is held, including the procedure for application for approval to conduct the referendum, the appropriate action to be taken by the state board of agriculture and industries on such application, the requirements and eligibility of the association or organization which will conduct such referendum, the procedures for voting and eligibility to vote in such referendum, the details of the conduct of such referendum. The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities as authorized herein by the department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. The legislature shall further provide a procedure whereby said association or organization is bonded, for the examination and auditing of said association or organization, and for reasonably necessary rules and regulations to be adopted by the state board of agriculture and industries to effectively carry out the intent and purposes herein enumerated. Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this constitution or any provision thereof. Any uniformity requirements of this constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon soybeans.

Amendment 316 ratified

Special Tax in Mountain Brook School District in Jefferson County.

In addition to all taxes now authorized or that may hereafter be authorized by the Constitution of Alabama to be levied by the special school district in Jefferson county known as the Mountain Brook school district (which immediately prior to the adoption of this amendment comprised the territory embraced within the corporate limits of the city of Mountain Brook), including any additional territory that may hereafter be added to the said district, shall have power to levy and collect, for public school purposes in the said district, a special district ad valorem tax at a rate or rates not exceeding in the aggregate sixty cents on each one hundred dollars (equivalent to six mills on each dollar) of the assessed valuation of the property in the said district subject to taxation by it.

No tax shall be levied under the authority of this amendment until after the question of the levy of such tax, the rate thereof, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the said district at an election duly called for that purpose by the governing body of the said county and a majority of the qualified electors of the said district voting at such election shall have voted in favor of the levy of the said tax; provided, that if a majority of the qualified electors of the said district participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for such adoption, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the said vote in favor of its adoption shall of itself constitute approval of the levy of the said tax at the rate of sixty cents on each one hundred dollars of the said assessed valuation for a period of thirty years commencing with the levy for the tax year for which county ad valorem taxes will become due and payable on the October 1 next succeeding the date of such election and no additional election by the electors of the said district shall be required to authorize the levy of the said tax at the said rate and for the said period of time. If the majority of the qualified electors of the said district participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment should not vote for such adoption, or if the majority of the qualified electors of the said district voting at any election subsequently called by the governing body of the said county under the provisions of this amendment should not vote in favor of the levy of the said tax at an election so called, the governing body of the county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the question of the levy of the said tax, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months.

Each election that may be called by the governing body of the said county on the question of the levy of the district tax herein authorized shall be called and held and the results thereof declared in the same manner and at the same time as may be provided by law for the calling and holding of school district taxes generally, and the said tax shall be levied and collected in the same manner and at the same times as may be provided by law for the levy and collection of school district taxes generally; provided, that no countywide tax shall be required as a condition precedent to the calling or holding of any such election or to the levy or collection of the district tax herein authorized. The proceeds from any district tax levied under this amendment shall be expended solely for public school purposes in the said district.

Amendment 317 ratified

Retirement, Censure, Suspension and Removal of Judges; Judicial Commission.

1. As used in this amendment: "Judge" means a justice of the supreme court, a judge of the court of appeals, or a judge of any circuit court, probate court, municipal court, or other court of record. "Commission" means judicial commission. "Retire" means to place on supervisory status if available. "Chairman" includes the acting chairman. "Masters" means special master appointed by the supreme court upon request of the commission. "Presiding master" means a master so designated by the supreme court or in the absence of such designation, the judge first named in the order appointing masters. "Shall" is mandatory and "may" is permissive.

2. A judicial commission is hereby created which shall be authorized to investigate, conduct hearings on the qualifications of judges and make recommendations to the supreme court in regard to the retirement, censure,

suspension or removal of such judges. The commission shall consist of: one judge of the court of appeals to be appointed by the supreme court; two judges of circuit courts to be appointed by the circuit judges association; one probate judge to be appointed by the probate judges association; one judge of a municipal court to be appointed by the supreme court; two practicing attorneys who shall be members in good standing of the state bar who shall have practiced law in this state for at least ten years and who shall be appointed by the board of commissioners of the state bar, and two citizens neither of whom shall be a judge, active or retired, nor a member of the state bar, and who shall be appointed by the governor subject to the approval of the Alabama senate. The terms of these members shall be for six years. Of the initial appointees, three (a circuit judge, the judge of the court of appeals and a citizen) shall be appointed for six years; three members (the municipal court judge, the probate judge and a practicing attorney) shall be appointed for four years; and three members (a circuit judge, a practicing attorney and a citizen) shall be appointed for three years. Commission membership shall terminate if a member ceases to hold the position that qualified him for appointment. A vacancy shall be filled by the appointing power for the remainder of the term; provided, that if the appointing power shall not fill the vacancy within sixty days, replacement shall be made by majority vote of the commission.

No member shall receive any compensation for his services as such but shall be allowed his necessary expenses for travel, board and lodging incurred in the performance of his duties as such, which shall be paid from the state treasury on claims filed with the state comptroller.

No act of the commission shall be valid unless concurred in by a majority of its members. The commission shall select one of its members to serve as chairman.

3. A judge, in accordance with the procedure prescribed in this section, may be censured, suspended, or removed for action occurring not more than six years prior to the commencement to his current term that constitutes willful misconduct in office, willful and persistent failure to perform his duties, habitual intemperance, or conduct prejudicial to the administration of justice that brings the judicial office into disrepute, or he may be retired for disability that seriously interferes with the performance of his duties and is or is likely to become permanent. The judicial commission may, after such investigation as the commission deems necessary, order a hearing to be held before it concerning the censure, suspension, removal or retirement of a judge, or the commission may in its discretion request the supreme court to appoint three special masters, who shall be justices or judges of courts of record, to hear and take evidence in any such matter, and to report thereon to the commission. If, after hearing, or after considering the record and report of the masters, the commission finds good cause therefor, it shall recommend to the supreme court the censure, suspension, removal or retirement, as the case may be, of the judge.

The supreme court shall review the record of the proceedings on the law and facts and in its discretion may permit the introduction of additional evidence and shall order censure, suspension, removal or retirement, as it finds just and proper, or wholly reject the recommendation. Upon an order for retirement, the judge shall be considered to have retired voluntarily and shall thereby be retired with the same rights and privileges as if he retired pursuant to statute. Upon an order for removal, the justice or judge shall thereby be removed from office, and his salary shall cease from the date of such order. A judge removed by the supreme court shall be ineligible for judicial office and pending further order of the supreme court he shall be suspended from practicing law in this state.

All papers filed with and proceedings before the judicial commission or masters appointed by the supreme court, pursuant to this section, shall be confidential, and the filing of papers with and the giving of testimony before the commission or the masters shall be privileged; but no other publication of such papers or proceedings shall be privileged in any action for defamation except that (a) the record filed by the commission in the supreme court continues privileged and upon such filing loses its confidential character and (b) a writing which was privileged prior to its filing with the commission or the masters does not lose such privilege by such filing. The judicial conference shall by rule provide for procedure under this section before the judicial commission, the masters, and the supreme court. A judge who is a member of the commission or supreme court shall not participate in any proceedings involving his own censure, suspension, removal or retirement.

A judge shall be disqualified from acting as a judge, without loss of salary, while there is pending (1) an indictment on an information charging him in the United States with a crime punishable as a felony under Alabama or federal law or (2) a recommendation to the supreme court by the judicial commission for his censure, suspension, removal or retirement.

On recommendation of the commission or on its own motion, the supreme court may suspend a judge from office without salary when in the United States he pleads guilty or no contest or is found guilty of a crime punishable as a felony under Alabama or federal law or of any other crime that involves moral turpitude under that law. If his conviction is reversed, suspension terminates, and he shall be paid his salary for the period of suspension. If he is suspended and his conviction becomes final, the supreme court shall remove him from office.

4. This amendment is self-executing. The commission is authorized and directed to make rules not inconsistent with the provisions of this amendment implementing this amendment and providing for the confidentiality of proceedings.

5. The provisions of article VII, sections 173 and 174 are hereby repealed insofar as they relate to a judge as defined herein.

6. The legislature is authorized to provide a retirement program for judges of the circuit courts and various appellate courts now or hereafter created in this state.

Amendment 318 ratified

Special Property Tax for Library Service in Morgan County.

The court of county commissioners, board of revenue or like governing body of Morgan county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes, now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding 5 mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property in the county as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for purposes of library service; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. Elections under this amendment shall be called, held and conducted in the same way as elections on special school district tax levies.

Amendment 319 ratified

Special Property Tax for Public Library Purposes in Baldwin County and Municipalities Therein.

A. In addition to all taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution of Alabama, including amendment CCLXIX [269], Baldwin county or any incorporated municipality within such county which supports, jointly supports, or proposes to support a public library is hereby authorized to levy and collect a special tax of not more than forty-five cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property within such county or municipality as assessed for state taxation. The proceeds of all such taxes shall be used exclusively for public library purposes; provided, that the levy of such tax, the rate of such tax and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county or municipality and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election.

B. Upon petition signed by four hundred or more qualified electors of Baldwin county to the Baldwin county commission or like governing body, or upon a petition signed by two hundred or more qualified electors of any municipality in such county to the governing body of such municipality, the county commission or the governing body of the municipality shall order an election to be held to determine whether a special tax shall be levied at the rate specified by the governing body of such county or municipality for public library purposes.

C. Elections under this amendment relative to additional county taxes for county public library purposes shall be held at the same time any other general or special election is held in which the voters of the entire county are qualified to vote, and elections under this amendment relative to municipal taxes for municipal library purposes shall

be held at the same time any other municipal election is held.

D. If authorized by the vote of the majority of the qualified electors voting in any such election called for the purpose, the county or city governing body, as the case may be, shall levy and collect, in addition to all other taxes authorized by law, a special annual ad valorem tax at the rate prescribed and approved by the electors voting in the election. If the majority vote at any election held hereunder is not in favor of the levy of the tax, or if at any such election the special tax shall be voted at a rate of less than forty-five cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property, then the governing body of the county or city, as the case may be, may from time to time thereafter call other elections hereunder on the levy of the special tax or on the increase of the rate thereof, up to but not exceeding a total amount of forty-five cents on each one hundred dollars of taxable property, and must call any such election at the next general or special countywide election or next municipal election, as the case may be, next following the receipt of a petition in the manner and form herein prescribed. Provided, however, that not more than one election upon the levy or upon the increase of the rate of the special tax shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. After the special tax shall have been levied for a period of three years, the governing body of the county or city, as the case may be, upon its own original action may from time to time thereafter call other elections hereunder on the question of the discontinuance of the tax or a reduction on the rate thereof, upon the payment in full of all obligations then outstanding, if any, and when a reduced rate will provide sufficient revenue for the purposes for which the tax was levied. If the majority of electors participating in the election vote in favor of the discontinuance or reduction in the rate of the tax, as the case may be, such discontinuance or reduction shall become effective for the tax year next succeeding the tax year in which such election is held. Provided, that not more than one election for the discontinuance or reduction in the rate of the special tax shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. All such elections shall be called, held and conducted in the same manner as are elections proposing the special tax.

Amendment 320 ratified

Bonds for School Buildings in Madison County.

Madison county is hereby authorized to incur indebtedness to the extent of not exceeding \$2,000,000 in aggregate principal amount, and to issue its bonds in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred, for the purpose of acquiring, providing, constructing and equipping public school buildings in said county and of acquiring sites therefor. Such bonds may be issued only after the question of the issuance thereof shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of said county and an election called for that purpose by the governing body of said county and a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of said bonds, which election shall be called, held, conducted, and canvassed, and may be contested, in the manner and within the time provided by the then existing laws of Alabama pertaining to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties; provided however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of said county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the voters of said county in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds, and in that event no additional election by the electors of said county shall be required to authorize the issuance of said bonds. In the event the majority of the qualified electors of said county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment should not vote in favor of the adoption thereof, or in the event the majority vote at any election held in said county pursuant to the provisions of this amendment after its adoption is not in favor of the issuance of the bonds proposed at said election, the governing body of said county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of said bonds, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. The power to become indebted and to issue bonds in evidence of such indebtedness shall be in addition to all other powers which the said county may have under the constitution and laws of Alabama, and any bonds issued pursuant to this amendment shall not be chargeable against the amount of indebtedness which said county may incur under the constitution and laws of Alabama in effect prior to the adoption of this amendment. All bonds issued under

this amendment shall be general obligations of the county secured by an irrevocable pledge of its full faith and credit, may (any provisions of the constitution and laws of this state to the contrary notwithstanding) be additionally secured by a special and irrevocable pledge of a sufficient amount of the proceeds from the special 1/4 of 1% ad valorem tax authorized by section 215 of the Constitution of Alabama, as amended, to be levied and collected by the county, shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the sale of said bonds respecting the maturities, sale, execution and redemption of bonds by counties.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 321 ratified

Court Costs, Fees, Compensation, etc., of Certain Officers in Lawrence County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Lawrence county, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, tax assessor, tax collector, and the clerk and register of the circuit court of Lawrence county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

Amendment 322 ratified

Registration of Electors by Mail.

The legislature may enact appropriate legislation providing further for the registration of qualified electors by authorizing and providing for registration by mail of persons, who, for such reasons as the legislature determines to be reasonable, are absent from the place of their residences at the time prescribed by law for registering to vote therein.

Amendment 323 ratified

Abolition of Offices of Justice of the Peace and Notary Public With the Powers and Jurisdiction of a Justice of the Peace.

Section 168 of article VI of the Constitution of Alabama is repealed insofar as it provides for the election or appointment of justices of the peace and notaries public with the powers and jurisdiction of a justice of the peace. The officers of all justices of the peace and notaries public with the powers and jurisdiction of a justice of the peace are hereby abolished. The legislature shall not authorize or provide for the election or appointment of justices of the peace or notaries public with the powers and jurisdiction of a justice of the peace, nor shall the governor be authorized or have the power to appoint notaries public with the powers of a justice of the peace. Inferior courts existing in lieu of justices of the peace shall continue in existence until abolished by the legislature and shall in no way be affected by the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 324 ratified

Special Tax for Improving Enforcement of Laws Relative to, and Providing Facilities for, Juveniles in Lee County.

Lee county shall have power to levy and collect a special county tax not exceeding ten cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the county as assessed for state taxation in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized, the proceeds of which shall be used for the purpose of improving the enforcement in Lee county of laws relative to neglected, delinquent and dependent children and enlarging, improving and providing new services to and facilities for handling neglected, delinquent and dependent children, including capital improvements for such purposes, provided the rate of the tax and the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election.

If a majority of the qualified electors of Lee county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof, the governing body of Lee county must levy and collect the special tax as herein authorized at the maximum rate specified for each of the ... tax years next ensuing.

If a majority of the qualified electors of Lee county voting on this amendment vote against its adoption, the governing body of Lee county may thereafter from time to time call other elections on the question of levying the special tax as herein authorized and must call such an election within three months after receipt by the said county governing body of a petition signed by not less than five percent of the qualified electors of Lee county. After the special tax herein authorized shall have been levied for a period of ... years, the governing body of Lee county shall, on petition signed by not less than five percent of the qualified electors of the county, call an election on the question of discontinuance of the tax. If a majority of the electors voting upon the question shall vote in favor of discontinuance of the tax then the special tax shall be discontinued at the end of the tax year following the election. Such elections shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed in such manner as the governing board of Lee County shall provide.

The county governing body and any city or town of Lee county may from time to time appropriate county or municipal funds, as the case may be, for the same purposes for which the additional taxes hereby authorized may be levied.

Amendment 325 ratified

Amendment of Section 217.

Classification of taxable property for purposes of ad valorem taxation; taxable property to be taxed by state, counties, municipalities, etc., at same rate; assessment ratios for purposes of ad valorem taxation; increase or decrease of ad valorem tax rate by counties, municipalities, etc.; exemption of state, county and municipal property and property used for religious, educational or charitable purposes from taxation; legislature may provide exemptions from taxation; interpretation of authority for counties, municipalities, etc., to levy taxes, incur indebtedness, etc., in relation to assessment of property; maximum rate of ad valorem tax in any one taxable year.

(a) All taxable property within this state, not exempt by law, shall be divided into the following classes for the purposes of ad valorem taxation:

Class I. All property of utilities used in the business of such utilities,

Class II. All property not otherwise classified,

Class III. All agricultural, forest and residential property.

(b) With respect to ad valorem taxes levied by the state, all taxable property shall be forever taxed at the same rate, and such property shall be assessed for ad valorem tax purposes according to the classes thereof as herein defined at the following ratios of assessed value to the fair and reasonable market value of such property:

Class I. 30 per centum

Class II. 25 per centum

Class III. 15 per centum

(c) With respect to ad valorem taxes levied by counties, municipalities or other taxing authority, all taxable property shall be forever taxed at the same rate, and such property shall be assessed for ad valorem tax purposes according to the classes of property defined in paragraph (a) herein and at the same ratios of assessed value to the fair and reasonable market value thereof as fixed in paragraph (b) herein, provided, however, that the legislature may vary the ratio of assessed value to the fair and reasonable market value as to any class of property as defined in paragraph (b) herein, and provided, further, that the legislature may fix a uniform ratio of assessment of all property within a county defined in paragraph (a) herein as Class II and III and may fix a different ratio of assessment for property defined in paragraph (a) as Class I. Such ratios as herein authorized may vary among counties so long as each such ratio is uniform within a county.

No class of property shall have a ratio of assessed value to fair and reasonable market value of less than 15 per centum nor more than 35 per centum.

(d) A county, municipality, or other taxing authority may decrease any ad valorem tax rate at any time, provided such decrease shall not jeopardize the payment of any bonded indebtedness secured by such tax. When the tax assessor of each county shall complete the assembly of the assessment book for his county for the ad valorem tax year immediately following the adoption of this amendment and the computation of ad valorem taxes that will be paid upon such assessment, he shall certify to each authority within his county that levies an ad valorem tax the amount of ad valorem tax that will be produced by every levy in that year but excluding for this purpose any assessment of property added to the tax rolls of such county for the tax year in which such certification is made that was not included on the tax rolls for the next preceding tax year. If it shall appear that the estimated ad valorem tax receipts from any levy so estimated shall be less than the receipts from the same levy during the next preceding ad valorem tax year, then the levying authority shall increase each tax rate by such millage as is necessary to produce revenue that is not less than and that is substantially equal to that received during such immediately preceding tax year. It is further provided that any and all millage adjustments shall be made in increments of not less than 1/2 mill. The adjustment herein required shall be made only one time and shall be made in the ad valorem tax year immediately following the adoption of this amendment.

(e) Any county, municipality, or other taxing authority may increase the rate at which ad valorem taxes are levied above the limit now provided in the Constitution provided that the proposed increase shall have been (1) proposed by the authority having power to levy the tax after a public hearing on such proposal, (2) thereafter approved by an act of the legislature, and (3) subsequently approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors of the area in which the tax is to be levied or increased who vote on the proposal.

(f) The legislature is authorized to enact legislation to implement the provisions of this amendment, and may provide for exemptions from taxation; provided, however, that any statutory exemption existing prior to the adoption of this amendment shall not be repealed, except by subsequent legislative act, and shall remain in full force and effect.

(g) Wherever any constitutional provision or statute provides for, limits or measures the power or authority of any county, municipality or other taxing authority to levy taxes, borrow money, or incur indebtedness in relation to the assessment of property therein for state taxes or for state and county taxes such provision shall mean as assessed for county or municipal taxes as the case may be.

(h) Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, ad valorem taxes shall never exceed 1 1/2% of the fair and reasonable market value of the property in any one taxable year.

(i) The following property shall be exempt from all ad valorem taxation: the real and personal property of the state, counties and municipalities and property devoted exclusively to religious, educational or charitable purposes.

Amendment 326 ratified

Consolidation of Officers and Regulation of Fees, Compensation, etc, of Officers in Dale County; Regulation of Court Costs and Charges in Dale County.

Provided that the approval of the act by the qualified electors of Dale county at a referendum election is a prerequisite to the taking effect thereof:

1. The legislature may from time to time, by general or local law, fix, alter and regulate the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances and compensation to be charged and received by any official of Dale county, including the right to place any of such officers on a salary, provide for the operation of their respective offices on such basis, and provide that any and all fees, commissions, percentages or allowances charged or collected by them shall be paid into the county treasury.
2. The legislature may from time to time, by general or local law, provide for the transfer of the duties, or part of the duties, of one county officer of Dale county to another officer of such county; or consolidate any two or more offices of such county into one county office and provide for the abolition of the office or offices left without duties, or create a completely new office in such county and transfer to such office a part of the duties of each of several other offices without abolishing any office in such county; provided that the officer or officers to fill the offices involved will be compensated for the performance of the duties of their offices by a salary fixed according to law.

Provided, however, no law enacted prior to the ratification of this amendment putting any officer of Dale county on a salary basis, nor any law providing for the consolidation of any offices of such county shall have any force or effect, even though such act provided that it should become effective upon adoption of an amendment to the Constitution authorizing such act.

The legislature may also, from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the cost and charges of courts in Dale county, and the method of disbursement thereof.

Amendment 327 ratified

Promotion of Production, Research, etc., of Swine and Swine Products.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of, the production, research, distribution, marketing, use, improvement and sale of swine and swine products. The legislature may provide for the promotion of swine and the swine industry by research, education, advertising and other methods, and the legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby producers of swine may by referendum held among the swine producers in this state levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of swine for the financing of any promotional program or activity in cooperation with processors, dealers and handlers, of swine and swine products. Provided, no assessment levied hereunder shall exceed five cents (5¢) on market hogs and three cents (3¢) on feeder pigs sold by swine producers. The legislature may make provisions for the nonpayment of assessments by swine producers and shall make provisions for the refund of assessments to any swine producer dissatisfied with the assessment program. The legislature shall provide for the collection and distribution of any such assessments or charges by dealers, handlers, processors and purchasers of swine and swine products and provide penalties for failure to make collection and distribution of such assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization organized for the promotion and betterment of swine and swine products to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among swine producers. The legislature may provide the manner by which such referendum is held, including the procedure for application for approval to conduct the referendum, the appropriate action to be taken by the state board of agriculture and industries on such application, the requirements and eligibility of the association or organization which will conduct such referendum, the procedures for voting and eligibility to vote in such referendum and the details of the conduct of such referendum.

The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities as authorized herein by the department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. The legislature shall further provide a procedure whereby said association or organization, and for reasonably necessary rules and regulations to be adopted by the state board of agriculture and industries to effectively carry out the intent and purposes herein enumerated. Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted in pursuance hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof. Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon swine and swine products.

Amendment 328 ratified

Amendment of Article VI.

Amendment of Article VI.

Article VI of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, and amendments 317 and 323 thereof, are hereby repealed and in lieu thereof the following article shall be adopted:

ARTICLE VI.

THE JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

6.01 Judicial power.

(a) Except as otherwise provided by this Constitution, the judicial power of the state shall be vested exclusively in a unified judicial system which shall consist of a supreme court, a court of criminal appeals, a court of civil appeals, a trial court of general jurisdiction known as the circuit court, a trial court of limited jurisdiction known as the district court, a probate court and such municipal courts as may be provided by law.

(b) The legislature may create judicial officers with authority to issue warrants and may vest in administrative agencies established by law such judicial powers as may be reasonably necessary as an incident to the accomplishment of the purposes for which the agencies are created.

6.02. The supreme court.

(a) The supreme court shall be the highest court of the state and shall consist of one chief justice and such number of associate justices as may be prescribed by law.

(b) The supreme court shall have original jurisdiction (1) of cases and controversies as provided by this Constitution, (2) to issue such remedial writs or orders as may be necessary to give it general supervision and control of courts of inferior jurisdiction, and (3) to answer questions of state law certified by a court of the United States.

(c) The supreme court shall have such appellate jurisdiction as may be provided by law.

6.03. Courts of appeals.

(a) The court of criminal appeals shall consist of such number of judges as may be provided by law and shall exercise appellate jurisdiction under such terms and conditions as shall be provided by law and by rules of the supreme court.

(b) The court of civil appeals shall consist of such number of judges as may be provided by law and shall exercise appellate jurisdiction under such terms and conditions as shall be provided by law and by rules of the supreme court.

(c) The court of criminal appeals and the court of civil appeals shall have no original jurisdiction except the power to issue all writs necessary or appropriate in aid of appellate jurisdiction of the courts of appeals.

(d) The court of criminal appeals shall have and exercise original jurisdiction in the issuance and determination of writs of quo warranto and mandamus in relation to matters in which said court has appellate jurisdiction. Said court shall have authority to issue writs of injunction, habeas corpus and such other remedial and original writs as are necessary to give it a general superintendence and control of jurisdiction inferior to it and in matters over which it

has exclusive appellate jurisdiction; to punish for contempts by the infliction of a fine as high as one hundred dollars, and imprisonment not exceeding ten days, one or both, and to exercise such other powers as may be given to said court by law.

6.04. Circuit court.

a) The state shall be divided into judicial circuits. For each circuit, there shall be one circuit court having such divisions and consisting of such number of judges as shall be provided by law.

(b) The circuit court shall exercise general jurisdiction in all cases except as may otherwise be provided by law. The circuit court may be authorized by law to review decisions of state administrative agencies and decisions of inferior courts. It shall have authority to issue such writs as may be necessary or appropriate to effectuate its powers, and shall have such other powers as may be provided by law.

6.05. District court.

The district court shall be a court of limited jurisdiction and shall exercise uniform original jurisdiction in such cases, and within such geographical boundaries, as shall be prescribed by law, provided that the district court shall hold court in each county seat and at such other places as prescribed by law. The district court shall have jurisdiction of all cases arising under ordinances of municipalities in which there is no municipal court and shall hold court in each incorporated municipality of a population of 1000 or more where there is no municipal court at places prescribed by law.

6.06. Probate court.

There shall be a probate court in each county which shall have jurisdiction as may be provided by law.

6.065 Municipal courts.

All municipal courts shall have uniform original jurisdiction limited to cases arising under municipal ordinances as prescribed by law. Judges of municipal courts shall be licensed to practice law in the state and have such other qualifications as the legislature may prescribe. A municipal judge may serve as a judge of more than one municipal court. Expenses of municipal courts and compensation of municipal judges shall be paid in a manner prescribed by law notwithstanding the provisions of section 6.09 of this article. Municipal judges shall be appointed and vacancies filled by the governing body of the municipality, in accordance with uniform terms, conditions and procedures as may be provided by law, notwithstanding the provisions of sections 6.13, 6.14 and 6.15 of this article. The prohibited activities of section 6.08(a) and (b) shall not be applicable to a judge of a municipal court.

The governing body of a municipality shall have the right to elect at any time to abolish the municipal court within its limits. If such election is exercised, the jurisdiction of the court abolished shall be transferred to the district court of the district in which the municipality is located. The governing body of a municipality, may, at its election, re-establish a municipal court after appropriate notice.

6.07 Qualifications of judges.

Judges of the supreme court, courts of appeals, circuit court and district court shall be licensed to practice law in this state and have such other qualifications as the legislature may prescribe. Judges of the probate court shall have such qualifications as may be provided by law.

6.08. Prohibited activities.

(a) No judge of any court of this state shall, during his continuance in office, engage in the practice of law or receive any remuneration for his judicial service except the salary and allowances authorized by law.

(b) No judge, except a judge of a probate court, shall seek or accept any nonjudicial elective office, or hold any other office of public trust, excepting service in the military forces of the state or federal governments.

(c) The supreme court shall adopt rules of conduct and canons of ethics, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution, for the judges of all courts of this State.

6.09 Judicial compensation.

(a) A state judicial compensation commission is hereby created which shall recommend the salary and expense allowances to be paid from the state treasury for all the judges of this state except for judges of the probate court. The commission shall consist of five members; one shall be appointed by the governor, one by the president of the senate, one by the speaker of the house, and two by the governing body of the Alabama state bar.

(b) Members of the judicial compensation commission shall serve for terms of four years. Any vacancy on the commission shall be filled in the same manner in which such position was originally filled. The legislature shall appropriate sufficient funds for the expenses of the commission.

(c) No member of the commission shall hold any other public office, or office in any political party, and no member of the commission shall be eligible for appointment to a state judicial office so long as he is a member of the commission and for two years thereafter.

(d) The commission may submit a report to the legislature at any time within the first five calendar days of any session. The recommendations of the commission shall become law unless rejected by a joint resolution or altered by an act of the legislature at the session to which the report is submitted. The compensation of a judge shall not be diminished during his official term.

6.10 Administration.

The chief justice of the supreme court shall be the administrative head of the judicial system. He shall appoint an administrative director of courts and other needed personnel to assist him with his administrative tasks. The chief justice may assign appellate justices and judges to any appellate court for temporary service and trial judges, supernumerary justices and judges, and retired trial judges and retired appellate judges for temporary service in any court. Adequate and reasonable financing for the entire unified judicial system shall be provided. Adequate and reasonable appropriations shall be made by the legislature for the entire unified judicial system, exclusive of probate courts and municipal courts. The legislature shall receive recommendations for appropriations for the trial courts from the administrative director of courts and for the appellate courts from each such court.

6.11 Power to make rules.

The supreme court shall make and promulgate rules governing the administration of all courts and rules governing practice and procedure in all courts; provided, however, that such rules shall not abridge, enlarge or modify the substantive right of any party nor affect the jurisdiction of circuit and district courts or venue of actions therein; and provided, further, that the right of trial by jury as at common law and declared by section 11 of the Constitution of Alabama 1901 shall be preserved to the parties inviolate. These rules may be changed by a general act of statewide application.

6.12. Number of circuit and district judges.

(a) The supreme court shall establish criteria for determining the number and boundaries of judicial circuits and districts, and the number of judges needed in each circuit and district. If the supreme court finds that a need exists for increasing or decreasing the number of circuit or district judges, or for changing the boundaries of judicial circuits or districts, it shall, at the beginning of any session of the legislature, certify its findings and recommendations to the legislature.

(b) If a bill is introduced at any session of the legislature to increase or decrease the number of circuit or district judges, or to change the boundaries of any judicial circuit or district, the supreme court must, within three weeks, report to the legislature its recommendations on the proposed change. No change shall be made in the number of circuit or district judges, or the boundaries of any judicial circuit or district unless authorized by an act adopted after the recommendation of the supreme court on such proposal has been filed with the legislature.

(c) An act decreasing the number of circuit or district judges shall not affect the right of any judge to hold his office for his full term.

6.13. Election of judges.

All judges shall be elected by vote of the electors within the territorial jurisdiction of their respective courts.

6.14. Vacancies in judicial office.

The office of a judge shall be vacant if he dies, resigns, retires, or is removed. Vacancies in any judicial office shall be filled by appointment by the governor; however, vacancies occurring in any judicial office in Jefferson county shall be filled as now provided by amendments 83 and 110 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 and vacancies occurring in Shelby, Madison, Wilcox, Monroe, Conecuh, Clarke, Washington, Henry, Etowah, Walker, Tallapoosa, Pickens, Greene, Tuscaloosa, St. Clair county shall be filled as provided in the Constitution of 1901 with amendments now or hereafter adopted, or as may be otherwise established by a properly advertised and enacted local law. A judge, other than a probate judge, appointed to fill a vacancy, shall serve an initial term lasting until the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the next general election held after he has completed one year in office. At such election such judicial office shall be filled for a full term of office beginning at the end of the appointed term.

6.15. Tenure of office.

(a) The term of office of each judge of a court of the judicial system of this state shall be six years.

(b) A law reducing the number of judges of the supreme court or of a court of appeals shall be without prejudice to the right of the judges affected to seek retention in office. The reduction shall become effective when a vacancy in the affected court occurs.

6.16. Retirement.

The legislature shall provide by law for the retirement of judges, including supernumerary judges, with such conditions, retirement benefits, and pensions for them and their dependents as it may prescribe. No person shall be elected or appointed to a judicial office after reaching the age of seventy years, provided that a judge over the age of seventy may be appointed to the office of supernumerary judge if he is not eligible to receive state judicial retirement benefits.

6.17. Judicial inquiry commission.

(a) A judicial inquiry commission is created consisting of seven members. The supreme court shall appoint one appellate justice or judge and the circuit judges' association shall appoint two judges of the circuit as members of the commission. The governor shall appoint two persons who are not lawyers and the governing body of the Alabama state bar shall appoint two members of the state bar to serve as members of the commission. The commission shall select its own chairman. The terms of the members of the commission shall be four years. A vacancy on the commission shall be filled for a full term in the manner the original appointment was made.

(b) The commission shall be convened permanently with authority to conduct investigations, receive or initiate complaints concerning any judge of a court of the judicial system of this state. The commission shall file a complaint with the court of the judiciary in the event that a majority of the members of the commission decide that a reasonable basis exists, (1) to charge a judge with violation of any canon of judicial ethics, misconduct in office, failure to perform his duties, (2) to charge that the judge is physically or mentally unable to perform his duties. All proceedings of the commission shall be confidential except the filing of a complaint with the court of the judiciary. The commission shall prosecute the complaints.

(c) The supreme court shall adopt rules governing the procedures of the commission.

(d) The commission shall have subpoena power and authority to appoint and direct its staff. Members of the commission who are not judges shall receive per diem compensation and necessary expenses; members who are judges shall receive necessary expenses only. The legislature shall appropriate funds for the operation of the commission.

6.18. Court of the judiciary.

(a) The court of the judiciary is created consisting of one judge of an appellate court, who shall be selected by the supreme court and shall serve as chief judge of the court of the judiciary, two judges of the circuit court, who shall be selected by the circuit judges' association, and two members of the state bar, who shall be selected by the

governing body of the Alabama state bar. The court shall be convened to hear complaints filed by the judicial inquiry commission. The court shall have authority, after notice and public hearing (1) to remove from office, suspend without pay, or censure a judge, or apply such other sanction as may be prescribed by law, for violation of a canon of judicial ethics, misconduct in office, failure to perform his duties, or (2) to suspend with or without pay, or to retire a judge who is physically or mentally unable to perform his duties.

(b) A judge aggrieved by a decision of the court of the judiciary may appeal to the supreme court. The supreme court shall review the record of the proceedings on the law and the facts.

(c) The supreme court shall adopt rules governing the procedures of the court of the judiciary.

(d) The court of the judiciary shall have power to issue subpoenas. The legislature shall provide by law for the expenses of the court.

6.19. Disqualification.

A judge shall be disqualified from acting as a judge, without loss of salary, while there is pending (1) an indictment or an information charging him in the United States with a crime punishable as a felony under a state or federal law, or (2) a complaint against him filed by the judicial inquiry commission with the court of the judiciary.

6.20. District attorneys, clerks, court revenue.

(a) A district attorney for each judicial circuit shall be elected by the qualified electors of those counties in such circuit. Such district attorney shall be licensed to practice law in this state and shall, at the time of his election and during his continuance in office, reside in his circuit. His term of office shall be for six years and he shall receive such compensation as provided by law. Vacancies in the office of district attorney and in his staff shall be filled as provided by law.

(b) Clerks of the circuit courts shall be elected by the qualified electors in each county for a term of six years. If the office of register in chancery continues to be provided by law then the clerk of the circuit court may also fill such office in a manner prescribed by law. Vacancies in the office of clerk of the circuit court shall be filled by the judge or judges of the circuit court who have jurisdiction over the county in which the office of clerk of the circuit court is located.

(c) Persons elected to the position of constable to assist the courts of the state as provided by law shall be subject to the same restrictions, rights and limitations as are specified in section 280 of the Constitution of 1901, and no law shall prohibit the receipt of fees for the performance of official duties of said position while holding any other elected or appointed office.

(d) The revenue from fines, forfeitures and court costs produced in district courts from the exercise of jurisdiction under municipal ordinances shall be apportioned between the municipality and the state as shall be provided by law.

6.21. Continuation of courts, district attorneys, clerks.

(a) All courts not herein authorized which are in existence at the time this article becomes effective shall retain their powers for four years, unless sooner terminated by act of the legislature.

(b) All judges of the supreme court, court of criminal appeals, court of civil appeals and circuit courts shall retain their offices for the remainder of their respective terms.

(c) All justices of the supreme court in office when this article becomes effective shall be justices of the supreme court. All judges of the court of criminal appeals shall be judges of the court of criminal appeals. All judges of the court of civil appeals shall be judges of the court of civil appeals. All circuit judges in office when this article becomes effective shall be judges of the circuit courts. All city judges who are in office when this article becomes effective shall continue to be judges of their respective courts. All present city courts shall continue to function as provided by law for four years.

(d) All judges of any court in this state, excepting the supreme court, court of criminal appeals, court of civil appeals, circuit courts, probate courts, and city courts, whose salaries or compensation are paid by their respective counties,

who are qualified under the provisions of this article, and who are holding office at the time of the approval of this constitutional amendment by the legislature and on the date of the establishment of the district court, shall be commissioned judges of the district court. Each such judge, accepting commission as a district judge, shall serve an initial term lasting until the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the next general election after he has completed three years in office as a district judge. At such election said judicial office shall be filled for a full term of office beginning at the end of the term for which such judge was commissioned.

(e) In the event a city ceases to have a city or municipal court, all judges of any city court in this state in cities which have more than one such judge at the time of approval of this constitutional amendment by the legislature and on the date of the establishment of the district court, if otherwise qualified under the provisions of this article, shall be commissioned judges of the district court. Each such judge accepting commission as a district judge shall serve an initial term lasting until the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the next general election after he has completed three years in office as a district judge. At such election said judicial office shall be filled for a full term of office beginning at the end of the term for which such judge was commissioned.

(f) All district attorneys of any circuit of this state, who are qualified under the provisions of this article, and who are holding office at the time of the approval of this constitutional amendment by the electors of the state, shall retain their offices for the remainder of their respective terms.

(g) All clerks of the circuit court of this state, who are holding office at the time of the approval of this constitutional amendment by the electors of the state, shall retain their offices for the remainder of their respective terms.

(h) Except to the extent inconsistent with the provisions of this article, all provisions of law and rules of court in force on the effective date of this article shall continue in effect until superseded in the manner authorized by the Constitution.

Amendment 329 ratified

Special District Tax for Hamilton Special School District in Marion County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may hereafter be authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the county commission or other governing body of Marion county shall, subject to an election in the Hamilton special school district in such county, as hereby created, have power to levy and collect a special district tax of not exceeding one dollar on each one hundred dollars of taxable property in such district for capital outlay purposes for the Marion county school system within said special district. Hamilton special school district shall be composed of the following area (all in Marion county and in the several beats (election precincts) of such county hereinafter named, as such beats are established pursuant to law, when this amendment is ratified): All of beats 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 17; in beat 6, Range 14 West, Township 9 S, Sections 4, 9, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36, and in Range 13 W, Township 9 S, Sections 19, 20, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33; in beat 10, Range 13 W, Township 10 S, Sections 26, 35, and 36, and in Range 12 W, Township 10 S, Section 31, and in Range 13 W, Township 11 S, all of Sections 1 and 2 north of the Buttahatchee river, and in Range 12 W, Township 11 S, all of Sections 4, 5 and 6 north of the Buttahatchee river; in beat 11, Range 12 W, Township 11 S, Sections 8, 16, 17, and 18, and all of Sections 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 south of the Buttahatchee river, and in Range 13 W, Township 11 S, Sections 11, 13, 14, and 23 and all of Sections 1, 2, and 12 south of the Buttahatchee river; and in beat 16, Range 13 W, Township 11 S, Sections 19, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29, 30, and 31, and in Range 14 W, Township 11 S, Sections 24, 25, 26, 35, and 36, and in Range 14 W, Township 12 S, Section 2. No tax shall be levied hereunder unless the rate of such tax, the time such tax is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors in Hamilton special school district and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. Any election on such district tax shall be called and held, the result declared, and the tax levied and collected in the same manner as now or hereafter provided by law in the case of school district taxes authorized by amendment 3 to the Constitution of Alabama, except that no county-wide tax shall be required as a conditioned precedent for a district tax under this amendment. The holding of one election shall not preclude a later election in Hamilton district, but no election in

such district shall be held within two years from the date of the last election held in such district under the authority of this amendment. The proceeds of the special district tax shall be used only for public school capital outlay purposes in the district; but may be pledged to secure the payment of principal and interest on warrants or other evidences of indebtedness issued and sold for public school capital outlay purposes in such district by the county school board or other public body charged with the duties, powers and authority of conducting and operating the public schools in Hamilton district; which pledge shall take priority as provided in such warrants or other evidence of indebtedness and is in consonance with the provisions of existing law, at the time of the issuance and sale of the said warrants, touching the issue and sale of warrants of school bodies for capital outlay purposes. The power to levy, granted by this amendment, will not be exhausted by one election but shall remain a continuing grant unless and until it be repealed by subsequent constitutional action.

This amendment shall be self executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 330 ratified

Consolidation of Morgan County Offices.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local law, provide for the transfer of the duties, or part of the duties, of one county officer of Morgan county to another officer of such county; or consolidate any two or more offices of such county into one county office and provide for the abolition of the office or offices left without duties, or create a completely new office in such county and transfer to such office a part of the duties of each of several other offices without abolishing any office in such county; provided that the officer or officers to fill the offices involved will be compensated for the performance of the duties of their offices by a salary fixed according to law.

Amendment 331 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Officers, of Cleburne County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Cleburne county, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate or by any other officer of Cleburne county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid. Provided, that no law changing the method or basis for compensating such officers shall become effective unless it is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose.

Amendment 332 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Certain Officers, of Bibb County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Bibb county and approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Bibb county at a referendum election, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the probate judge, the circuit clerk and the register, the tax assessor, and the tax collector of Bibb county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, then any law theretofore passed which places any officers in Bibb county on a salary basis, or any law fixing, regulating, and altering the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries of any officer in Bibb county, may become effective

without any other election having been held thereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote against its approval, then such act or acts shall have no further force or effect.

Amendment 333 ratified

Special Property Tax for Recreational Purposes in Tuscaloosa County.

The county commission or like governing body of Tuscaloosa county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes, now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding 10 mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property in the county as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for developing parks and multi-recreation areas and facilities, and for other recreational purposes; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the county and voted for by a majority of those voting at such election. Such governing body may also become indebted, and in evidence of such indebtedness issue and sell interest bearing bonds in an amount not to exceed \$20,000,000.00 in principal amount, provided that before the issuance of such bonds the question of whether such bonds shall be issued shall have first been submitted to and approved by the qualified electors of Tuscaloosa county at an election. Both the question of levying the tax and the issuing and selling of bonds may be submitted at the same election; or either question may be submitted at a separate election. Either the tax may be levied but no bonds issued, or bonds may be issued and no tax levied hereunder, if other funds are available for the payment of the bonds. The proceeds from taxes levied under authority of this amendment and of all bonds issued hereunder shall be used for developing parks and multi-recreation areas and facilities and for other recreational purposes and all or any part thereof may be appropriated to any county park and recreation authority duly organized and existing pursuant to law in such county and by such authority used for the above-named purposes. The elections provided for herein shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed, and may be contested, in the manner provided by law for the calling, holding, conducting, canvassing and contesting of county bond elections, and if the levy of the tax or the issuance of said bonds shall be authorized at any such elections, the tax may be levied and bonds may be sold and issued from time to time in the manner provided by law for the authorization and sale of county bonds. In the event the voters of Tuscaloosa county do not authorize the levy of the tax or the issuance and sale of said bonds at any election called hereunder then other elections may be called by the governing body of Tuscaloosa county from time to time until the voters of Tuscaloosa county do authorize the levy of the tax or the issuance and sale of said bonds; provided that no two elections shall be held within one year of each other. The indebtedness herein authorized shall be in addition to all other indebtedness authorized prior to the adoption of this amendment.

Amendment 334 ratified

Procedure for Filling Vacancies in Office of Judge of Circuit Court in Madison County; Madison County Judicial Commission.

All vacancies in the office of judge of the circuit court holding in Madison county which shall occur subsequent to January 15, 1974, shall be filled in the manner and for the time as herein provided.

The Madison county judicial commission is hereby created for the purpose of nominating to the governor persons for appointment to such a vacancy. The members of such commission shall be (a) two persons who are members of the Alabama state bar, and (b) two persons who are not members of the Alabama state bar, and (c) one judge of the circuit court holding in Madison county.

All members of such commission must reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding in Madison county.

The two members of such commission who are required to be members of the Alabama state bar shall be elected by the members of such bar who are regularly licensed and qualified to practice law in this state and who reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding in Madison county. The executive committee of the Madison county bar association or its successor body in such capacity, is authorized and directed to make rules, not inconsistent with this amendment, for the election of such members of such commission as are required to be members of the Alabama state bar. Such executive committee shall certify in writing to the probate judge of Madison county the names of the persons elected as members of such commission by such members of such bar.

The senator and representatives in the Alabama legislature residing in Madison county shall elect the two members of such commission who are required not to be members of the Alabama state bar. Such senator and representatives shall certify in writing to such probate judge the names of the persons elected by them as such members.

The judges of the circuit court holding in Madison county shall elect the member of such commission who is required to be a judge of such circuit court. The judges of such circuit court shall certify in writing to such probate judge the name of the circuit judge elected by such circuit judges as such member.

The terms of office of all members of such commission shall be six years, except that the terms of office of the two members of the state bar first elected shall be for one and two years respectively, and of the two members first elected by the senator and representatives in the Alabama legislature residing in Madison county shall be for three and four years respectively, and the term of the circuit judge elected by the circuit judges shall be for five years; the length of such terms of office of the members of such commission being indicated by the respective electing bodies. The terms of the initial members of such commission shall begin on January 16, 1974. A vacancy in the office of a member of such commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as such member was originally chosen.

The probate judge of Madison county shall record all such certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original certificates. Forthwith upon his receipt and recordation of every such certificate, he shall send to the governor a certified copy of every such certificate.

No member of such commission shall be eligible to succeed himself as such member or for nomination to the governor for appointment as judge of such circuit court during the term of office for which such member shall have been selected.

The members of such commission shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their services as such members. No member of such commission other than the member required to be a judge of the circuit court shall hold any public office, and no member of such commission shall hold any official position in any political party.

If, subsequent to January 15, 1974, a vacancy occurs in the office of judge of the circuit court holding in Madison county, such commission shall nominate to the governor three persons having the qualifications for such office. Such nomination shall be made only by the concurrence of a majority of the members of such commission. The governor shall appoint to the office in which the vacancy exists one of the three persons so nominated for such office. If the governor shall fail to make an appointment from the list within 30 days from the date it is presented to him, the appointment shall be made by the chief justice or the acting chief justice of the supreme court from the same list. The appointee shall hold such office until the next general election for any state officer held at least six months after the vacancy occurs and until his successor is elected and qualified; the successor shall hold office for the unexpired term and until his successor is elected and qualified.

Amendment 335 ratified

Special District School Tax in Calhoun County.

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, each school district in Calhoun county, except the school district comprising the city of Anniston, shall have the power to levy and collect for public school purposes in such district an annual special ad valorem tax on the taxable properties in such district at a rate not exceeding in any one year five mills on each dollar of the value of the said properties as the same shall be assessed for state taxation; provided, that the said special ad valorem district tax shall not be levied in any such district for any year prior to the year for which the said tax if levied will become due and payable on October 1, 1978; provided further, that prior to the levy of any special tax authorized in this paragraph, there shall be submitted to the electors of the district in which the tax is proposed to be levied, at a special election called for that purpose in the said district, the question of whether the said tax or any part thereof shall be levied, the rate thereof, the time it is to continue (which shall not exceed thirty years), and the purpose thereof, and the said tax shall be authorized at such election by a majority of the qualified electors of the said district who vote at such election; provided further, that if a majority of the qualified electors of any of the said districts participating in the election on the ratification of this amendment shall vote for the ratification of this amendment, then the approval of this amendment as expressed by the vote in said district in favor of its ratification shall, of itself, authorize the levy and collection of the said special tax for public school purposes in that district for a period of thirty years commencing with the levy for the tax year for which taxes will become due and payable to the said district on October 1, 1978.

Elections on the question of the levy of a district tax under the provisions of this amendment may be held at any time and from time to time, provided, that if at any such election held after the ratification of this amendment the proposal to levy the tax so submitted should be defeated then the proposal may not be submitted at another election held in the same district within six months from the last election held under this amendment. Each such election held after the ratification of this amendment shall be called and held, the results declared, and the tax levied and collected in the same manner as now or hereafter provided by law in the case of school district taxes authorized by amendment III [3] to the Constitution of Alabama, except that no county-wide tax shall be required as a condition precedent for a district tax under this amendment.

The funds arising from the district tax herein authorized to be levied shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the school district in which such district tax is levied. Nothing in this amendment shall be deemed to prevent the consolidation of any two or more school districts in Calhoun county in accordance with the applicable provisions of general law.

Pursuant to the amendment to the Constitution of Alabama sometimes known as amendment LXVIII [68] (proposed by Act No. 587 adopted at the 1947 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama), there is currently being levied in each school district in Calhoun county a special district school tax at the same rate as is specified in the first paragraph of this amendment, but the last tax year for which the special tax provided for in the said amendment LXVIII [68] is authorized to be levied is the tax year for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 1977. It is intended by this amendment to make provision for the authorization of the continued levy in each school district in Calhoun county, except the school district comprising the city of Anniston, of a special district ad valorem school tax at the same rate as, but in lieu of, the tax authorized in the said amendment LXVIII [68], to commence with the tax year next following the final tax year for which the tax provided for in the said amendment No. LXVIII [68] is authorized to be levied. It is not intended by this amendment to provide for or authorize an increase in the total rate of taxation for public school purposes in excess of that currently authorized to be levied in the several school districts in Calhoun county.

Amendment 336 ratified

Additional Tax in City of Mountain Brook.

(a) Any provision of the Constitution and laws of the State of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the city of Mountain Brook, in Jefferson county, shall have, in addition to the power to levy and collect ad valorem tax each year at the rate authorized immediately prior to the adoption of this amendment, the further power to levy and collect each year an additional tax of three-fourths of one per centum based upon the value of the property therein as fixed for state taxation. No such additional tax of three-fourths of one per centum shall be levied under the authority of this amendment unless a majority of the qualified electors of said municipal corporation voting in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for such adoption, provided that if the majority of the qualified electors of the said municipal corporation voting in the said election should not vote in favor of such adoption, or if the majority of the qualified electors of the said municipal corporation at any election subsequently called under the authority of this amendment should not vote in favor of the levy of the said additional tax at an election so called, the governing body of the said municipal corporation may call other elections hereunder on the question of the levy of said tax without further act of the legislature, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twenty-four consecutive months.

(b) Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the city of Mountain Brook, in Jefferson county, shall have, in addition to the power to levy and collect ad valorem tax each year at the rate authorized immediately prior to the adoption of this amendment, the further power to increase the rate at which ad valorem taxes are levied by said municipal corporation above the limit now provided in the Constitution provided that the proposed increase shall have been (1) proposed by the governing body of the said municipal corporation after a public hearing on such proposal, (2) thereafter approved by an act of the legislature, and (3) subsequently approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors of the said municipal corporation who vote on the proposal. Section 217 (h) of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 as amended providing that ad valorem taxes in the aggregate levied by all taxing authorities shall never exceed 1 1/2 % of the fair and reasonable market value of the property in any one taxable year shall not apply to property in the city limits of said municipal corporation provided that ad valorem taxes levied by the governing body of said municipal corporation shall never exceed 1 1/2% of the fair and reasonable market value of the property in any one taxable year.

(c) Each election held under the provisions hereof shall be ordered, held, canvassed and may be contested in the same manner as may be provided by law applicable to municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds.

Amendment 337 ratified

Fees, Compensation etc., of Certain Officers in DeKalb County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in DeKalb county, fix, regulate, and alter the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, sheriff, tax assessor, tax collector, and clerk and register of the circuit court of DeKalb county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers, to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

Amendment 338 ratified

Development, Improvement, etc., of State Docks Facilities at Port of Mobile.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama or amendments thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, the state shall have the power to engage in works of internal improvement in connection with the development, construction, improvement, expansion, and modernization of the state docks facilities at the Port of Mobile.

The legislature may by appropriate laws authorize the state to become indebted and, in evidence of such indebtedness, to sell and issue its interest bearing general obligation bonds, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding forty-five million dollars (\$45,000,000), for the purpose of paying costs of the development, construction, improvement, expansion and modernization of the state docks facilities at the Port of Mobile, as the said facilities may at any time exist. The full faith, credit, and taxing powers of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment at their respective maturities of the principal of and interest on the bonds. The said bonds may be additionally secured by any special pledges that may be provided for by the legislature.

The legislature may, by appropriate laws, provide for the organization of a public corporation with power to act for the state in the authorization, sale, issuance and approval of disbursement of proceeds of the said bonds and any bonds that may hereafter be issued for the purpose of refunding them. The said public corporation shall consist of the governor, the director of finance, one member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate, one member of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker and the director of the state docks department, each of whom shall be members of its board of directors.

The legislature shall implement the provisions of this amendment by appropriate legislation.

Amendment 339 ratified

Annual Sessions of Legislature; Length of Regular and Special Sessions.

Beginning in the year 1976 regular sessions of the legislature shall be held annually on the first Tuesday in May, or on such other day as may be prescribed by law, and shall be limited to 30 legislative days and 105 calendar days. Special sessions of the legislature convened in the manner provided by this Constitution shall be limited to 12 legislative days and 30 calendar days.

Amendment 340 ratified

Bonds for Acquisition, Construction, etc., of Mental Health Facilities.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted and to sell and issue interest bearing bonds, in addition to all other bonds of the state, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$15,000,000. Of the proceeds derived from the sale of said bonds, \$7,000,000 shall be used solely for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance thereof and for the acquisition, construction, equipment and improvement of mental health facilities, including security medical facilities for persons requiring security during treatment. The improvement of a facility shall be deemed to include the renovation, modernization, remodeling, and equipment of existing facilities and the construction of additions thereto; and the construction of a facility shall be deemed to include the acquisition of sites and equipment therefor. Proceeds in the amount of \$2,000,000 derived from the sale of bonds provided for herein shall be used solely for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance thereof and for the acquisition, construction, equipment and improvement of a seed technology center at Auburn University and a foundation seed processing facility at Headland, Alabama. Of the proceeds derived from the sale of said bonds \$6,000,000 shall be used for the purpose of paying the interest incurred in the sale and issuance of said bonds and for acquisition, construction and equipment of capital improvements, including, without limitation a facility or facilities for the housing, training, education and rehabilitation of prisoners. Said bonds shall be sold only at a duly advertised public sale or sales, upon sealed bids or at auction, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest total net interest cost to the state for the bonds offered for sale and shall be sold at not less than their face value plus accrued interest

thereon. Said bonds shall be direct general obligations of the state, and for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon the full faith and credit of the state are hereby irrevocably pledged. The bonds issued under this amendment and the income therefrom shall be exempt from all taxation in the state. The legislature shall adopt appropriate enabling legislation to carry out the intent and purpose of this amendment.

Amendment 341 ratified

Amendment of Section 106.

Article 4, section 106 of the Constitution of Alabama is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 106. No special, private, or local law shall be passed on any subject not enumerated in section 104 of this Constitution, except in reference to fixing the time of holding courts, unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall have been published, without cost to the state, in the county or counties where the matter or thing to be affected may be situated, which notice shall state the substance of the proposed law and be published at least once a week for four consecutive weeks in some newspaper published in such county or counties or if there is no newspaper published therein, then by posting the said notice for two consecutive weeks at five different places in the county or counties prior to the introduction of the bill; and proof that said notice has been given shall be exhibited to each house of the legislature through a certification by the clerk of the house or secretary of the senate that notice and proof was attached to the subject local legislation and the notice and proof shall be attached to the original copy of the subject bill and shall be filed in the department of archives and history where it shall constitute a public record. The courts shall pronounce void every special, private, or local law which the journals do not affirmatively show was passed in accordance with the provisions of this section.

This amendment shall be self-executing, and no enabling legislation shall be necessary.

Amendment 342 ratified

Debt Limit for Counties.

No county shall become indebted in an amount including present indebtedness, greater than five percentum of the assessed value of the property therein. Nothing herein contained shall prevent any county from issuing bonds, or other obligations, to fund or refund any indebtedness now existing or authorized by existing laws to be created.

Amendment 343 ratified

Local Public Service Districts in Shelby County.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, and financing of local districts within Shelby county as public corporations to provide any one or more of the following local public services: (a) fighting and prevention of fires; (b) furnishing water; (c) the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage and/or garbage, trash and solid wastes; (d) the operation of emergency medical services, including rescue and ambulance service; (e) the guarding and protection of lives and property; (f) any other local service permitted by such general or local law; authorize such district to fix and collect rates, fees and charges for such services, and to provide penalties for non-payment and liens upon the property within such district; authorize the borrowing of money and the issuance of bonds and other obligations by or on behalf of such district; provided that Shelby county shall not be responsible for any such bond or obligation and no such bond or obligation shall be chargeable against the limit on the debt of Shelby county. This amendment shall not have been adopted unless a majority of the qualified electors of Shelby county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof. Any law enacted at the current session of the legislature to authorize the creation of such districts in Shelby county and to implement this amendment to the Constitution (whether with or without published notice of intention) shall become effective upon the ratification of this amendment.

Amendment 344 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Certain Officers, of Blount County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Blount county and approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Blount county at a referendum election, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the probate judge, the tax assessor, and the tax collector of Blount county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, then any law theretofore passed which places any officers in Blount county on a salary basis, or any law fixing, regulating, and altering the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries of any officer in Blount county, may become effective without any other election having been held thereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote against its approval, then such act or acts shall have no further force or effect.

Amendment 345 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Certain Officers, of Coosa County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Coosa county, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, tax assessor, tax collector, and the clerk and register of the circuit court of Coosa county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

Amendment 346 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Certain Officers, of Chilton County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Chilton county, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, tax assessor, tax collector, the clerk of circuit court, and the register of circuit court of Chilton county; may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid. No law shall, however, be effective to increase or diminish the compensation of any such officer of Chilton county during the term for which he shall have been elected or appointed.

The legislature may also, from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the costs and charges of courts in Chilton county and the method of disbursement thereof.

Amendment 347 ratified

Amendment No. 331 Amended.

Amendment No. 331 of the Constitution of Alabama is amended so as to read as follows:

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Cleburne county, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate or by any other officer of Cleburne county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

Amendment 348 ratified

Local Legislation Regarding Delinquent Tax Notices in Madison County.

Notwithstanding any provisions of section 104 to the contrary, the legislature of the state of Alabama is authorized to enact local legislation applicable to Madison county to change the method prescribed by law for giving notice to delinquent Madison county taxpayers of their failure to pay taxes assessed against any property which is assessed to them and to further change the notice required to be given them prior to the sale for taxes of said property and to further change the method for issuing decrees for the sale of land and the trials held to determine whether such sales should be ordered and to change the method of giving notice to delinquent property owners to show cause why a decree of sale should not be rendered against them and to further change the method regarding the sale of said property and the report of the amount of taxes collected from said sale, provided that if the vote of the majority of electors in Madison county voting in the constitutional amendment election is unfavorable to the adoption of such amendment, said amendment shall not be adopted.

Amendment 349 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Certain Officers, of Washington County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Washington county, fix, regulate, and alter costs and charges of courts and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, the tax assessor, the tax collector, and the circuit clerk; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid. Provided that no law changing the method or basis for compensating such officers shall become effective unless it is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose or is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote on the adoption of this constitutional amendment as provided for in section 2 hereof [section 2 of Acts 1975, No. 611].

Amendment 350 ratified

Special Property Tax for Educational Purposes in City of Anniston.

The city of Anniston shall have power to levy and collect a special property tax in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of three mills on each dollar of taxable property situated therein, for educational purposes; provided that before such tax may be levied and collected the question of levying the tax, the purpose thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. The election shall be ordered, held, and conducted as provided by law for calling, holding and conducting district school tax elections.

Amendment 351 ratified

Special Property Tax for Control of Mosquitoes, Rodents and Other Vectors of Public Health and Welfare; Significance in Mobile County.

The legislature may authorize the levy and collection of a one mill ad valorem tax in Mobile county on real and tangible personal property that is subject to such tax under the laws of this state for the purpose of controlling mosquitoes, rodents and other vectors of public health and welfare significance, and any acts of the legislature on this subject applicable to Mobile county that were enacted prior to the adoption of this amendment are hereby validated and reconfirmed. Provided however, such enabling legislation shall not become effective until this amendment is, or its provisions are, approved by a majority of the electors of Mobile county voting at the election held for the purpose of approving this amendment, or at any election at which such a proposal is submitted. In the event this amendment passes, but does not receive a majority vote of the Mobile county electorate, voting at the election, the county governing body of Mobile county may by resolution submit a similar proposal to the electors of Mobile county for their approval; however, no such proposal shall be submitted to the people more often than every two years.

Amendment 352 ratified

Additional Property Tax in City of Vestavia Hills.

Section 1. In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied an additional tax of nine and three-fourths (9 3/4) mills based upon the value of the property therein as fixed for state taxation; provided the levy of said tax shall first have been approved by the qualified electors of Vestavia Hills as hereinafter provided.

Section 2. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of Vestavia Hills who vote thereon in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, the additional tax provided for in section 1 shall be levied and collected without any other election having been held thereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of Vestavia Hills who vote thereon vote against its approval, the tax shall not be levied unless the issue shall have been again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of Vestavia Hills and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year.

Amendment 353 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of County Officials, of Butler County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Butler county and approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Butler county at a referendum election, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the county officials of Butler county; and may place any or all of such officials on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officials to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, then any law theretofore passed which places any officials in Butler county on a salary basis, or any law fixing, regulating, and altering the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries of any official in Butler county, may become effective without any other election having been held thereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote against its approval, then such act or acts shall have no further force or effect.

Amendment 354 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 93.

Amendment XCIII [93] to the Constitution of Alabama, as submitted November 4, 1952, and proclaimed ratified November 19, 1952, shall be amended so that said Amendment XCIII [93], shall read as follows:

No moneys derived from any fees, excises, or license taxes, levied by the state, relating to registration, operation, or use of vehicles upon the public highways except a vehicle-use tax imposed in lieu of a sales tax, and no moneys derived from any fee, excises, or license taxes, levied by the state, relating to fuels used for propelling such vehicles except pump taxes, shall be expended for other than cost of administering such laws, statutory refunds and adjustments allowed therein, cost of construction, reconstruction, maintenance and repair of public highways and bridges, costs of highway rights-of-way, payment of highway obligations, the cost of traffic regulation, and the expense of enforcing state traffic and motor vehicle laws. The provisions of this amendment shall not apply to any such fees, excises, or license taxes now levied by the state for school purposes for this whole state or for any county or city board of education therein; and the legislature may provide for the manufacture, distribution and use on private passenger or pleasure motor vehicles of personalized license plates or tags, bearing some special letters, figures, mark or badge of distinction or personal prestige in lieu of the regular license plates or tags, and if it does so, the legislature must also require that such tags may be procured only by payment of a fee or charge, in addition to the regular fee, excise or license tax for the registration, operation or use of such motor vehicles upon the highways. The moneys derived from the additional charge made for such special or distinctive license plates or tags, in excess of the cost of the manufacture and distribution of such plates or tags, may be used in such manner as the legislature prescribes.

Amendment 355 ratified

Bonds, etc., for Navigable Waterway Between Demopolis and Tennessee River and Tombigbee Valley Projects.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama or amendments thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, the legislature may by appropriate laws authorize the state to engage in works of internal improvement within the state by fulfilling the requirements of local contribution, participation and cooperation now or hereafter established by the United States in connection with the construction and maintenance of a navigable waterway (herein called "the waterway") between Demopolis, Alabama, and the Tennessee river, including the relocation and construction of roads and bridges to and across the waterway, access roads and approaches thereto and the related engineering and rights-of-way acquisition expenses (herein called "the projects").

The legislature may by appropriate laws authorize the state to become indebted and, in evidence of such indebtedness, to sell and issue its interest-bearing bonds, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$25,000,000, for the purpose of enabling the state to discharge obligations at any time authorized by the legislature to be undertaken in connection with the waterway and the projects; provided, that the expenses incurred in connection with the sale and issuance of the bonds may also be paid from the proceeds thereof. Bonds evidencing the herein provided for indebtedness may be issued as direct general obligations of the state, and the state may pledge its full faith and credit to the prompt payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest thereon. The herein provided for indebtedness shall not be construed to prohibit or limit appropriations from the general fund of the state which from time to time may be made for the purpose of enabling the state to discharge obligations at any time authorized by the legislature to be undertaken in connection with the waterway and the projects.

The legislature may from time to time appropriate money from the general fund of the state to be expended by the Tombigbee valley development authority, a public corporation and agency of the state, and may also authorize the herein provided for general obligation bonds of the state to be sold from time to time under the supervision of said authority; provided, that all moneys received by said authority from the state, whether as appropriations from the

state's general fund or as proceeds of the sale of the state's bonds, shall be expended, except for reasonable administrative expenses to be paid from said appropriations and expenses of the sale of said bonds to be paid from said bond proceeds, in discharging obligations that the state is permitted under the foregoing provisions of this amendment to undertake in connection with the waterway and the projects and shall have directed said authority to undertake in its stead. The bonds authorized by this amendment shall be in addition to those authorized by that amendment to said constitution proposed by Act No. 248 adopted at the 1967 regular session of the legislature and ratified by the electors of the state on December 5, 1967.

Amendment 356 ratified

Consolidation, etc., of Offices in Elmore County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local law, provide for the transfer of the duties, or part of the duties, of one county officer of Elmore county to another officer of such county; or consolidate any two or more offices of such county into one county office and provide for the abolition of the office or offices left without duties, or create a completely new office in such county and transfer to such office a part of the duties of each of several other offices without abolishing any office in such county; provided that the officer or officers to fill the offices involved will be compensated for the performance of the duties of their offices by a salary fixed according to law.

In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of Elmore county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, then any law theretofore passed which consolidates county offices in Elmore county may become effective without any other election having been held thereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote against its approval, then such act or acts shall have no further force or effect.

Amendment 357 ratified

Amendment No. 357

The legislature may hereafter, from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances or salaries to be charged or received by the judge of probate of Geneva county, and may put such officer on a salary basis and provide for operation of his office on such basis.

Amendment 358 ratified

Fire Protection or Garbage and Trash Disposal Districts in Tuscaloosa County.

The legislature may provide for the formation of districts in Tuscaloosa county, Alabama, for establishing and maintaining a system for fighting or preventing fires or for the collection and disposal of garbage and trash or for either or both of said purposes; provided, however, that no territory lying within the limits of a municipal corporation at the time of the establishment of any such district shall be included within such district; and, provided further, that no such district shall be established unless the establishment thereof has been first approved by the qualified electors residing within the proposed district at an election held as provided for by a law or laws adopted by the legislature. The legislature may provide for submitting to the qualified electors residing within the proposed district the question of whether the district shall be created for either or both of the aforesaid purposes.

The expenses of establishing and maintaining any such fire fighting and fire prevention system or any such garbage collection and disposal system in a district, as the case may be, shall be paid for exclusively by the proceeds of a service charge, which shall be levied and collected in an amount sufficient to pay the said expenses.

Said service charges shall be levied upon and collected from the persons and property to whom and to which such services are available; and the service charge shall be a lien upon any such property.

The legislature may provide for the enlargement of a district by the addition of territory thereto, subject to the following conditions: (1) No territory lying within a municipal corporation at the time of such enlargement shall be added to a district; (2) subject to (3), next below, no territory shall be added unless the qualified electors thereof have approved the addition of such territory to the district at an election held for that purpose within the territory proposed to be added; (3) the legislature may provide a procedure whereby territory will be included in a district upon the written petition for its inclusion signed by at least seventy percent (70%) of the qualified electors residing within said territory.

The legislature shall adopt laws providing for the administration of the affairs of the district by the governing body of the county or by an agency of the county, and empowering the body administering the affairs of the district to levy and collect the service charge, subject to such restrictions and conditions as the legislature imposes. The legislature may provide that any such service charge shall not become effective unless approved by the electors of the territory, and may provide the conditions on which an election on such service charge shall be held.

The legislature shall be authorized to enact laws providing for the collection and enforcement of the service charges and of the lien for such charges.

The legislature may provide for the issuance of bonds for such districts with or without an election; provided, however, that all bonds issued hereunder shall be payable only out of the proceeds of the service charge authorized hereby, and no such bond shall be a general obligation of the county.

Amendment 359 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of County Officers, of Clay County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Clay county, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts and fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the county officers of Clay county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid. This amendment shall not have been adopted unless a majority of the qualified electors of Clay county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof.

Amendment 360 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of County Officials, of Coffee County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local law, fix, alter and regulate the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances and compensation to be charged and received by any official of Coffee county, including the right to place any of such officers on a salary, provide for the operation of their respective offices on such basis and provide that such officers shall continue to collect any and all fees, commissions, percentages or allowances prescribed by law to be charged or collected by them and shall pay all monies so collected into the county treasury.

The legislature may also, from time to time, by general, special or local law, fix, regulate and alter the cost and charges of courts in Coffee county, and the method of disbursement thereof.

This article of amendment shall not become operative unless the same is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Coffee county who vote thereon upon its submission.

Amendment 361 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 351.

It is hereby proposed that Amendment CCCLI [351] to the Constitution of Alabama which was proposed as Act No. 545, regular session, 1975, and proclaimed ratified by the governor of Alabama on January 22nd, 1976, be amended by striking out the word "tangible" in the first sentence of said Amendment CCCLI [351] so that the first sentence of said Amendment CCCLI [351] shall read as follows:

The legislature may authorize the levy and collection of a one mill ad valorem tax in Mobile county on real and personal property that is subject to such tax under the laws of this state for the purpose of controlling mosquitos, rodents and other vectors of public health and welfare significance, and any acts of the legislature on this subject applicable to Mobile county that were enacted prior to the adoption of this amendment are hereby validated and reconfirmed.

Amendment 362 ratified

Fees, Compensation, etc., of Elected Officials of Lee County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Lee county, fix, regulate, and alter the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the elected county officials of Lee county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid. Provided, that no law changing the method or basis for compensating such officers shall become effective unless it is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose.

Amendment 363 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 18.

Amendment XVIII [18] to the Constitution of Alabama, as last amended, is hereby further amended by adding the following paragraph to the end of said Amendment XVIII [18] as it currently reads:

Mobile county shall in addition have authority under this amendment to make cash payments for the construction and improvement of hard surfaced roads, hard surfaced bridges and surface water drainage facilities, or any thereof, in said county, from any proceeds accumulated under the provisions of this amendment over and above such proceeds as are now or hereafter pledged to the payment of the principal and interest on bonds, warrants, notes or other evidence of indebtedness authorized under this amendment; provided however that no such construction or improvement work shall be started and no such cash payments shall be made unless and until such construction or improvement project, specifically named and described, has been approved by the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast on the question at an election in which all of the qualified electors of said county may vote; and the probate judge and all other appropriate election officials shall, upon application by the county commission of said county no less than forty days prior to any such election, include on the ballot for such election the question of whether the voters do approve such specifically named and described construction or improvement project.

Amendment 364 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 328.

There shall be a probate court in each county which shall have general jurisdiction of orphans' business, and of adoptions, and with power to grant letters testamentary, and of administration, and of guardianships, and shall have such further jurisdiction as may be provided by law, provided, that whenever the circuit court has taken jurisdiction of the settlement of any estate, it shall have power to do all things necessary for the settlement of such estate, including the appointment and removal of administrators, executors, guardians, and trustees and including action upon the resignation of either of them.

Amendment 365 ratified

Fire Protection Districts in Baldwin County.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, and financing of local districts within Baldwin county as public corporations to provide fire fighting and prevention services; and may authorize such fire districts to fix and collect rates, fees and charges for such services, and to provide penalties for non-payment and liens upon the property within any such district; authorize the borrowing of money and the issuance of bonds and other obligations by or on behalf of any such fire district; provided that Baldwin county shall not be responsible for any such bond or obligation and no such bond or obligation shall be chargeable against the limit on the debt of Baldwin county; providing further that a majority of the qualified electors of any prospective fire fighting or prevention district created by any law authorized by this proposed amendment shall give their prior approval to the creation of any such fire district and the fees, rates, charges, bond issue or other financing agreements thereto in an election thereon. This amendment shall not have been adopted unless a majority of the qualified electors of this state who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof. Any law enacted at the current session of the legislature to authorize the creation of such fire districts in Baldwin county and to implement this amendment to the Constitution (whether with or without published notice of intention) shall become effective upon the ratification of this amendment.

Amendment 366 ratified

Consolidation, etc., of Offices of Tax Assessor and Tax Collector in Pickens County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local law, provide for the transfer of the duties of the tax assessor and tax collector of Pickens county to another officer of such county; or provide for the abolition of the said offices left without duties, or create a completely new office in such county and transfer to such office the duties of each of the said offices of tax assessor and tax collector in such county; provided that the officer to fill the newly created office will be compensated for the performance of the duties of said office by a salary fixed according to law.

In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of Pickens county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, then any law theretofore passed which abolished said county offices and consolidates their duties in a newly created office in Pickens county may become effective without any other election having been held thereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote against its approval, then such act or acts shall have no further force or effect.

Amendment 367 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Certain Officers, of Jackson County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Jackson county, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate, the tax assessor, and the tax collector, and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid. Provided that no law changing the method or basis for compensating such officers shall become effective unless it is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose or is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote on the adoption of this constitutional amendment as provided for in section 2 hereof [Section 2 of Acts 1977, No. 238].

Amendment 368 ratified

Abolition of Office of Constable in Morgan County.

The office of constable in Morgan county is hereby abolished. This amendment shall not be adopted unless a majority of the qualified electors of Morgan county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof.

Amendment 369 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 239.

1. As used in this amendment, these terms have the meanings here given them: "Service district" means a district for which this amendment provides; "expenses" means the expenses of establishing a district and providing the services and facilities the district is authorized to provide; and "county governing body" means the governing body of Jefferson county.

2. The county governing body may provide for the formation of service districts in Jefferson county for any of the following purposes: to establish and maintain a system to fight or prevent fires and to furnish medical rescue services; to establish and maintain a system to collect and dispose of garbage and trash; and to provide park and recreational facilities; provided, however, that no territory lying within the limits of a municipal corporation at the time of the establishment of any such district shall be included within such district; and provided, further, that no such district shall be established unless the establishment thereof has been first approved by the qualified electors residing within the proposed district at an election held as provided for by laws heretofore or hereafter adopted by the legislature, or as provided for by ordinances hereafter adopted by the county governing body.

A district may be established for any one or more of the foregoing purposes. The county governing body shall provide by ordinance for submitting to the qualified electors within the proposed district the question of whether the district shall be created for one or more of such purposes.

3. The district expenses shall be paid for by the proceeds of service charges or property taxes for which paragraphs 4 and 5, below, provide or by a combination of such proceeds; provided, however, that any funds received from the federal or state government may be used to pay such expenses.

4. Subject to the conditions stated in paragraph 6, below, the governing body of a district may by resolution levy service charges to pay the expenses of the district.

Said service charges shall be levied upon and collected from the persons for whom and the property for which the services and facilities are provided or made available; and such charges shall be a personal obligation of the occupant of such property and shall also be a lien upon such property, enforceable by the sale thereof.

5. Subject to the conditions stated in paragraph 6, below, the county governing body may by ordinance levy a tax on all taxable property in any district in addition to any other tax authorized by law, to pay the expenses of the district.

The taxes levied under this paragraph 5 shall be subject to the laws of the state providing for the following: the time for the levy and the payment of such taxes; the place of the payment of such taxes; the interest and penalties payable on such taxes not paid when due; the lien for the taxes; and the remedies for collection of such taxes unpaid.

6. No service charge or tax provided for by this amendment shall become effective unless before the creation of the district involved such service charge or tax shall have been approved at an election in the territory proposed to be established as a district held at the time of the election on establishing the proposed district or unless after the establishment of the district the following shall have occurred:

(1) The governing body adopting the resolution or ordinance shall have published the same in a newspaper of general circulation in the district involved;

(2) Thirty (30) days shall have elapsed since the publication of such resolution or ordinance; and

(3) One of these two events, called Event A and Event B, shall have occurred: Event A: Thirty days following the said publication shall have passed without any petition for an election being filed under the ordinance paragraph 7, below, requires; Event B: At an election called under said ordinance the proposed service charge or tax shall have been approved.

7. The provisions of this paragraph 7 shall be subject to the conditions and limitations of paragraph 11, below. The county governing body shall adopt ordinances providing for elections to be held on the question of the establishment of districts in the unincorporated areas of the county and on the question of levying service charges or taxes to pay the expenses. The county governing body shall adopt an ordinance, or ordinances, governing elections on the question of the creation of proposed districts in the unincorporated areas of the county and on the question of whether a proposed service charge or tax shall be levied. Such ordinances shall provide for the following: the form of petition for such election; the number of qualified electors residing in the district or in the proposed district required to sign the petition to secure such election; the conduct of the election and the time allowed for filing such petition in the office of the probate judge of the county, which time shall not be less than 30 days following the publication of the resolution or ordinance as required by paragraph 6, above.

8. The provisions of this paragraph 8 shall be subject to the conditions and limitations of paragraph 11, below. The county governing body by ordinance may provide for the enlargement of a district by the addition of territory thereto, subject to the following conditions: (1) No territory lying within a municipal corporation at the time of such enlargement shall be added to a district; (2) subject to (3), next below, no territory shall be added unless the qualified electors thereof have approved the addition of such territory to the district; (3) the county governing body may provide a procedure whereby territory will be included in a district upon the written petition for its inclusion signed by at least seventy percent (70%) of the qualified electors residing within said territory.

9. The provisions of this paragraph 9 shall be subject to the conditions and limitations of paragraph 11, below. The county governing body shall enact ordinances providing for the administration of the affairs of the district by the county governing body, the governing body of the district, or by any agency of the county and empowering the body administering the affairs of the district to levy and collect service charges provided for in paragraph 4, above, and the county governing body to levy the taxes provided for in paragraph 5, above, subject to the restrictions and conditions imposed by this amendment and such additional restrictions and conditions as the county governing body, by ordinance, may impose.

10. The county governing body, by ordinance, may provide for the issuance of bonds for such districts with or without an election; provided, however, that all bonds issued hereunder shall be payable only out of the proceeds of the service charges and taxes authorized hereby, and no such bond shall be a general obligation of the county.

11. The legislature may, from time to time, adopt laws governing service districts, including laws repealing any ordinance of the county governing body inconsistent with any law enacted by the legislature prior to the adoption of

this amendment. If there is any inconsistency between any law enacted by the legislature after adoption of this amendment and any ordinance adopted by the county governing body, the law shall prevail over such ordinance. In order for a law enacted subsequent to the adoption of this amendment to prevail over any ordinance in conflict with such law, repeal of such ordinance shall not be necessary, but such repeal of the conflicting ordinance shall be permissible.

Amendment 370 ratified

Local Public Service Districts in Shelby County.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, and financing of local districts within Shelby county as public corporations to provide any one or more of the following local public services: (a) fighting and prevention of fires; (b) the operation of emergency medical services, including rescue and ambulance service; authorize such district to fix and collect rates, fees and charges for such services, and to provide penalties for nonpayment and liens upon the property within such district; authorize the borrowing of money and the issuance of bonds and other obligations by or on behalf of such district; provided that Shelby county shall not be responsible for any such bond or obligation and no such bond or obligation shall be chargeable against the limit on the debt of Shelby county. This amendment shall not have been adopted unless a majority of the qualified electors of Shelby county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof. Any law enacted at the current session of the legislature to authorize the creation of such districts in Shelby county and to implement this amendment to the Constitution (with published notice of intention) shall become effective upon the ratification of this amendment.

Amendment 371 ratified

Fire Protection in Limestone County.

The Limestone county governing body is authorized in its discretion to establish fire districts within the geographical boundaries of Limestone county, said districts to exclude any corporate municipality which does not request through resolution of its governing body to be made a part of and subject to the provisions of this amendment. The county governing body, in its discretion, may establish, in lieu of or in addition to said fire districts, a county fire department to furnish county-wide fire protection.

The governing body may name a fire marshal for Limestone county, whose principal duty shall be the coordination of fire protection within the county including all fire departments and fire stations, either in the district or county, and their full-time and part-time employees. Upon the request of the county governing body the fire marshal shall submit a budget for the county fire department and shall perform such other tasks related to fire protection as may, from time to time, be assigned to him by the county governing body.

The governing body is hereby authorized to fix a county fire protection tax, which tax shall become effective upon the approval of a majority of electors within any particular fire district or other area of the county where the tax is to be levied. The tax fixed by the governing body shall be based upon the value of real and personal property assessed by affected property owners, as shown on the records of the tax assessor of Limestone county, Alabama, and shall be assessed and collected as are all ad valorem taxes in the county. The amount collected each year from assessment of this fire protection tax shall be paid into the county general fund and used in furtherance of fire protection within the affected area.

The county governing body is hereby authorized upon approval by resolution adopted by said governing body to adopt, amend and repeal regulations for the safeguarding of life and property from the hazards of fire and explosion in the county, which shall be known as the Limestone County Fire Protection Code. Such regulations shall have the force and effect of law and any violation thereof may, within the discretion of the county governing body, constitute a Class A misdemeanor, as defined in Act No. 607, S. 33 of the 1977 Regular Session (Acts 1977, p. 812), and upon

conviction thereof may be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment in the county jail, not to exceed one year, or both fine and imprisonment. Said code shall be effective in all unincorporated areas of the county and in those incorporated areas which choose to come under the provisions of this act.

The county governing body is hereby authorized to employ or to authorize the employment of a fire marshal, fire inspectors, firemen, secretarial and clerical employees and any other employees which it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this act and it is further authorized to make such expenditures for salaries, equipment, property (whether real, personal or mixed), or other expenses related to fire protection which it deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this amendment.

The legislature may provide for or amend, from time to time, any laws pertaining to fire districts in Limestone county.

Amendment 372 ratified

Compensation of County Officers and Restructuring or Abolition of Certain Offices in Geneva County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Geneva county, fix, regulate and alter fees, commissions, allowances and salaries, including the method and basis of the compensation to be charged or received by all of the county officers of Geneva county; and may place any or all of such officers on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances and percentages collectible by such officers to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local law, provide for the transfer of the duties of the tax assessor and tax collector of Geneva county to another officer of such county; or provide for the abolition of the said offices left without duties, or create a completely new office in such county and transfer to such office the duties of each of the said tax offices of tax assessor and tax collector in such county; provided, that the officer to fill the newly created office will be compensated for the performance of the duties of said office by a salary fixed according to law.

In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of Geneva county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, then any law theretofore passed which places any such officers in Geneva county on a salary basis, or any law fixing, regulating and altering the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances and salaries of any such officer in Geneva county, may become effective without any other election having been held thereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote against its approval, then such act or acts shall have no further force or effect.

Amendment 373 ratified

Amendment of Section 217.

Classification of taxable property for purposes of ad valorem taxation; taxable property to be taxed by state, counties, municipalities, etc., at same rate; assessment ratios for purposes of ad valorem taxation; increase or decrease of assessment ratios by counties, municipalities, etc.; increase or decrease of ad valorem tax rates by counties, municipalities, etc.; maximum amount of ad valorem tax; certain property to be assessed at current use value and not market value; exemption of certain property from ad valorem taxation; interpretation of authority for counties, municipalities, etc., to levy taxes, borrow money, etc., in relation to assessment of property; counties, municipalities, etc., authorized to levy additional ad valorem tax for costs of certain state-wide reappraisal of property.

(a) On and after October 1, 1978, all taxable property within this state, not exempt by law, shall be divided into the following classes for the purposes of ad valorem taxation:

Class I. All property of utilities used in the business of such utilities.

Class II. All property not otherwise classified.

Class III. All agricultural, forest and single-family owner-occupied residential property, and historic buildings and sites.

Class IV. All private passenger automobiles and motor trucks of the type commonly known as "pickups" or "pickup trucks" owned and operated by an individual for personal or private use and not for hire, rent or compensation.

(b) With respect to ad valorem taxes levied by the state, all taxable property shall be forever taxed at the same rate. On and after October 1, 1978, such property shall be assessed for ad valorem tax purposes according to the classes thereof as herein defined at the following ratios of assessed value to the fair and reasonable market value (except as otherwise provided in subsection (j) hereof) of such property:

Class I. 30 per centum.

Class II. 20 per centum.

Class III. 10 per centum.

Class IV. 15 per centum.

(c) With respect to ad valorem taxes levied by counties, municipalities or other taxing authorities, all taxable property shall be forever taxed at the same rate. On and after October 1, 1978, such property shall be assessed for ad valorem tax purposes according to the classes of property defined in subsection (a) hereof and at the same ratios of assessed value to the fair and reasonable market value thereof as fixed in subsection (b) hereof, except as otherwise provided in subsection (j) hereof and this subsection (such ratios being herein called "assessment ratios"). In connection with the ad valorem taxes that a county, municipality or other taxing authority is authorized or required to levy and collect pursuant to any provision of this Constitution, for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1978, any such taxing authority may, subject to criteria established by act of the legislature, by resolution of the governing body of that taxing authority, at any time not later than September 30, 1979, increase or decrease the assessment ratio applicable to any class of taxable property, such increase or decrease to be effective for ad valorem tax years beginning on and after October 1, 1978. If (1) a county, municipality or other taxing authority adjusts an assessment ratio pursuant to the preceding sentence and (2) the receipts from all ad valorem taxes levied by or with respect to such taxing authority during the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1978, exceed by more than five percent, or are less than 95 percent of, the receipts from such ad valorem taxes for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1977, then at any time not later than September 30, 1980, for ad valorem tax years beginning on and after October 1, 1979, the taxing authority may, subject to criteria established by act of the legislature, by resolution of the governing body of that taxing authority, adjust any assessment ratio applicable to any class of taxable property. On and after October 1, 1979, the governing body of any county, municipality or other taxing authority may, subject to criteria established by act of the legislature, at any time increase or decrease the assessment ratio applicable to any class of taxable property; provided, that any proposed adjustment to an assessment ratio to be made pursuant to this sentence, whether an increase or a decrease, shall have been (1) proposed by the governing body of the taxing authority after a public hearing on such proposal, (2) thereafter approved by an act of the legislature, and (3) subsequently approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors residing in the taxing authority who vote on the proposal at a special election called and held in accordance with the law governing special elections. No decrease in an assessment ratio pursuant to this subsection (c) shall be permitted with respect to either of the ad valorem tax years beginning October 1, 1978, and October 1, 1979, if such county, municipality or other taxing authority has increased any millage rate under subsection (e) of this section with respect to such ad valorem tax year. The legislature shall enact general laws applicable to all counties, municipalities and other taxing authorities regulating and establishing criteria for the exercise of the powers granted such taxing authorities to adjust assessment ratios as hereinabove provided. Such assessment ratios as herein authorized may vary among taxing authorities so long as each such assessment ratio is uniform within a taxing authority. Any decrease in any assessment ratio pursuant to this subsection shall not jeopardize the payment of any bonded indebtedness secured by any tax levied by the taxing authority decreasing the assessment ratio. Any action authorized by this subsection to be taken by a taxing authority, or the governing body thereof, shall, other than in the case of a municipality, be taken by resolution of the governing

body of the county in which such taxing authority is located acting on behalf of such taxing authority.

(d) With respect to ad valorem taxes levied by the state or by any county, municipality or other taxing authority, no class of taxable property shall have an assessment ratio of less than five per centum nor more than 35 per centum.

(e) A county, municipality or other taxing authority may decrease any ad valorem tax rate at any time, provided such decrease shall not jeopardize the payment of any bonded indebtedness secured by such tax. For the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1978, when the tax assessor of each county shall complete the assembly of the assessment book for his county for that ad valorem tax year and the computation of ad valorem taxes that will be paid upon such assessment, he shall certify to each authority within his county that levies an ad valorem tax the amount of ad valorem tax that will be produced by every levy in that ad valorem tax year but excluding for this purpose any assessment of new taxable property not previously subject to taxation (except "escaped" property as defined by law) added to the tax rolls of such county for the ad valorem tax year in which such certification is made that was not included on the tax rolls for the next preceding ad valorem tax year. Any county, municipality or other taxing authority, at any time not later than September 30, 1979, may increase the rate at which any ad valorem tax is levied by or with respect to that taxing authority above the limit otherwise provided in this Constitution, provided that the amount of the above-described certification of anticipated tax receipts with respect to such tax is less than 120 percent of the actual receipts from such tax for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1977, such increase to be effective for ad valorem tax years beginning on and after October 1, 1978; provided, that any such millage increase shall not exceed in mills the total of (i) the number of additional mills that is necessary, when added to the millage rate imposed with respect to such tax on each dollar of taxable property situated in the taxing authority for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1977, to produce revenue that is not less than and that is substantially equal to that received by the taxing authority with respect to such tax during such immediately preceding ad valorem tax year, plus (ii) a number of additional mills equal to 20 percent of the total mills imposed by that taxing authority with respect to such tax on each dollar of taxable property situated in the taxing authority for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1977. If, for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1978, the receipts from any ad valorem tax with respect to which any millage rate has been increased pursuant to the immediately preceding sentence are less than 95 percent of the receipts from such ad valorem tax for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1977, then at any time not later than September 30, 1980, the taxing authority may increase any millage rate with respect to such ad valorem tax in the manner provided in the immediately preceding sentence, such increase to be effective for ad valorem tax years beginning on and after October 1, 1979. It is further provided that all millage adjustments shall be made in increments of not less than one tenth (1/10) mill.

(f) On and after October 1, 1979, any county, municipality or other taxing authority may at any time increase the rate at which any ad valorem tax is levied above the limit otherwise provided in this Constitution; provided, that the proposed increase to be made pursuant to this subsection shall have been (1) proposed by the governing body of the taxing authority after a public hearing on such proposal, (2) thereafter approved by an act of the legislature, and (3) subsequently approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors residing in the taxing authority who vote on the proposal at a special election called and held in accordance with the law governing special elections. Any adjustments or other actions authorized to be made or taken pursuant to this subsection and subsection (e) hereof shall be made or taken by resolution of the governing body of such taxing authority, or if there is no such governing body and in the case of a taxing authority other than a municipality, by resolution of the governing body of the county in which such taxing authority is located acting on behalf of such taxing authority. The provisions of subsections (c), (e) and (f) of this section shall not apply to ad valorem taxes levied by the state.

(g) The legislature is authorized to enact legislation to implement the provisions of this section and may provide for exemptions from taxation; provided, that unless otherwise expressly provided, no amendment to this section shall be construed to repeal any statutory exemption existing on the effective date of any such amendment hereto.

(h) Wherever any constitutional provision or statute provides for, limits or measures the power or authority of any county, municipality or other taxing authority to levy taxes, borrow money or incur indebtedness in relation to the

assessment of property therein for state taxes or for state and county taxes, such provision shall mean as assessed for county or municipal taxes, as the case may be.

(i) Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, including any amendment thereto whenever adopted with respect to taxable property located in the city of Mountain Brook, the city of Vestavia Hills, or the city of Huntsville, the amount of ad valorem taxes payable to the state and to all counties, municipalities and other taxing authorities with respect to any item of taxable property described as Class I property shall never exceed 2 percent of the fair and reasonable market value of such taxable property in any one ad valorem tax year, such amount with respect to any item of Class II property shall never exceed 1 1/2 percent of the fair and reasonable market value of such taxable property in any one ad valorem tax year, such amount with respect to any item of Class IV property shall never exceed 1 1/4 percent of the fair and reasonable market value of such taxable property in any one ad valorem tax year, and such amount with respect to any item of Class III property shall never exceed 1 percent of the fair and reasonable market value of such taxable property in any one ad valorem tax year. Whenever the total amount of ad valorem property taxes otherwise payable by any taxpayer with respect to any item of taxable property shall exceed in any one ad valorem tax year the maximum amount of such taxes permitted by this section, such amount of taxes shall be reduced by subtracting that amount of tax due that is in excess of the amount of tax otherwise permissible under the Constitution. In connection with the taxation of any item of taxable property, the amount of tax to be subtracted with respect to each authority levying and collecting any ad valorem property tax shall be in the same proportion to the total amount of tax to be subtracted that the total number of mills on each dollar of taxable property situated in the taxing authority levied by such taxing authority bears to the total number of mills on each dollar of taxable property situated in the taxing authority levied by all taxing authorities with respect to such item of taxable property. Before sending to any taxpayer any notice relating to the collection of ad valorem taxes, the tax collector in each county shall determine whether any portion of the amount of ad valorem property tax otherwise due with respect to any item of taxable property shall be subtracted pursuant to the provisions of this subsection and shall apportion the amount to be subtracted in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

(j) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, on and after October 1, 1978, taxable property defined in subsection (a) hereof as Class III property shall, upon application by the owner of such property, be assessed at the ratio of assessed value to the current use value of such taxable property and not the fair and reasonable market value of such property. The legislature may enact laws uniformly applicable to the state and all counties, municipalities and other taxing authorities establishing criteria and procedures for the determination of the current use value of any eligible taxable property and procedures for qualifying such property for assessment at its current use value. The legislature may also enact laws uniformly applicable to the state and all counties, municipalities and other taxing authorities providing for the ad valorem taxation of any taxable property ceasing to qualify for current use valuation; provided, however, that any additional tax on taxable property ceasing to qualify for current use valuation shall not apply to more than the three ad valorem tax years immediately preceding such cessation of qualification (including as one such year the year in which cessation of qualification occurs).

(k) The following property shall be exempt from all ad valorem taxation: the real and personal property of the state, counties and municipalities and property devoted exclusively to religious, educational or charitable purposes, household and kitchen furniture, all farm tractors, all farming implements when used exclusively in connection with agricultural property and all stocks of goods, wares and merchandise.

(l) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, with respect to the costs of reappraisal incident to the state-wide reappraisal of property heretofore authorized by the legislature, each county, municipality or other taxing authority for ad valorem tax years beginning on and after October 1, 1978, may impose and levy an additional ad valorem tax of not more than two mills on all taxable property located in the taxing authority in order to reimburse itself for its payment of such costs of reappraisal or to pay any unpaid costs or its pro rata share of such unpaid costs of reappraisal. The taxes provided for in this subsection, or any pro rata part thereof, shall terminate at the end of the ad valorem tax year in which sufficient funds are received from the taxes to pay in full the said reappraisal costs and

any receipts from such taxes that are received during the ad valorem tax year of their termination that are not needed for the purposes specified herein may be used by the taxing authority levying the tax for general purposes of the taxing authority. The taxes authorized in this subsection shall not exceed in the aggregate, with respect to any item of taxable property located in the taxing authority, a total of two mills for all such taxes levied by all taxing authorities in a county and not two mills for each taxing authority in a county. If more than one such taxing authority in a county has paid or owes all or a portion of its reappraisal costs, such two mills shall be prorated among such taxing authorities in the county as they may agree, or if they cannot agree, in the percentage which each such taxing authority's costs of reappraisal bear to the total costs of reappraisal of all taxing authorities in the county. The provisions of this subsection shall apply only to the costs incurred by a taxing authority incident to the state-wide reappraisal of property heretofore authorized by the legislature, the amount of which costs shall be certified by the department of revenue, and shall not be applicable to any future reappraisals that may be required by law.

(m) If any portion of this section should be declared invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of any of the remaining portions of this section, which shall continue effective.

Amendment 373 ratified

Amendment of Section 217.

Classification of taxable property for purposes of ad valorem taxation; taxable property to be taxed by state, counties, municipalities, etc., at same rate; assessment ratios for purposes of ad valorem taxation; increase or decrease of assessment ratios by counties, municipalities, etc.; increase or decrease of ad valorem tax rates by counties, municipalities, etc.; maximum amount of ad valorem tax; certain property to be assessed at current use value and not market value; exemption of certain property from ad valorem taxation; interpretation of authority for counties, municipalities, etc., to levy taxes, borrow money, etc., in relation to assessment of property; counties, municipalities, etc., authorized to levy additional ad valorem tax for costs of certain state-wide reappraisal of property.

(a) On and after October 1, 1978, all taxable property within this state, not exempt by law, shall be divided into the following classes for the purposes of ad valorem taxation:

Class I. All property of utilities used in the business of such utilities.

Class II. All property not otherwise classified.

Class III. All agricultural, forest and single-family owner-occupied residential property, and historic buildings and sites.

Class IV. All private passenger automobiles and motor trucks of the type commonly known as "pickups" or "pickup trucks" owned and operated by an individual for personal or private use and not for hire, rent or compensation.

(b) With respect to ad valorem taxes levied by the state, all taxable property shall be forever taxed at the same rate. On and after October 1, 1978, such property shall be assessed for ad valorem tax purposes according to the classes thereof as herein defined at the following ratios of assessed value to the fair and reasonable market value (except as otherwise provided in subsection (j) hereof) of such property:

Class I. 30 per centum.

Class II. 20 per centum.

Class III. 10 per centum.

Class IV. 15 per centum.

(c) With respect to ad valorem taxes levied by counties, municipalities or other taxing authorities, all taxable property shall be forever taxed at the same rate. On and after October 1, 1978, such property shall be assessed for ad valorem tax purposes according to the classes of property defined in subsection (a) hereof and at the same ratios of assessed value to the fair and reasonable market value thereof as fixed in subsection (b) hereof, except as otherwise provided in subsection (j) hereof and this subsection (such ratios being herein called "assessment ratios"). In

connection with the ad valorem taxes that a county, municipality or other taxing authority is authorized or required to levy and collect pursuant to any provision of this Constitution, for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1978, any such taxing authority may, subject to criteria established by act of the legislature, by resolution of the governing body of that taxing authority, at any time not later than September 30, 1979, increase or decrease the assessment ratio applicable to any class of taxable property, such increase or decrease to be effective for ad valorem tax years beginning on and after October 1, 1978. If (1) a county, municipality or other taxing authority adjusts an assessment ratio pursuant to the preceding sentence and (2) the receipts from all ad valorem taxes levied by or with respect to such taxing authority during the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1978, exceed by more than five percent, or are less than 95 percent of, the receipts from such ad valorem taxes for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1977, then at any time not later than September 30, 1980, for ad valorem tax years beginning on and after October 1, 1979, the taxing authority may, subject to criteria established by act of the legislature, by resolution of the governing body of that taxing authority, adjust any assessment ratio applicable to any class of taxable property. On and after October 1, 1979, the governing body of any county, municipality or other taxing authority may, subject to criteria established by act of the legislature, at any time increase or decrease the assessment ratio applicable to any class of taxable property; provided, that any proposed adjustment to an assessment ratio to be made pursuant to this sentence, whether an increase or a decrease, shall have been (1) proposed by the governing body of the taxing authority after a public hearing on such proposal, (2) thereafter approved by an act of the legislature, and (3) subsequently approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors residing in the taxing authority who vote on the proposal at a special election called and held in accordance with the law governing special elections. No decrease in an assessment ratio pursuant to this subsection (c) shall be permitted with respect to either of the ad valorem tax years beginning October 1, 1978, and October 1, 1979, if such county, municipality or other taxing authority has increased any millage rate under subsection (e) of this section with respect to such ad valorem tax year. The legislature shall enact general laws applicable to all counties, municipalities and other taxing authorities regulating and establishing criteria for the exercise of the powers granted such taxing authorities to adjust assessment ratios as hereinabove provided. Such assessment ratios as herein authorized may vary among taxing authorities so long as each such assessment ratio is uniform within a taxing authority. Any decrease in any assessment ratio pursuant to this subsection shall not jeopardize the payment of any bonded indebtedness secured by any tax levied by the taxing authority decreasing the assessment ratio. Any action authorized by this subsection to be taken by a taxing authority, or the governing body thereof, shall, other than in the case of a municipality, be taken by resolution of the governing body of the county in which such taxing authority is located acting on behalf of such taxing authority.

(d) With respect to ad valorem taxes levied by the state or by any county, municipality or other taxing authority, no class of taxable property shall have an assessment ratio of less than five per centum nor more than 35 per centum.

(e) A county, municipality or other taxing authority may decrease any ad valorem tax rate at any time, provided such decrease shall not jeopardize the payment of any bonded indebtedness secured by such tax. For the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1978, when the tax assessor of each county shall complete the assembly of the assessment book for his county for that ad valorem tax year and the computation of ad valorem taxes that will be paid upon such assessment, he shall certify to each authority within his county that levies an ad valorem tax the amount of ad valorem tax that will be produced by every levy in that ad valorem tax year but excluding for this purpose any assessment of new taxable property not previously subject to taxation (except "escaped" property as defined by law) added to the tax rolls of such county for the ad valorem tax year in which such certification is made that was not included on the tax rolls for the next preceding ad valorem tax year. Any county, municipality or other taxing authority, at any time not later than September 30, 1979, may increase the rate at which any ad valorem tax is levied by or with respect to that taxing authority above the limit otherwise provided in this Constitution, provided that the amount of the above-described certification of anticipated tax receipts with respect to such tax is less than 120 percent of the actual receipts from such tax for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1977, such increase to be effective for ad valorem tax years beginning on and after October 1, 1978; provided, that any such millage increase shall not exceed in mills the total of (i) the number of additional mills that is necessary, when added to the

millage rate imposed with respect to such tax on each dollar of taxable property situated in the taxing authority for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1977, to produce revenue that is not less than and that is substantially equal to that received by the taxing authority with respect to such tax during such immediately preceding ad valorem tax year, plus (ii) a number of additional mills equal to 20 percent of the total mills imposed by that taxing authority with respect to such tax on each dollar of taxable property situated in the taxing authority for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1977. If, for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1978, the receipts from any ad valorem tax with respect to which any millage rate has been increased pursuant to the immediately preceding sentence are less than 95 percent of the receipts from such ad valorem tax for the ad valorem tax year beginning October 1, 1977, then at any time not later than September 30, 1980, the taxing authority may increase any millage rate with respect to such ad valorem tax in the manner provided in the immediately preceding sentence, such increase to be effective for ad valorem tax years beginning on and after October 1, 1979. It is further provided that all millage adjustments shall be made in increments of not less than one tenth (1/10) mill.

(f) On and after October 1, 1979, any county, municipality or other taxing authority may at any time increase the rate at which any ad valorem tax is levied above the limit otherwise provided in this Constitution; provided, that the proposed increase to be made pursuant to this subsection shall have been (1) proposed by the governing body of the taxing authority after a public hearing on such proposal, (2) thereafter approved by an act of the legislature, and (3) subsequently approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors residing in the taxing authority who vote on the proposal at a special election called and held in accordance with the law governing special elections. Any adjustments or other actions authorized to be made or taken pursuant to this subsection and subsection (e) hereof shall be made or taken by resolution of the governing body of such taxing authority, or if there is no such governing body and in the case of a taxing authority other than a municipality, by resolution of the governing body of the county in which such taxing authority is located acting on behalf of such taxing authority. The provisions of subsections (c), (e) and (f) of this section shall not apply to ad valorem taxes levied by the state.

(g) The legislature is authorized to enact legislation to implement the provisions of this section and may provide for exemptions from taxation; provided, that unless otherwise expressly provided, no amendment to this section shall be construed to repeal any statutory exemption existing on the effective date of any such amendment hereto.

(h) Wherever any constitutional provision or statute provides for, limits or measures the power or authority of any county, municipality or other taxing authority to levy taxes, borrow money or incur indebtedness in relation to the assessment of property therein for state taxes or for state and county taxes, such provision shall mean as assessed for county or municipal taxes, as the case may be.

(i) Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, including any amendment thereto whenever adopted with respect to taxable property located in the city of Mountain Brook, the city of Vestavia Hills, or the city of Huntsville, the amount of ad valorem taxes payable to the state and to all counties, municipalities and other taxing authorities with respect to any item of taxable property described as Class I property shall never exceed 2 percent of the fair and reasonable market value of such taxable property in any one ad valorem tax year, such amount with respect to any item of Class II property shall never exceed 1 1/2 percent of the fair and reasonable market value of such taxable property in any one ad valorem tax year, such amount with respect to any item of Class IV property shall never exceed 1 1/4 percent of the fair and reasonable market value of such taxable property in any one ad valorem tax year, and such amount with respect to any item of Class III property shall never exceed 1 percent of the fair and reasonable market value of such taxable property in any one ad valorem tax year. Whenever the total amount of ad valorem property taxes otherwise payable by any taxpayer with respect to any item of taxable property shall exceed in any one ad valorem tax year the maximum amount of such taxes permitted by this section, such amount of taxes shall be reduced by subtracting that amount of tax due that is in excess of the amount of tax otherwise permissible under the Constitution. In connection with the taxation of any item of taxable property, the amount of tax to be subtracted with respect to each authority levying and collecting any ad valorem property tax shall be in the same proportion to the total amount of tax to be subtracted that the total number of mills on each dollar of taxable property

situated in the taxing authority levied by such taxing authority bears to the total number of mills on each dollar of taxable property situated in the taxing authority levied by all taxing authorities with respect to such item of taxable property. Before sending to any taxpayer any notice relating to the collection of ad valorem taxes, the tax collector in each county shall determine whether any portion of the amount of ad valorem property tax otherwise due with respect to any item of taxable property shall be subtracted pursuant to the provisions of this subsection and shall apportion the amount to be subtracted in accordance with the provisions of this subsection.

(j) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, on and after October 1, 1978, taxable property defined in subsection (a) hereof as Class III property shall, upon application by the owner of such property, be assessed at the ratio of assessed value to the current use value of such taxable property and not the fair and reasonable market value of such property. The legislature may enact laws uniformly applicable to the state and all counties, municipalities and other taxing authorities establishing criteria and procedures for the determination of the current use value of any eligible taxable property and procedures for qualifying such property for assessment at its current use value. The legislature may also enact laws uniformly applicable to the state and all counties, municipalities and other taxing authorities providing for the ad valorem taxation of any taxable property ceasing to qualify for current use valuation; provided, however, that any additional tax on taxable property ceasing to qualify for current use valuation shall not apply to more than the three ad valorem tax years immediately preceding such cessation of qualification (including as one such year the year in which cessation of qualification occurs).

(k) The following property shall be exempt from all ad valorem taxation: the real and personal property of the state, counties and municipalities and property devoted exclusively to religious, educational or charitable purposes, household and kitchen furniture, all farm tractors, all farming implements when used exclusively in connection with agricultural property and all stocks of goods, wares and merchandise.

(l) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, with respect to the costs of reappraisal incident to the state-wide reappraisal of property heretofore authorized by the legislature, each county, municipality or other taxing authority for ad valorem tax years beginning on and after October 1, 1978, may impose and levy an additional ad valorem tax of not more than two mills on all taxable property located in the taxing authority in order to reimburse itself for its payment of such costs of reappraisal or to pay any unpaid costs or its pro rata share of such unpaid costs of reappraisal. The taxes provided for in this subsection, or any pro rata part thereof, shall terminate at the end of the ad valorem tax year in which sufficient funds are received from the taxes to pay in full the said reappraisal costs and any receipts from such taxes that are received during the ad valorem tax year of their termination that are not needed for the purposes specified herein may be used by the taxing authority levying the tax for general purposes of the taxing authority. The taxes authorized in this subsection shall not exceed in the aggregate, with respect to any item of taxable property located in the taxing authority, a total of two mills for all such taxes levied by all taxing authorities in a county and not two mills for each taxing authority in a county. If more than one such taxing authority in a county has paid or owes all or a portion of its reappraisal costs, such two mills shall be prorated among such taxing authorities in the county as they may agree, or if they cannot agree, in the percentage which each such taxing authority's costs of reappraisal bear to the total costs of reappraisal of all taxing authorities in the county. The provisions of this subsection shall apply only to the costs incurred by a taxing authority incident to the state-wide reappraisal of property heretofore authorized by the legislature, the amount of which costs shall be certified by the department of revenue, and shall not be applicable to any future reappraisals that may be required by law.

(m) If any portion of this section should be declared invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of any of the remaining portions of this section, which shall continue effective.

Amendment 375 ratified

Amendment of Section 110. SECTION 110

"General laws," "special or private laws" and "local law" defined; general laws applicable to class of municipalities to define class on basis related to the law; legislature may classify municipalities; enactment of general laws applicable to only one municipality.

A general law is a law which in its terms and effect applies either to the whole state, or to one or more municipalities of the state less than the whole in a class. A general law applicable to such a class of municipalities shall define the class on the basis of criteria reasonably related to the purpose of the law, provided that the legislature may also enact and change from time to time a general schedule of not more than eight classes of municipalities based on population according to any designated federal decennial census, and general laws for any purpose may thereafter be enacted for any such class. Any law heretofore enacted which complies with the provisions of this section shall be considered a general law.

No general law which at the time of its enactment applies to only one municipality of the state shall be enacted after January 1, 1979, unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall have been given and shown as provided in section 106 of this Constitution for special, private or local laws; provided, that such notice shall not be deemed to constitute such law a local law.

A special or private law is one which applies to an individual, association or corporation. A local law is a law which is not a general law or a special or private law.

Amendment 376 ratified

Acquisition, Development, etc., of Industrial Parks by City of Anniston.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the governing body of the city of Anniston shall have full and continuing power and authority, to do any one or more of the following:

1. To acquire and develop one or more parcels of land as the site or sites for an industrial park or industrial parks; and to expend or grant public money and things of value for such acquisition and development. The development of land as the site for an industrial park shall be deemed to include the provision of water, sewage, drainage, transportation, power and communication facilities, and other similar facilities, which are incidental to the use of the land as an industrial park, and also shall be deemed to include the provision of structures or buildings of any kind or type whatsoever relating to the use of the land, structures and/or buildings as an industrial park.
2. To sell to any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other entity all or any part of any land, together with the improvements thereon, held by it as an industrial park; provided, however, that no such sale may be made for less than the reasonable market value of the property so sold, as such value may be established by the appraisals of at least two independent appraisers. Prior to making any sale of any property comprising all or part of an industrial park, said city shall cause appraisals of the market value of the property to be so sold to be made by at least two independent appraisers, and shall cause a copy of each such appraisal to be filed in the permanent records of said city. Each such appraisal shall be made not earlier than 180 days prior to the consummation of such sale. In any case where each appraisal obtained pursuant to the provisions hereof sets forth a different value, the average of the market values stated in the separate appraisals shall be deemed to constitute the reasonable market value of the property.
3. This amendment shall be self-executing; but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth.
4. Said city shall not make any engagement or commitment or undertake any project under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposition has been approved and recommended to the governing body of said city by a

majority vote of all the members of the industrial development board of the city of Anniston, or its successor, at a duly convened meeting of said board, said approval and recommendation to be evidenced by a certified copy of a resolution duly passed and adopted by said board and delivered to the city clerk of said city and unless and until the governing body of said city passes and adopts an ordinance approving and authorizing such proposition. Provided, however, no ordinance shall be passed and adopted by the governing body of said city under the provisions hereof unless and until the proposed ordinance has been published at least once a week for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation published within said city, together with a notice stating the time and place that the ordinance is to be considered by said governing body and stating further at such time and place all persons who desire shall have an opportunity of being heard in favor of or in opposition to such ordinance. The first publication of the proposed ordinance, together with said notice, shall be made not less than 18 days in advance of the passage and adoption of such proposed ordinance.

Amendment 377 ratified

Consolidation and Abolition of Certain Offices and Establishment of Consolidated and Unified Tax System in Coffee County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local law, provide for the establishment of a consolidated and unified system for the assessment and collection of taxes in Coffee county and for the consolidation of the offices of tax assessor and tax collector of such county into one office and for the abolition of the offices of tax assessor and tax collector of such county.

Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution to the contrary, the legislature may, by local law, provide for the election in 1978 to fill the office of tax assessor or tax collector, of Coffee county, or such other office created pursuant to this amendment. This authorization specifically includes, but it is not limited to, the power to suspend the general law relating to deadlines for filing qualifying documents and payment of fees, to set the terms of the offices named herein, and to prescribe the method of placing the names of the candidates on the ballot at the election.

Unless otherwise provided herein, or by local law, the offices of tax assessor and tax collector of Coffee county shall be filled at the general election in 1978 for terms of two years, beginning October 1, 1979, and until a revenue commissioner of Coffee county is elected and qualified; and such revenue commissioner shall be elected at the general election of 1980 for an initial term of four years, beginning October 1, 1981, and until a successor is elected and qualified. Thereafter, unless otherwise provided by general or local law, the term of office of revenue commissioner of Coffee county shall be six years and until a successor is elected and qualified.

Unless otherwise provided by the legislature, the revenue commissioner of Coffee county shall be charged with the performance of any duty provided by law for the tax assessor and tax collector of Coffee county, and his compensation shall be fixed by the governing body of the county. Immediately upon the beginning of the first term of the office of revenue commissioner of Coffee county, the offices of tax assessor and tax collector shall be abolished. If either of the offices of tax assessor or tax collector of Coffee county should become vacant at any time from the effective date of this amendment until October 1, 1981, the remaining officer shall thereupon become the revenue commissioner of Coffee county and shall serve as such for the balance of the term for which he was elected, and the offices of tax assessor and tax collector of Coffee county shall be abolished. Should this event occur 30 days or more before the general election of 1978, then the office of revenue commissioner of Coffee county shall be filled at such election for a term of six years, and until a successor is elected and qualified and any person who has qualified to have his name placed upon the ballot as a candidate for either tax assessor or tax collector of Coffee county shall be entitled to have his name placed upon the ballot as a candidate for revenue commissioner of Coffee county.

This article of amendment shall not become operative unless the same is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Coffee county who vote thereon upon its submission.

Amendment 378 ratified

Fire Districts in Madison County.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the establishment of fire districts within Madison county to provide fire fighting and prevention services; and may authorize the levy and collection of certain rates, fees, charges or taxes for such services.

Amendment 379 ratified

Fire Fighting Districts in Montgomery County.

The governing body of Montgomery county is hereby authorized to establish and maintain fire fighting districts within Montgomery county. Said governing body is further authorized to enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within such county for fire protection and services. Provided further, said governing body is hereby empowered to set fees for fire protection and to prescribe the manner of collection and distribution of such fees. The fire fighting districts herein authorized shall not include any corporate municipality of Montgomery county unless such municipality requests through resolution of its governing body to be included in such fire fighting program. Any act heretofore enacted regarding said Montgomery county fire fighting districts is hereby ratified and confirmed.

Amendment 380 ratified

Cost and Charges of Probate Court, and Compensation of Certain Officers, of Russell County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter and regulate the costs and charges of the probate courts in Russell county, and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances and compensation of any officer of Russell county, and shall be authorized to place any such officer on a salary and to provide for the fees, commissions, percentages or allowances collectible by such officer to be paid into the treasury from which his salary is paid.

The legislature is further authorized and empowered to delegate to the Russell county governing body its authority to regulate the salaries of county officers other than members of the county governing body.

Amendment 381 ratified

Fire Fighting Districts and Fire Protection in Russell County.

The county commission of Russell county is hereby authorized to establish fire fighting districts within such county and enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within such county for fire protection and services. Said districts shall exclude any corporate municipality which does not request through its governing body by resolution to be made a part of and subject to the provisions of this amendment.

The county commission of Russell county shall, at its next meeting after passage and approval of this amendment, appoint a committee consisting of the chief of each volunteer fire department within the county. The purpose of this committee will be to keep the commission informed and advised as to the status and needs of the departments and to assist the commission in the setting of priorities regarding fire protection and services.

The county commission may, in its discretion, authorize the expenditure of public funds in support of any fire district.

The Russell county commission may, upon recommendation of this committee, appoint a county fire marshal whose principal duty shall be the coordination of all fire protection within the county. This fire marshal shall perform such other tasks related to fire protection as may from time to time be assigned to him by the county commission.

This amendment is not intended nor shall it be construed to limit the authority or scope of the volunteer fire departments within Russell county or their operation within said county.

Amendment 382 ratified

Additional Special District School Tax.

In addition to any and all taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, the several school districts of any in the state shall have power to levy and collect an additional special district school tax not exceeding thirty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in such district for public school purposes in addition to that now authorized or that may hereafter be authorized for public school purposes; provided, that a school district under this section shall include incorporated cities or towns, or any school district of which an incorporated city or town is a part, or such other school districts now existing or hereafter formed as may be approved by the county board of education; provided, further, that the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the district, and voted for a majority of those voting at such election.

Amendment 383 ratified

Indemnification Program for Peanut Farmers.

The legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for an indemnification program to peanut farmers for losses incurred as a result of *Aspergillus flavus* and freeze damage in peanuts. The legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such indemnification program by prescribing a procedure whereby peanut growers may by referendum among such growers levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees or charges upon the sale of peanuts for the financing of any such indemnification program in cooperation with buyers, processors, dealers and handlers of peanuts; provided, no assessment levied hereunder shall exceed five dollars per ton on any peanuts sold by peanut growers. The legislature shall provide for the collection and distribution of any such assessments and provide penalties for fraud in the collection or distribution of such assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization organized for the promotion and betterment of peanut production to administer and carry out such indemnification program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among peanut growers and to cooperate with underwriters in executing a contract or contracts to cover claims for crop damage due to *Aspergillus flavus* or freeze damage. Assessments, fees or other charges collected or disbursed as authorized by any legislative act adopted in pursuance hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof.

Amendment 384 ratified

Additional Probate Judgeship for Jefferson County.

In Jefferson county there shall be an additional probate judgeship, designated probate judgeship No. 2. Such judge shall be learned in the law, over the age of twenty-five years and a resident of the county for one year next preceding the date of taking office. The additional judgeship shall be filled by appointment by the governor within ten days after the approval of this amendment by the electors and proclamation of the governor. The appointee shall hold office until his successor is elected and qualified as provided by Article VI. The judge for the additional judgeship shall be elected thereafter as are other probate judges in this state.

The existing probate judgeship in Jefferson county shall be designated judgeship No. 1. The present judge shall fill judgeship No. 1 and shall be the presiding judge. Candidates for the offices of probate judge in Jefferson county shall designate whether they are candidates for the office of the presiding judgeship which shall be designated probate judgeship No. 1 or for the office of probate judgeship No. 2.

The probate judge appointed or elected for probate judgeship No. 2 shall have and exercise all the jurisdiction, power, right and authority; he shall possess all of the qualifications, perform all of the duties required; and he shall be subject to all the pains and penalties of such office as any other such judge is subject to in Jefferson county.

The expense allowances and supplements of judgeship No. 2 shall be paid in the same manner and shall be in the same amount as that of the presiding probate judge in the county. The salary of judgeship No. 2 shall be in an amount equal to 95 percent of the salary of the presiding judge in the county.

The presiding judge of the probate court in Jefferson county shall have precedence and preside at any session of court which he attends. The presiding judge shall divide the work and business of the probate court among the judges and other employees of the court and shall assign the cases to the judges of said court. The presiding judge shall employ and appoint any and all clerks, clerical help and other assistants and court officers of the probate court allowed by law. The administrative powers and duties of the probate judges and the probate court shall be under the general authority, supervision and direction of the presiding judge. Whenever the probate judges cannot agree upon any administrative matter, the presiding judge shall decide and determine such administrative matter for said judges and the court.

Amendment 385 ratified

Special Property Tax in City of Demopolis.

The city of Demopolis shall have power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of five mills on each dollar of taxable property situated therein, for public educational purposes; provided that before such tax may be levied and collected the question of levying the tax, the purpose thereof, and the time such tax is proposed to be continued shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. The provisions of this amendment shall become self-executing upon approval by a majority of the qualified electors of the state and the majority of qualified electors of the city of Demopolis voting thereon. The election shall be ordered, held and conducted as provided by law for calling, holding and conducting district school tax elections.

Amendment 386 ratified

Operation of Bingo Games By Nonprofit Organizations in Jefferson County.

The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by nonprofit organizations for charitable or educational purposes shall be legal in Jefferson county, subject to the provisions of any resolution or ordinance by the county governing body or the governing bodies of the respective cities and towns, within their respective jurisdictions. The said governing bodies shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the licensing and operation of bingo games, within their respective jurisdictions, provided, however, that said governing bodies must insure compliance with the following provisions:

- (a) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, nor shall any person under the age of 19 be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo;
 - (b) No bingo license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless such organization shall have been in existence for at least 24 months immediately prior to the issuance of the license;
 - (c) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises is leased, the rate of rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games;
 - (d) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association or corporation to have said individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization, nor shall said nonprofit organization pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game;
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(e) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by any other person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which said nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating said bingo game;

(f) Prizes given by any nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed \$1,200.00 in cash or gifts of equivalent value during any bingo session or \$2,400.00 in cash or gifts of equivalent value during any calendar week;

(g) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition thereof, shall take any salary, expense money, or fees as remuneration for services rendered in the operation of any bingo game.

Amendment 387 ratified

Operation of Bingo Games by Nonprofit Organizations in Madison County.

The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by nonprofit organizations for charitable or educational purposes shall be legal in Madison county, subject to the provisions of any resolution or ordinance by the county governing body or the governing bodies of the respective cities and towns, within their respective jurisdictions. The said governing bodies shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the licensing and operation of bingo games, within their respective jurisdictions, provided, however, that said governing bodies must insure compliance with the following provisions:

(a) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, nor shall any person under the age of 19 be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo;

(b) No bingo license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless such organization shall have been in existence for at least 23 months immediately prior to the issuance of the license;

(c) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises is leased, the rate of rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games;

(d) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association or corporation to have said individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization, nor shall said nonprofit organization pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game;

(e) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by any other person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which said nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating said bingo game;

(f) Prizes given by any nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed \$1,000.00 in cash or gifts of equivalent value during any bingo session or \$2,000.00 in cash or gifts of equivalent value during any calendar week;

(g) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition thereof, shall take any salary, expense money, or fees as remuneration for services rendered in the operation of any bingo game.

Amendment 388 ratified

Promotion of Production, Distribution, etc., of Peanuts, Milk and Cotton.

The legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, improvement, marketing, use and sale of peanuts, milk and cotton. The legislature may provide for the promotion of peanuts, milk and cotton and peanut, milk and cotton products by research, education, advertising and other methods, and the legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby growers of peanuts, and producers of milk and cotton may by

referendum among such growers and producers levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees or charges upon the sale of peanuts, milk and cotton for the financing of any such promotional program or activity in cooperation with buyers, processors, dealers and handlers of peanuts, milk and cotton. The legislature may make provisions for the nonpayment of assessments by peanut growers and milk and cotton producers, and shall make provisions for the refund of assessments to any peanut growers and milk or cotton producers who do not desire to participate in an assessment program. The legislature shall provide for the collection, disbursement, distribution or expenditure of assessments or charges authorized hereunder and to provide penalties for failure to make collection and distribution of assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization for the promotion and betterment of peanuts, milk and cotton and peanut, milk and cotton products to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among growers of peanuts and producers of milk and cotton. The legislature may provide the manner by which such referendum is held, including the procedure for application for approval to conduct the referendum, the appropriate action to be taken by the state board of agriculture and industries on such application, the requirements and eligibility of the association or organization which will conduct such referendum, the procedures for voting and eligibility to vote in such referendum, the details of the conduct of such referendum. The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities as authorized herein by the department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. The legislature shall further provide a procedure whereby said association or organization is bonded, for the examination and auditing of said association or organization, and for reasonably necessary rules and regulations to be adopted by the state board of agriculture and industries to effectively carry out the intent and purposes herein enumerated.

The legislature shall provide, by enabling legislation, the definition of peanut growers and producers.

Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof.

Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon peanuts, milk and cotton.

Amendment 389 ratified

Validation of Certain Population Based Acts and Method for Amendment Thereof.

Any statute that was otherwise valid and constitutional that was enacted before January 13, 1978, by the legislature of this state and was a general act of local application on a population basis, that applied only to a certain county or counties or a municipality or municipalities of this state, shall not be declared invalid or unconstitutional by any court of this state because it was not properly advertised in compliance with section 106 of this Constitution.

All such population based acts shall forever apply only to the county or counties or municipality or municipalities to which they applied on January 13, 1978, and no other, despite changes in population.

The population based acts referred to above shall only be amended by acts which are properly advertised and passed by the legislature in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution.

Amendment 390 ratified

Termination of Alimony Upon Remarriage or Cohabitation of Spouse.

The legislature may pass laws to provide for the termination of alimony upon the remarriage of the spouse receiving the alimony or upon such spouse living openly or cohabiting with a member of the opposite sex. Such laws may be made to apply retrospectively.

Amendment 391 ratified

Costs and Charges of Court and Compensation of Certain Officers of Escambia County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Escambia county and approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Escambia county at a referendum election, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of their compensation, to be charged or received by the county officials of Escambia county; and may place any or all of such officials on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officials to be paid into the treasury from which their salaries are paid.

In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted, then any law theretofore passed which places any officials in Escambia county on a salary basis, or any law fixing, regulating, and altering the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries of any official in Escambia county, may become effective without any other election having been held thereon. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote against its approval, then such act or acts shall have no further force or effect.

Amendment 392 ratified

Fire Fighting Districts and Fire Protection in Lee County.

The county commission of Lee county is hereby authorized to establish fire fighting districts within such county and enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within such county for fire protection and services. Said districts shall exclude any corporate municipality which does not request through its governing body by resolution to be made a part of and subject to the provisions of this amendment.

The county commission of Lee county shall, at its next meeting after passage and approval of this amendment, appoint a committee consisting of the chief of each volunteer fire department within the county. The purpose of this committee will be to keep the commission informed and advised as to the status and needs of the departments and to assist the commission in the setting of priorities regarding fire protection and services.

The county commission may, in its discretion, authorize the expenditure of public funds in support of any fire district.

The Lee county commission may, upon recommendation of this committee, appoint a county fire marshal whose principle [principal] duty shall be the coordination of all fire protection within the county. This fire marshal shall perform such other tasks related to fire protection as may from time to time be assigned to him by the county commission.

This amendment is not intended nor shall it be construed to limit the authority or scope of the volunteer fire departments within Lee county or their operation within said county.

Amendment 393 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 351.

It is hereby proposed that Amendment CCCLI [351] to the Constitution of Alabama which was proposed as Act No. 545, Regular Session, 1975, and proclaimed ratified by the Governor of Alabama on January 22nd, 1976, as amended, be further amended by inserting the words "and other general health purposes; provided however, the portion of such tax, levied and collected, allocated to general health purposes shall in no event exceed fifty percent (50%) of such tax, levied and collected;" in the first sentence of Amendment CCCLI [351] so that the first sentence of said Amendment CCCLI [351] shall read as follows:

The legislature may authorize the levy and collection of a one mill ad valorem tax in Mobile county on real and personal property that is subject to such tax under the laws of this state for the purpose of controlling mosquitos, rodents and other vectors of public health and welfare significance and other general health purposes; provided however, the portion of such tax, levied and collected, allocated to general health purposes shall in no event exceed fifty percent (50%) of such tax, levied and collected; and any acts of the legislature on this subject applicable to Mobile county that were enacted prior to the adoption of this amendment are hereby validated and reconfirmed.

Amendment 394 ratified

Alabama Heritage Trust Fund.

Section 1. Creation of Trust Fund. For the continuing benefit of the state of Alabama and the citizens thereof, there is hereby created an irrevocable, permanent trust fund named "The Alabama Heritage Trust Fund" which shall be funded and administered in accordance with the provisions of this amendment.

Section 2. Definitions. As used in this amendment, the following words and phrases shall have the following respective meanings:

"ALABAMA HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY" means (i) the public corporation and instrumentality of the state organized pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 80-585 enacted at the 1980 Regular Session of the legislature or (ii) any other public corporation and instrumentality of the state which performs substantially the same functions as said corporation organized pursuant to said Act No. 80-585 and which is declared by the legislature to be a successor thereto or replacement thereof.

"AMORTIZED PREMIUM", when used with reference to any eligible investment acquired for a purchase price (exclusive of accrued interest) reflecting a premium above the face or par amount thereof, means an amount determined by first dividing the total dollar amount of the premium at which such investment was purchased by the number of days between the date of purchase and the maturity of such investment (or other date when the principal thereof is contractually required to be paid to the holder thereof) and by then multiplying the quotient so obtained by the number of days between the date of purchase and the date as of which such amount is to be determined.

"BOARD" means the board of trustees of the trust fund.

"COMMISSION" means the "Alabama Heritage Trust Fund Legislative Oversight Commission" created in this amendment.

"ELIGIBLE INVESTMENTS" means any of the following:

(1) Demand deposits (whether or not interest bearing) in federally insured banks, interest bearing time deposits (whether or not evidenced by certificates of deposit) in federally insured banks, and banker's acceptances endorsed and guaranteed by federally insured banks; provided that non-interest bearing deposits shall constitute an eligible investment for moneys in the trust fund for only so long as sound business practice shall require such moneys to be held in such deposits pending the investment thereof in other eligible investments or the disbursement thereof in accordance with the provisions of this amendment; provided further that the aggregate amount of deposits (including both demand and time deposits) of the trust fund in any one bank at any time plus the aggregate amount of banker's

acceptances of such bank then held by the trust fund (i) shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total trust capital and (ii) shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the combined capital, surplus and undivided profits of such bank unless any excess of the combined amount of deposits and banker's acceptances over ten percent of such combined capital, surplus and undivided profits shall be secured by obligations described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this definition having at all times a market value (exclusive of accrued interest) at least equal to such excess amount of deposits and banker's acceptances, including accrued interest thereon;

(2) Bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness that are direct obligations of the United States of America or that are unconditionally guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the United States of America;

(3) Bonds, debentures, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued or guaranteed by any of the following agencies or corporations: Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, the Export-Import Bank of the United States, Federal Land Banks, the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Governmental National Mortgage Association, the Federal Financing Bank, the Farmers Home Administration, or any agency or instrumentality of the United States of America which shall be established for the purpose of acquiring the obligations of any of the foregoing or otherwise providing financing therefor;

(4) Repurchase agreements with federally insured banks or with government bond dealers reporting to and trading with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, provided that such repurchase agreements are secured by obligations described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this definition; and

(5) Interest bearing time deposits (whether or not evidenced by certificates of deposit) in savings and loan associations (a) the deposits of which are insured to the maximum extent possible by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation or any agency of the United States of America that may succeed to its functions and (b) the principal office of which is located in the state; provided further that the aggregate amount of deposits of the trust fund in any one savings and loan association at any time (i) shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the total trust capital and (ii) shall not exceed ten percent (10%) of the net worth of such savings and loan association unless any excess of the amount of deposits over ten percent (10%) of such net worth shall be secured by obligations described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this definition having at all times a market value (exclusive of accrued interest) at least equal to such excess amount of deposits, including accrued interest thereon.

"FEDERALLY INSURED BANK" means any bank, whether organized under the laws of the United States of America or the laws of any state thereof, which is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or which obtains deposit insurance to the maximum extent possible from any agency of the United States of America that may succeed to the functions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

"FISCAL YEAR" means the fiscal year of the state as may from time to time be provided by law.

"OIL AND GAS CAPITAL PAYMENT" means any payment (except any royalty or other payment described in the last sentence of this definition) received by the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof as all or part of the consideration for the sale, leasing or other disposition by the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof of any right to explore and drill for or to produce oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals in any area on the water side of the high water mark of Mobile Bay or in any other offshore area. Any royalty or other payment that is based upon, or determined with respect to, the production of oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals and that is paid to the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof in advance of the actual realization of the production upon which it is based or with respect to which it is determined shall be considered an oil and gas capital payment irrespective of whether it is to be credited, in whole or in part, against future payments based upon, or determined with respect to, the actual production of oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals. No royalty or other payment shall be considered an oil and gas capital payment if it is based upon, or determined with respect to, the production of oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals actually realized at or prior to the time such royalty or other payment is remitted to the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof.

"STATE" means the state of Alabama.

"TRUST CAPITAL" means all assets of the trust fund other than trust income that is at the time subject to appropriation by the legislature and has not become part of the trust capital.

"TRUST FUND" means "The Alabama Heritage Trust Fund" created by this amendment.

"TRUST INCOME", when used with reference to any period, means the net income received during such period from the investment and reinvestment of all assets of the trust fund, determined in accordance with the provisions of Section 5(c) of this amendment.

"TRUSTEE" means a member of the board of trustees of the trust fund.

Section 3. Management of Trust Fund Vested in Board of Trustees. (a) The trust fund shall be under the management and control of the board, and all powers necessary or appropriate for the management and control of the trust fund shall be vested solely in the board. The board shall have a membership of nine trustees consisting of the governor, the state treasurer, the director of finance (or such other official as may by law succeed to the responsibilities of the director of finance), two trustees appointed by the governor, two trustees appointed by the lieutenant governor, and two trustees appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. The governor, the state treasurer and the director of finance shall each serve as a trustee ex officio, and the service of each such official as a trustee shall begin and end concurrently with the beginning and end of his or her tenure in such office. As promptly as practicable after the effective date of this amendment, the other trustees shall be appointed for the following initial terms: The trustees to be appointed by the governor shall be appointed for terms beginning immediately upon their respective appointments and ending at noon on October 1 in the first and second calendar years, respectively, next following the calendar year in which this amendment shall become effective; the trustees to be appointed by the lieutenant governor shall be appointed for a term beginning immediately upon his or her appointment and ending at noon on October 1 in the third calendar year next following the calendar year in which this amendment shall become effective; and the trustees to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives shall be appointed for a term beginning immediately upon his or her appointment and ending at noon on October 1 in the fourth calendar year next following the calendar year in which this amendment shall become effective. Thereafter, the term of office of each appointed trustee shall be six years, commencing at noon on the October 1 on which the term of the immediate predecessor trustee shall end.

(b) If at any time there shall be a vacancy among the appointed trustees, a successor trustee shall be appointed to serve for the unexpired term applicable to such vacancy. The appointment of each appointed trustee (other than those initially appointed), whether for a full six-year term or to complete an unexpired term, shall be made by the same officer of the state who appointed the trustee whose term shall have expired or is to expire or in whose position on the board a vacancy otherwise exists and shall be made not earlier than thirty (30) days prior to the date on which such trustee is to take office as such. Each appointed trustee shall hold office from the effective date of his or her appointment until his or her confirmation or rejection by the senate as provided in subsection (c) of this section, and, if confirmed by the senate, until the expiration of the term (or portion thereof) for which he or she was appointed; provided that if the term of any trustee shall expire prior to the reappointment of such trustee or prior to the appointment of his or her successor, such trustee shall continue to serve until his or her successor is appointed, and if such trustee is reappointed for a new term after the expiration of the immediately preceding term which he or she has been serving, his or her new term of office shall be deemed to have commenced at noon on the October 1 on which the immediately preceding term shall have expired. Trustees shall be eligible for reappointment without limit as to the number of terms previously served.

(c) At the beginning of every regular session of the legislature the governor shall certify to the senate the names of all who shall have been appointed as trustees since the commencement of the last regular session of the legislature, and the senate shall confirm or reject each of them as it shall determine to be in the best interests of the state. If the senate takes no action during such regular session with respect to any trustee whose appointment was so certified, such trustee shall be deemed to have been confirmed by the senate. If the senate rejects the appointment of any trustee, such rejection shall immediately terminate the service of such trustee and the resulting vacancy in the

membership of the board shall be filled by a subsequent appointment made in accordance with the provisions of subsection (b) of this section. Trustees appointed during a regular session of the legislature shall not be subject to confirmation or rejection by the senate until the regular session of the legislature next succeeding their appointment.

(d) Each appointed trustee shall, at the time of his or her appointment and at all times during his or her term of office, be a qualified elector of the state, and a failure by any trustee to remain so qualified during such term shall cause a vacancy of the office of such trustee. Each appointed trustee shall have recognized competence and experience in the evaluation and management of investments. No person holding a full-time office or position of employment with the United States of America, the state, any county or municipality in the state, or any instrumentality, agency or subdivision of any of the foregoing, shall be eligible for appointment as a trustee. Any person who is an appointed trustee shall be deemed to vacate his or her office as such trustee by the acceptance of any office or employment which, had such person held such office or been so employed at the time of his or her appointment as a trustee, would have rendered such person ineligible for appointment as a trustee. Service by any person as a member, director, trustee or other participant in the management or administration of any governmental agency, board or commission, or public educational institution, or other public body of the United States of America, the state, or any county or municipality or other political subdivision shall not render such person ineligible for appointment as a trustee unless such service constitutes full-time employment. Any appointed trustee may be impeached and removed from office as a trustee in the same manner and on the same grounds provided in Section 174 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, or successor provision thereof, and the general laws of the state for impeachment and removal of the officers of the state subject to said Section 174 or successor provision thereof. The governor, the state treasurer and the director of finance may not be impeached and removed from office as a trustee apart from their impeachment and removal from the respective offices by virtue of which, ex officio, they serve as trustees.

(e) The governor, the state treasurer and the director of finance shall perform the duties of trustees, ex officio, without any compensation other than that to which they are respectively entitled as governor, state treasurer and director of finance. Appointed trustees shall be entitled to such compensation for their services as may from time to time be provided by law duly enacted by the legislature, but the power to provide compensation of appointed trustees shall be discretionary with the legislature and nothing in this amendment shall be construed to confer upon such trustees an absolute right to any compensation for their services. Each appointed trustee shall be reimbursed for expenses actually incurred in the performance of his or her duties as a trustee.

(f) A majority of the trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the board, and decisions shall be made on the basis of a majority of the quorum then present and voting, with each trustee to have a single vote. No vacancy in the membership of the board or the voluntary disqualification or abstention of any trustee shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all of the powers and duties of the board. The governor shall be the chairman and presiding officer of the board, and the board may appoint such other officers to perform such duties, not inconsistent with the provisions of this amendment or applicable law, as the board shall deem necessary or appropriate. In addition to such regular meetings of the board as may be provided by law or by bylaws or rules duly adopted by the board, special meetings of the board may be called by the governor acting alone or by any three other trustees acting in concert, in each case upon two days' notice to each trustee given in person or by registered letter or telegram; provided, however, that such notice to each trustee may be waived by such trustee, either before or after the meeting with respect to which such notice would otherwise be required. Any meeting held by the board for any purpose shall be open to the public, except that executive or secret sessions may be held by the board when the character or good name of a person is involved. All proceedings of the board shall be reduced to writing on behalf of the board and maintained in the permanent records of the board, a copy of which shall be filed in the principal office of the board and shall be open for public inspection there during regular business hours. The principal office of the board shall be the principal office of the director of finance.

(g) No trustee shall vote on or participate in the discussion or consideration of any matter coming before the board in which such trustee, personally or through family connections or business associations, has any direct or indirect

pecuniary interest, including, but without limitation thereto, decisions of the board concerning the investment of moneys constituting part of the trust fund in any deposit or obligation of any bank or corporation in which such trustee may have such an interest. If there shall be brought before the board any matter in which a trustee shall have any interest which may conflict with his duties as a trustee, he or she shall immediately make a complete disclosure to the board of such interest and shall thereafter withdraw from participation in any deliberation and decision of the board with respect to such matter.

(h) The board shall have all of the powers necessary to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this amendment, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following powers:

- (1) To adopt, alter and repeal bylaws, regulations and rules for the regulation and conduct of its affairs and business;
- (2) To make, enter into and execute contracts, agreements and other instruments and to take such other actions as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish any purpose for which the trust fund was created or to exercise any power expressly, or by reasonable implication, granted by this amendment;
- (3) To enter into contracts with, to accept aid and grants from, to cooperate with and to do any and all things that may be necessary in order to avail itself of the aid and cooperation of the United States of America, the state or any agency, instrumentality or political subdivision of either thereof in furtherance of the purposes of this amendment; and
- (4) To appoint, employ and contract with such employees, agents, advisors and consultants, including, but not limited to, attorneys, accountants, financial experts and such other advisors, consultants and agents as may in its judgment be necessary or desirable, and to fix their compensation;

provided, however, that any obligation created or assumed by the board shall not create any pecuniary obligation or liability of the state or the trust fund other than such as shall be payable out of moneys appropriated by the legislature to defray the expenses of the board in carrying out the purposes of this amendment. No lien or charge against any assets of the trust fund for any purpose whatsoever shall be created by or result from any law enacted by the legislature or any action taken by the board or any other department, agency or instrumentality of the state.

(i) The expenses of making and disposing of investments such as brokerage commissions, legal expenses referable to a particular transaction, transfer taxes and other customary transactional expenses shall, as provided in Section 5(c) of this amendment, be payable from the investment income of the trust fund, but no administrative or other expenses not specifically required to make or dispose of a particular investment shall be payable out of any assets of the trust fund. The legislature shall provide for the administrative and other necessary expenses of the board in the same manner as it provides for the expenses of operating other departments and agencies of the state.

Section 4. Sources of Trust Capital. (a) There shall be transferred from the general fund of the state into the trust fund, as the initial trust capital, moneys in an amount equal to the sum of (i) all proceeds of any oil and gas capital payments received by the state at any time after January 1, 1981, and on or before November 1, 1981, and (ii) all income or profit derived from the investment and reinvestment of the proceeds of such oil and gas capital payments (including income or profit derived from the investment and reinvestment of previously derived income or profit) prior to the transfer of such proceeds into the trust fund, less and except the following:

- (1) Any amount of such proceeds, income or profit which has been disbursed by the state, prior to the effective date of this amendment, for the use of the board of corrections pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 81-764 enacted at the 1981 Regular Session of the legislature;
- (2) Any amount of such proceeds, income or profit which has been disbursed by the state, prior to the effective date of this amendment, for the use of the department of mental health pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 81-770 enacted at the 1981 Regular Session of the legislature;
- (3) Any amount of such proceeds, income or profit which has been appropriated by the legislature, prior to the effective date of this amendment, for the use or benefit of the Alabama Housing Finance Authority and which, as of the effective date of this amendment, is required by any then applicable law to be held apart from the trust fund and

not included with the moneys to be transferred into such fund as part of the initial trust capital;

(4) Any amount of such proceeds, income or profit not exceeding \$6,000,000 which has been appropriated by the legislature, prior to the effective date of this amendment, for the reimbursement of the counties of the state for expenses incurred by such counties in the incarceration or confinement of convicts or other prisoners who are the responsibility of the state; and

(5) Any amount of such proceeds, income or profit not exceeding \$10,000,000 which has been appropriated by the legislature, prior to the effective date of this amendment, for the support and encouragement of educational, agricultural and industrial activities involving basic and applied scientific research and development.

Promptly following the effective date of this amendment, the state treasurer shall take all actions necessary to transfer to the board the possession, control and management of the initial trust capital. If at the time of such transfer into the trust fund all or part of the initial trust capital is invested in certificates of deposit or other investments which cannot be converted into cash prior to the maturity thereof without loss of interest or other penalty, the state treasurer shall directly transfer such certificates of deposit or other investments to the board as part of the initial trust capital without first converting the same into cash. In the event that any certificates of deposit or other investments shall be transferred into the trust fund, the initial trust capital shall include only the income or profit from such certificates of deposit or other investments that has been received by the state on or before such transfer or that constitutes accrued interest, amortized discount or other amounts which, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, should be considered as having been earned by the state as of the date of such transfer. To the extent that any income or profit derived from such certificates of deposit or other investments is referable to any period after the transfer thereof into the trust fund, such income or profit shall constitute trust income and shall not constitute part of the trust capital (except to the extent otherwise provided by Section 5(a) of this amendment). Any provision of this amendment to the contrary notwithstanding, no oil and gas capital payment received by the state after November 1, 1981, or any income from the investment thereof, shall, unless subsequently authorized by law, be transferred into the trust fund.

(b) The trust capital shall be augmented by any trust income which, as provided in Section 5(a) of this amendment, shall have remained in the trust fund beyond the end of the fiscal year next succeeding the fiscal year during which it was received without having been appropriated for any purpose by act of the legislature. The trust capital shall also consist of (i) such other moneys or assets as the legislature may by law appropriate and transfer to the trust fund as a permanent part thereof and (ii) such other moneys or assets as may be contributed to the trust fund from any source.

Section 5. Investment of Moneys in Trust Fund; Appropriation of Trust Income. (a) Except to the extent otherwise provided in Section 6 of this amendment, the trust capital shall be held in perpetual trust and shall not be appropriated by the legislature or expended or disbursed for any purpose other than to acquire eligible investments in accordance with the provisions of this amendment. All eligible investments acquired, in whole or in part, with moneys constituting part of the trust capital shall to the extent of such moneys constitute part of the trust capital, but any trust income derived therefrom shall be subject to appropriation and withdrawal by the legislature to the extent provided in this amendment. Until and including the last day of the fiscal year next succeeding the fiscal year during which any trust income shall be received into the trust fund, the legislature may at any time and from time to time, whether before or after the actual receipt of such trust income, enact laws appropriating all or any part of such trust income for any lawful purpose, and any trust income so appropriated may be withdrawn from the trust fund at any time after the receipt thereof; provided, however, that the right of the legislature to appropriate any trust income prior to the actual receipt thereof shall not be construed to authorize the recognition and withdrawal of any moneys equivalent to such trust income prior to the actual receipt thereof into the trust fund. If any trust income shall not be appropriated by a law which becomes effective on or before the last day of the fiscal year next succeeding that during which it was received, such trust income shall thereafter cease to be subject to appropriation and shall become part of the trust capital to be held in the trust fund on the same terms and conditions as are applicable to all other assets constituting the trust capital. Any trust income appropriated by a law becoming effective on or before the last

day of the fiscal year next succeeding that during which it was received shall remain trust income even though it is permitted to remain in the trust fund after the end of such fiscal year, and any such trust income shall be subject to withdrawal from the trust fund at any time thereafter in the manner provided by law for the purposes for which it shall theretofore have been appropriated.

(b) To the extent practicable, the board shall keep all moneys at any time held in the trust fund (including both trust capital and trust income) invested in such eligible investments as shall, in its sole and uncontrolled judgment, produce the greatest trust income over the term of such investments while preserving the trust capital. In making any investment of moneys held in the trust fund, the board shall exercise the judgment and care, under the circumstances prevailing at the time of such investment, which an institutional investor of the highest standard of prudence, intelligence and financial expertise would exercise in the management and investment of large assets entrusted to it not for the purpose of speculative profit but for the permanent generation and disposition of funds, considering the probable safety of capital as well as the expected amount and frequency of income. The board shall have full power and authority to select the eligible investments in which moneys held in the trust fund shall at any time be invested, and, to the extent not inconsistent with any express provision of this amendment, the eligible investments so selected shall be acquired from such issuers, underwriters, brokers or other sellers on such terms and conditions, shall be acquired for purchase prices reflecting such discount below or premium above the par or face amount thereof, shall bear such dates and be in such form, denominations and series, shall mature or be subject to mandatory redemption on such dates, shall bear interest at such rate or rates payable at such intervals or, alternatively, shall provide income to the holder thereof in such other manner (including, without limitation thereto, the purchase of such investments at a discount which represents all or part of the income or profit to be derived therefrom), shall be unsecured or secured in such manner, shall contain such provisions for prepayment or redemption at the option of the issuer or obligor, and shall contain or be subject to such other provisions as shall, in all of the foregoing respects, be determined by the board in the exercise of its sole and uncontrolled judgment. The board shall have full power and authority to invest the trust capital in long-term investments producing trust income in accordance with such schedule as the board shall, in the exercise of its sole and uncontrolled judgment, determine to be in the best interests of the state, and in determining such schedule the board may emphasize future benefits in preference to near-term needs. The board shall have complete and uncontrolled discretion in making decisions as to when moneys in the trust fund shall be invested, as to the purchase price or other acquisition cost to be paid or incurred in acquiring investments for the trust fund, as to when investments constituting part of the trust fund shall be sold, liquidated or otherwise disposed of, and, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 100 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as to the amount and nature of the price or other consideration to be received by the trust fund upon the sale, liquidation or other disposition of investments constituting part of the trust fund; provided, however, that to the extent the provisions of this amendment authorize the withdrawal of moneys from the trust fund (including both trust capital and trust income) pursuant to appropriation by the legislature, the board shall invest the moneys so subject to withdrawal in investments which shall mature or otherwise be subject to liquidation on such terms as will provide cash when required for withdrawal from the trust fund. No law shall be enacted nor any action taken by the executive department of the state which impairs or interferes with the power, authority and discretion conferred upon the board by this amendment with respect to the acquisition, management, control and disposition of investments at any time constituting part of the trust fund.

(c) The trust income for any period shall be the net income (determined as hereinafter provided) actually received in cash or cash equivalents during such period from the investment and reinvestment of all moneys held in the trust fund (including both moneys representing trust capital and moneys representing previously received trust income that has not become part of the trust capital). No accrual or other accounting calculation or classification shall constitute the basis for recognizing trust income unless the moneys in question shall have been actually received and paid into the trust fund. The trust income for any period shall consist of the aggregate interest received from investments during such period plus any profit realized during such period from any payment, sale, liquidation or other disposition of investments resulting in the receipt of an amount greater than the purchase price thereof, less (i)

any negative audit adjustments to income and any losses with respect to investments which are required to be charged against the income of the trust fund for such period pursuant to the provisions of subsection (d) of this section, (ii) any accrued interest paid as part of the purchase price of investments acquired during such period, and (iii) all expenses of selling and disposing of investments during such period such as brokerage commissions, legal expenses referable to a particular transaction, transfer taxes and other customary transactional expenses. For purposes of determining the amount of the trust capital at any time held in the trust fund, any investment acquired for a purchase price reflecting a discount below its face or par amount shall, at all times prior to its payment, sale, liquidation or other disposition, be valued at its original purchase price. If any investment is acquired for a purchase price reflecting a premium above its face or par amount, then, for purposes of calculating trust income, the cumulative interest or other income theretofore received from such investment as of any time shall be reduced by the then applicable amortized premium of such investment. For purposes of determining the amount of trust capital at any time held in the trust fund, any investment acquired for a purchase price reflecting a premium above its face or par amount shall, at all times prior to its payment, sale, liquidation or other disposition, be valued at its original purchase price less its then applicable amortized premium.

(d) The trust income shall be adjusted in accordance with the succeeding provisions of this subsection if the application of generally accepted accounting principles in connection with the annual audit of the trust fund requires any negative adjustment of income, including the recognition of any reduction in value or write off of investments for reasons relating to the probability of their payment or collectibility, or if any loss is realized upon any payment, sale, liquidation or other disposition of any investment resulting in the receipt of any amount less than the value thereof determined in accordance with the provisions of this amendment; provided, however, that no reduction in value of any investment shall be made because the rate of interest or other yield thereon has fallen below the market rates then applicable to comparable investments. Any audit adjustment resulting in a charge against income or any loss realized from the payment, sale, liquidation or other disposition of investments, as the case may be, shall be charged first against any trust income which, as of the time such adjustment is made or such loss is realized, has accumulated in the trust fund and is then available for withdrawal, whether or not theretofore appropriated, and if the amount to be so charged is greater than the amount of accumulated trust income subject to withdrawal, such amount shall be charged against trust income thereafter received in the current and succeeding fiscal years until the full amount of such audit adjustment or loss, as the case may be, has been recovered or made good out of the investment income of the trust fund, and from and after the time that such audit adjustment is made or such loss is realized, as the case may be, no income of the trust fund shall be considered trust income for purposes of this amendment until the full amount of such adjustment or loss shall have been so recovered or made good. In the event that, as a result of any audit adjustment or any realized loss, the aggregate amount of income appropriated and withdrawn from the trust fund as of any time during or at the end of any fiscal year exceeds the aggregate trust income which, taking into account such adjustment or loss, should have been available for withdrawal at or before such time, then, and in such event, the excess amount so withdrawn need not be returned to the trust fund from the general fund of the state or from any other source of funds available to the state, but the amount of such excess withdrawal shall be recovered through charges against future income of the trust fund as above provided.

(e) To the extent appropriate and not at the time prohibited by law, the board shall use the facilities of the state treasurer in the administration of the trust fund, including, but without limitation thereto, the keeping of records, the management of bank accounts, the transfer of funds and the safekeeping of securities evidencing investments.

(f) The board shall cause an annual audit of the trust fund to be performed for each fiscal year by the state auditor or, in the discretion of the board, by an independent accounting firm and shall cause a report of such audit to be prepared in accordance with applicable accounting principles and made public within ninety (90) days following the end of the fiscal year covered thereby. The board shall cause to be prepared and publicized such financial and other information concerning the trust fund as may from time to time be provided by law duly enacted by the legislature, but in the absence of any law directing the preparation and publication of different reports, the board shall cause to be prepared and made public, within thirty (30) days after the end of each quarterly period in each fiscal year, a

report containing (i) a statement of the trust capital then held in the trust fund showing any changes thereto since the last quarterly report, (ii) a statement of the trust income then held in the trust fund showing receipts and withdrawals therefrom during the quarterly period in question and further showing the portion thereof previously appropriated and the portion thereof subject to appropriation but not then appropriated, (iii) a statement of the investments then held in the trust fund including descriptions thereof and the respective values thereof, (iv) a statement of the trust income received to date during the current fiscal year, (v) if such report covers the first, second or third quarterly period, an estimate of the trust income anticipated for the entire current fiscal year and for each of the remaining quarterly periods thereof, and (vi) an estimate of the trust income anticipated for the next succeeding fiscal year and in each of the quarterly periods thereof.

Section 6. Alternative Disposition of Certain Trust Fund Moneys. (a) By any duly enacted law or laws, whether becoming effective before or after the effective date of this amendment, the legislature may appropriate moneys constituting trust capital or trust income or a combination of both for the use or benefit of the Alabama Housing Finance Authority in such aggregate amount as, when added to any amount excluded from the initial trust capital pursuant to clause (3) of the first sentence of Section 4 of this amendment, shall not exceed the sum of \$19,500,000. All or any part of the moneys so appropriated may be held in the trust fund until disbursed for the purpose for which appropriated, or all or any part of such moneys may be immediately withdrawn from the trust fund and transferred to the Alabama Housing Finance Authority for the use thereof or, alternatively, transferred to the state and held by it until used to pay expenses for and on behalf of such authority, all in accordance with such law or laws as may from time to time be enacted by the legislature.

(b) In order to provide an alternative source for the moneys appropriated for the use of the board of corrections pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 81-764 enacted at the 1981 Regular Session of the legislature, the legislature may, by any duly enacted law or laws, whether becoming effective before or after the effective date of this amendment, appropriate moneys constituting trust capital or trust income or a combination of both for the use of the board of corrections in making capital expenditures; provided, however, that the aggregate amount so appropriated for the use of the board of corrections and withdrawn from the trust fund shall not exceed an amount computed as the difference between \$45,000,000 and the sum of (i) the amount excluded from the initial trust capital pursuant to clause (1) of the first sentence of Section 4 of this amendment and (ii) all other amounts at any time appropriated by the legislature from the proceeds of bonds of the state or other sources for the use of the board of corrections in substitution for or replacement of all or any part of the moneys appropriated pursuant to said Act No. 81-764.

(c) In order to provide an alternative source for the moneys appropriated for the use of the department of mental health pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 81-770 enacted at the 1981 Regular Session of the legislature, the legislature may, by any duly enacted law or laws, whether or not becoming effective before or after the effective date of this amendment, appropriate moneys constituting trust capital or trust income or a combination of both for the use of the department of mental health in making capital expenditures; provided, however, that the aggregate amount so appropriated for the use of the department of mental health and withdrawn from the trust fund shall not exceed an amount computed as the difference between \$65,000,000 and the sum of (i) the amount excluded from the initial trust capital pursuant to clause (2) of the first sentence of Section 4 of this amendment and (ii) all other amounts at any time appropriated by the legislature from the proceeds of bonds of the state or other sources for the use of the department of mental health in substitution for or replacement of all or any part of the moneys appropriated pursuant to said Act No. 81-770.

Section 7. Limitation of Personal Liability of Trustees. An individual trustee shall not in any way be personally liable for any liability, loss or expense suffered by the trust fund unless such liability, loss or expense arises out of or results from the willful misconduct or wrongdoing of such trustee.

Section 8. Legislative Oversight Commission. (a) There is hereby created the Alabama Heritage Trust Fund Legislative Oversight Commission to consist of the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house, and five members each from the house of representatives and the senate to be appointed by the speaker of the house and the lieutenant

governor, respectively. If the legislature is in regular session at the time this amendment shall become effective, the original members of the commission shall be appointed at such regular session, and if the legislature is not in regular session at the time this amendment shall become effective, the members of the commission shall be appointed at the next regular session of the legislature. The original members of the commission shall serve for the remainder of their elected terms of office as members of the legislature, and the terms of office of members of the commission shall thereafter correspond to the full four-year terms for which members of the legislature are elected. If at any time there shall be a vacancy among the appointed members of the commission, a successor shall be appointed from the same body of the legislature as that to which the previous incumbent belonged, and such successor shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term of such previous incumbent.

(b) The commission shall hold an organizational meeting at the state capitol within ten (10) days after the appointment of the original members thereof, and shall elect a chairman and vice chairman from among its members. Thereafter, the commission shall meet, from time to time, at the call of the chairman or vice chairman or upon the request of seven or more members, with such notice and in accordance with such procedure as shall be prescribed by the rules of the commission.

(c) The commission shall adopt its own rules of procedure for the transaction of business, except as otherwise provided in this amendment. A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting any business or performing any authorized duties. All members of the commission, including both those who serve ex officio and those who are appointed, shall have an equal vote. The commission shall keep full and complete minutes in writing of its proceedings, and every action taken shall be authorized by duly adopted resolution recorded in such minutes.

(d) Each member of the commission shall be entitled to his or her regular legislative compensation and per diem and travel expenses for each day he or she attends a meeting or conducts business of the commission, and such compensation and expenses shall be paid as provided by law out of the funds from time to time appropriated by the legislature to pay the expenses of administering the trust fund.

(e) The commission shall monitor and evaluate the management of the trust fund by the board, shall report to the legislature on both the present and future availability of trust income for appropriation by the legislature, and shall recommend to the legislature the enactment of such laws respecting the trust fund as the commission shall deem desirable; provided, however, that nothing contained in this amendment respecting the commission shall be construed to authorize the legislature to enact laws inconsistent with the express provisions of this amendment.

Section 9. Amendment Self-Executing. This amendment shall be self-executing, but the legislature shall have the right and power to enact laws supplemental to this amendment and in furtherance of the purposes and objectives thereof, provided that such laws are not inconsistent with the express provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 395 ratified

Issuance of Interest Bearing Bonds for Specified Purposes.

The state of Alabama is authorized to become indebted and to sell and issue its interest bearing bonds, in addition to all other bonds of the state, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$520,000,000. The expenses incurred in the sale and issuance of said bonds shall be paid out of the proceeds derived from the sale thereof. The proceeds of said bonds shall be paid into the state treasury, shall be kept continually invested pending the expenditure thereof, and shall, together with the income derived from the investment and reinvestment thereof (including income derived from the investment and reinvestment of previously derived income), be retained in one or more separate accounts of the state treasury until expended for the purposes authorized in this amendment and in the manner provided by law. The proceeds of said bonds remaining after payment of the expenses of selling and issuing the same, together with the investment income derived from said proceeds, shall be used solely for the purpose of paying the capital costs of public facilities and works of internal improvement consisting of (i) public roads, streets, highways and bridges, (ii) buildings, equipment and other facilities for public schools, public technical and vocational schools and public

institutions of higher education, (iii) state prisons, facilities for the housing, training, education or rehabilitation of prisoners, and other facilities necessary or useful in connection with prisons and other penal or correctional facilities, (iv) mental hospitals and other mental health facilities, (v) the improvement of navigation in Mobile Harbor by the deepening and widening of channels therein and the construction and installation of dock and wharf facilities in Mobile Harbor and on navigable inland waterways, (vi) the renovation and restoration of buildings in the main governmental complex of the state, including the State Capitol Building and the present headquarters office building of the state highway department, (vii) the construction and equipment of a new headquarters office building for the state highway department, (viii) facilities for the Alabama department of youth services, (ix) the renovation and restoration of the State Coliseum in Montgomery county, (x) public parks and park facilities, the acquisition of land for conservation and preservation by the Alabama department of conservation and natural resources, the planting of shells to be used as mulch for the improvement of oyster cultivation and other maricultural activities in Alabama coastal waters, bays and sounds, and (xi) equipment for the Alabama Educational Television Commission.

The legislature shall enact appropriate implementing laws to provide for the sale and issuance of the bonds authorized by this amendment, to appropriate and allocate the proceeds thereof, together with the investment income derived from said proceeds, among the hereinbefore described purposes, and otherwise to carry out the intent and purpose of this amendment.

The state of Alabama is also authorized to become indebted and to sell and issue one or more series of bonds to refund all or any of the bonds authorized by this amendment in such principal amount or amounts (which may exceed the principal amount of the bonds being refunded) and in such manner as may be provided by law duly enacted by the legislature.

All bonds issued pursuant to this amendment (including refunding bonds) may be sold at public or private sale, with or without competitive bidding, to such person or persons, at such price or prices and upon such terms as the governor, the director of finance and the state treasurer shall determine to be in the best interests of the state. All such bonds (including refunding bonds) shall be direct, general obligations of the state, and the full faith and credit of the state are hereby irrevocably pledged for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of said bonds and the interest and premium (if any) thereon.

Amendment 396 ratified

Payment by State of Expenses Incurred by Alabama Housing Finance Authority.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 or amendments thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, the legislature may from time to time by law provide for the payment by the state of Alabama of expenses incurred by the Alabama Housing Finance Authority (organized pursuant to the provisions of Act No. 80-585 enacted at the 1980 Regular Session of the legislature) in the exercise of the powers granted to it by law, including, but without limitation, expenses incurred by the Alabama Housing Finance Authority in the issuance of its bonds and the utilization of the proceeds therefrom to make or acquire mortgage loans to private persons, firms or corporations that are secured by mortgages on single or multi-family residential property located in the state. The legislature may appropriate moneys from any available source for the direct payment of such expenses or it may authorize the transfer of moneys to the Alabama Housing Finance Authority to be used for that purpose. Notwithstanding the payment by the state, either directly or indirectly, in any manner authorized herein, of the expenses incurred by the Alabama Housing Finance Authority, no bonds or others evidences of indebtedness issued by the Alabama Housing Finance Authority shall be deemed to constitute an indebtedness of the state within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory provision whatsoever, nor shall any action taken by the Alabama Housing Finance Authority be deemed to constitute a lending of money or credit by the state to any individual, association, or corporation, or a participation by the state in works of internal improvement, within the meaning of Section 93 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended.

This amendment shall have no force and effect after December 31, 1983, and shall not constitute a part of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 after such date, but the expiration thereof on such date shall not be considered by any court as a reason for holding unconstitutional any law which would have been constitutional without the adoption of this amendment.

Amendment 397 ratified

Amendment of Section 110. SECTION 110

"General law," "local law" and "special law" defined.

A general law is a law which in its terms and effect applies either to the whole state, or to one or more municipalities of the state less than the whole in a class. A general law applicable to such a class of municipalities shall define the class on the basis of criteria reasonably related to the purpose of the law, provided that the legislature may also enact and change from time to time a general schedule of not more than eight classes of municipalities based on population according to any designated federal decennial census, and general laws for any purpose may thereafter be enacted for any such class. Any law heretofore enacted which complies with the provisions of this section shall be considered a general law.

No general law which at the time of its enactment applies to only one municipality of the state shall be enacted, unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall have been given and shown as provided in Section 106 of this Constitution for special, private or local laws; provided, that such notice shall not be deemed to constitute such law a local law.

A special or private law is one which applies to an individual, association or corporation. A local law is a law which is not a general law or a special or private law.

Act No. 79-263 (House Bill No. 68) entitled "An Act to establish eight classes of municipalities, by population, based on the 1970 Federal decennial census" approved June 28, 1979, and each and every Act of the legislature thereafter enacted referred or relating to a class of municipalities as established in said Act No. 79-263 are hereby in all things ratified, approved, validated and confirmed as of the date of their enactment, any provision or provisions of the Constitution of Alabama, as amended, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Amendment 397 ratified

Amendment of Section 110. SECTION 110

"General law," "local law" and "special law" defined.

A general law is a law which in its terms and effect applies either to the whole state, or to one or more municipalities of the state less than the whole in a class. A general law applicable to such a class of municipalities shall define the class on the basis of criteria reasonably related to the purpose of the law, provided that the legislature may also enact and change from time to time a general schedule of not more than eight classes of municipalities based on population according to any designated federal decennial census, and general laws for any purpose may thereafter be enacted for any such class. Any law heretofore enacted which complies with the provisions of this section shall be considered a general law.

No general law which at the time of its enactment applies to only one municipality of the state shall be enacted, unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall have been given and shown as provided in Section 106 of this Constitution for special, private or local laws; provided, that such notice shall not be deemed to constitute such law a local law.

A special or private law is one which applies to an individual, association or corporation. A local law is a law which is not a general law or a special or private law.

Act No. 79-263 (House Bill No. 68) entitled "An Act to establish eight classes of municipalities, by population, based on the 1970 Federal decennial census" approved June 28, 1979, and each and every Act of the legislature thereafter enacted referred or relating to a class of municipalities as established in said Act No. 79-263 are hereby in all things ratified, approved, validated and confirmed as of the date of their enactment, any provision or provisions of the Constitution of Alabama, as amended, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Amendment 399 ratified

Amendment of Section 264. SECTION 264

Board of trustees of state university.

The state university shall be under the management and control of a board of trustees, which shall consist of two members from each congressional district in the state, an additional member from the congressional district which includes the site of the first campus of the university, the superintendent of education, and the governor, who shall be ex officio president of the board. The members of the board of trustees as now constituted shall hold office until their respective terms expire under existing law, and until their successors shall be elected and confirmed as hereinafter required. The additional trustees provided for by this amendment shall be elected by the existing members of the board, and confirmed by the senate in the manner provided below, for initial terms of not more than six years established by the board so that one term shall expire each three years in each congressional district. Successors to the terms of the existing and additional trustees shall hold office for a term of six years, and shall not serve more than three consecutive full six-year terms on the board; provided however that a trustee shall retire from the board and vacate office at the annual meeting of the board following that trustee's seventieth birthday. Election of additional and successor trustees or of trustees to fill any vacancy created by the expiration of a term or by the death or resignation of any member or from any other cause shall be by the remaining members of the board by secret ballot; provided, that any trustee so elected shall hold office from the date of election until confirmation or rejection by the senate, and, if confirmed, until the expiration of the term for which elected, and until a successor is elected. At every meeting of the legislature the superintendent of education shall certify to the senate the names of all who shall have been so elected since the last session of the legislature, and the senate shall confirm or reject them, as it shall determine is for the best interest of the university. If it rejects the names of any members, it shall thereupon elect trustees in the stead of those rejected. No trustee shall receive any pay or emolument other than his actual expenses incurred in the discharge of his duties as such. Upon the vacation of office by a trustee, the board, if it desires, may bestow upon a trustee the honorary title of trustee emeritus, but such status shall confer no responsibilities, duties, rights, or privileges as such.

Amendment 400 ratified

Promotion of Production, Distribution, etc., of Swine and Swine Products.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of, the production, research, distribution, marketing, use, improvement and sale of swine and swine products. The legislature may provide for the promotion of swine and the swine industry by research, education, advertising and other methods, and the legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby producers of swine may by referendum held among the swine producers in this state levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of swine for the financing of any promotional program or activity in cooperation with processors, dealers and handlers, of swine and swine products. The legislature may make provisions for the nonpayment of assessments by swine producers and shall make provisions for the refund of assessments to any swine producer dissatisfied with the assessment program. The legislature shall provide for the collection and distribution of any such assessments or charges by dealers, handlers, processors and purchasers of swine and swine products and provide penalties for failure to make collection and distribution of such assessments. The legislature

shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization organized for the promotion and betterment of swine and swine products to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among swine producers. The legislature may provide the manner by which such referendum is held, including the procedure for application for approval to conduct the referendum, the appropriate action to be taken by the state board of agriculture and industries on such application, the requirements and eligibility of the association or organization which will conduct such referendum, the procedures for voting and eligibility to vote in such referendum and the details of the conduct of such referendum. The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities as authorized herein by the department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. The legislature shall further provide a procedure whereby said association or organization is bonded, for the examination and auditing of said association or organization, and for reasonably necessary rules and regulations to be adopted by the state board of agriculture and industries to effectively carry out the intent and purposes herein enumerated. Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted in pursuance hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof. Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon swine and swine products.

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Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 401-500

Amendment 401 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 315.

The legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, improvement, marketing, use and sale of soybeans. The legislature may provide for the promotion of soybeans and soybean products by research, education, advertising and other methods, and the legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby producers of soybeans may by referendum among such producers levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of soybeans for the financing of any such promotional program or activity in cooperation with buyers, processors, dealers, and handlers of soybeans. The legislature may make provisions for the nonpayment of assessments by soybean producers, and shall make provisions for the refund of assessments to any soybean producer who does not desire to participate in an assessment program. The legislature shall provide for the collection, disbursement, distribution or expenditure of assessments or charges authorized hereunder and to provide penalties for failure to make collection and distribution of assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization for the promotion and betterment of soybeans and soybean products to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among producers of soybeans. The legislature may provide the manner by which such referendum is held, including the procedure for application for approval to conduct the referendum, the appropriate action to be taken by the state board of agriculture and industries on such application, the requirements and eligibility of the association or organization which will conduct such referendum, the procedures for voting and eligibility to vote in such referendum, the details of the conduct of such referendum. The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities as authorized herein by the department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. The legislature shall further provide a procedure whereby said association or organization is bonded, for the examination and auditing of said association or organization, and for reasonably necessary rules and regulations to be adopted by the state board of agriculture and industries to effectively carry out the intent and purposes herein enumerated. Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof. Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon soybeans.

Amendment 402 ratified

Special Property Tax in Chilton County.

The county commission of Chilton county shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, not exceeding two and one-half mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property outside the corporate limits of any incorporated municipality in the county, as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for fire, medical and emergency services to areas outside the incorporated municipalities of the county.

The tax assessor of Chilton county shall assess the tax herein provided for, and the tax collector of Chilton county shall collect the tax, in the same manner and method that other ad valorem taxes are collected, and the funds shall be distributed to the Chilton county commission to be distributed by said commission, in equal shares, to all of the rural

fire departments in said county that have and maintain an insurance services office of Alabama approved rating.

After the special tax shall have been levied for a period of twenty years from the date of ratification of this amendment, it shall be discontinued unless a majority of qualified electors of Chilton county, participating in an election called by the county commission, shall vote in favor of its continuance. This amendment shall not become operative as to Chilton county unless the same is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Chilton county who vote thereon upon its submission.

Amendment 403 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts, and Compensation of Probate Judge of Henry County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Henry county, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts and fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate of Henry county; and may place the judge of probate on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officer to be paid into the treasury from which his salary is paid. This amendment shall not have been adopted unless a majority of the qualified electors of Henry county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof.

Amendment 404 ratified

School District Tax in Lauderdale County.

The Lauderdale county school district of Lauderdale county shall, subject to authorization at an election in each local school tax district as hereinafter provided, have power to levy and collect a special district tax, at a rate not exceeding ten mills on each dollar of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in such district for public school purposes therein, which special tax shall be in addition to all taxes now authorized or that may hereafter be authorized by the Constitution of Alabama to be levied in such district; provided, that no tax shall be levied under this amendment unless the rate of such tax, the time it is to continue, and the purpose thereof shall have been first submitted to the vote of the qualified electors of the local school tax district in which the tax is proposed to be levied and shall have been authorized by a majority of the qualified electors voting at the election at which the submission is made. Each election held under this amendment shall be called and held, the ballots canvassed, the results declared, and the tax levied and collected in the same manner as is now or may hereafter be provided by law in the case of school district taxes authorized by Amendment No. 3 to the Constitution of Alabama, except that no countywide or systemwide tax shall be required to be levied as a condition precedent to either the authorization or levy of a local school district tax under this amendment. The holding of one election shall not preclude a later election in the same district under the authority of this amendment. The proceeds of any special district tax authorized by this amendment shall be expended solely for capital outlay purposes in the public schools in the district in which the tax shall be levied.

The county board of education of Lauderdale county may from time to time, without the necessity of any election, change the boundaries of any local school tax district at any time existing in the county, or consolidate any two or more school districts therein, if the taxes authorized to be levied for public school purposes in all of the territory in such district after such change of boundaries or consolidation is effected shall be at the same aggregate rate and for the same duration of time; provided, that nothing contained herein shall be construed to impair or permit the impairment of the obligation of any contract created with respect to any securities theretofore issued with respect to any school district. The provisions of the preceding sentence shall not be deemed to abridge any existing power conferred on the said county board of education by any existing law, but shall be in addition thereto.

Amendment 405 ratified

Combination of Offices of Tax Assessor and Tax Collector in Lauderdale County.

The legislature may by local act authorize the county commission of Lauderdale county, by resolution of such commission passed not later than April 1, 1984, to combine the offices of tax assessor and tax collector in said county effective September 30, 1984.

If this amendment is passed by a majority of the qualified electors of the state and of said county who vote thereon when it is submitted, then any law theretofore passed which combines the offices of tax assessor and tax collector in said county shall become effective. If this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote against its approval, then such act or acts shall have no further force or effect.

Amendment 405 ratified

Combination of Offices of Tax Assessor and Tax Collector in Lauderdale County.

The legislature may by local act authorize the county commission of Lauderdale county, by resolution of such commission passed not later than April 1, 1984, to combine the offices of tax assessor and tax collector in said county effective September 30, 1984.

If this amendment is passed by a majority of the qualified electors of the state and of said county who vote thereon when it is submitted, then any law theretofore passed which combines the offices of tax assessor and tax collector in said county shall become effective. If this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of said county who vote thereon vote against its approval, then such act or acts shall have no further force or effect.

Amendment 407 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 218.

(a) In addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may be hereafter authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied a special school tax of fifty cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in the school tax district of the city of Huntsville in Madison county to be used solely for public school purposes; provided the levy of said tax shall first have been approved by the qualified electors of the school district as hereinafter provided.

(b) The proceeds of said tax shall be used exclusively for public school purposes of any nature whatsoever in the school tax district of the city of Huntsville, Alabama.

(c) The provisions of this Amendment to the Constitution of 1901, amending Amendment No. 218, allowing the proceeds from the tax levied herein to be used for school purposes of whatsoever nature within the district shall become effective upon the adoption of this Constitutional Amendment; provided, however, that the provisions of this amendment shall not become operative in the city of Huntsville unless approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the said city who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose upon the call of the authorized official therein. Such election may be called no more frequently than every two years; provided further, that if this amendment is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the school tax district of the city of Huntsville who vote thereon upon its submission, such election shall constitute a referendum held for such purpose and no further election need be called. Subsequent elections shall be called, held, conducted, paid for, and governed otherwise in the manner provided for an election on the school district tax authorized in Constitutional Amendment No. 3.

Amendment 408 ratified

Procedure for Filling Vacancies in Office of Judge of Circuit Court and Office of Judge of District Court in Mobile County.

All vacancies in the office of judge of the circuit court and the office of judge of the district court of Mobile county which shall occur subsequent to January 15, 1982, shall be filled in the manner and for the time as herein provided.

The Mobile county judicial commission is hereby created for the purpose of nominating to the governor persons for appointment to such a vacancy. The members of such commission shall be (a) two persons who are members of the Alabama state bar, and (b) two persons who are not members of the Alabama state bar, and (c) one judge of the circuit court of Mobile county.

All members of such commission must reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court of Mobile county.

The two members of such commission who are required to be members of the Alabama state bar shall be elected by the members of such bar who are regularly licensed and qualified to practice law in this state and who reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court of Mobile county. The executive committee of the Mobile county bar association or its successor body in such capacity, is authorized and directed to make rules, not inconsistent with this amendment, for the election of such members of such commission as are required to be members of the Alabama state bar. Such executive committee shall certify in writing to the probate judge of Mobile county the names of the persons elected as members of such commission by such members of such bar.

The senators and representatives in the Alabama legislature from Mobile county shall elect the two members of such commission who are required not to be members of the Alabama state bar. Such senators and representatives shall certify in writing to such probate judge the names of the persons elected by them as such members.

The judges of the circuit court of Mobile county shall elect the member of such commission who is required to be a judge of such circuit court. The judges of such circuit court shall certify in writing to such probate judge the name of the circuit judge elected by such circuit judges as such member.

The terms of office of all members of such commission shall be six years, except that the terms of office of the two members of the state bar first elected shall be for one and two years respectively, and of the two members first elected by the senators and representatives in the Alabama legislature from Mobile county shall be for three and four years respectively, and the term of the circuit judge elected by the circuit judges shall be for five years; the length of such terms of office of the members of such commission being indicated by the respective electing bodies. The terms of the initial members of such commission shall begin on January 16, 1982. A vacancy in the office of a member of such commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as such member was originally chosen.

The probate judge of Mobile county shall record all such certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original certificates. Forthwith upon his receipt and recordation of every such certificate, he shall send to the governor a certified copy of every such certificate.

No member of such commission shall be eligible to succeed himself as such member or for nomination to the governor for appointment as judge of such circuit court or district court during the term of office for which such member shall have been selected.

The members of such commission shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their services as such members. No member of such commission other than the member required to be a judge of the circuit court shall hold any public office, and no member of such commission shall hold any official position in any political party.

If, subsequent to January 15, 1982, a vacancy occurs in the office of judge of the circuit court or in the office of judge of the district court of Mobile county, such commission shall nominate to the governor three persons having the qualifications for such office. Such nomination shall be made only by the concurrence of a majority of the members of such commission. The governor shall appoint to the office in which the vacancy exists one of the three persons so nominated for such office. Any vacancy occurring in the office of judge of the circuit or district court of Mobile county, which is required to be filled by appointment on nominations made by a judicial commission, shall

be made within ninety days from the date of the submission of such nominations. In the event the governor fails to fill the vacancy from such nominations within such period, the appointment shall be made by the chief justice of the supreme court of Alabama. The appointee shall hold such office until the next general election for any state officer held at least six months after the vacancy occurs and until his successor is elected and qualified; the successor shall hold office for the unexpired term and until his successor is elected and qualified.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 408 ratified

Procedure for Filling Vacancies in Office of Judge of Circuit Court and Office of Judge of District Court in Mobile County.

All vacancies in the office of judge of the circuit court and the office of judge of the district court of Mobile county which shall occur subsequent to January 15, 1982, shall be filled in the manner and for the time as herein provided.

The Mobile county judicial commission is hereby created for the purpose of nominating to the governor persons for appointment to such a vacancy. The members of such commission shall be (a) two persons who are members of the Alabama state bar, and (b) two persons who are not members of the Alabama state bar, and (c) one judge of the circuit court of Mobile county.

All members of such commission must reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court of Mobile county.

The two members of such commission who are required to be members of the Alabama state bar shall be elected by the members of such bar who are regularly licensed and qualified to practice law in this state and who reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court of Mobile county. The executive committee of the Mobile county bar association or its successor body in such capacity, is authorized and directed to make rules, not inconsistent with this amendment, for the election of such members of such commission as are required to be members of the Alabama state bar. Such executive committee shall certify in writing to the probate judge of Mobile county the names of the persons elected as members of such commission by such members of such bar.

The senators and representatives in the Alabama legislature from Mobile county shall elect the two members of such commission who are required not to be members of the Alabama state bar. Such senators and representatives shall certify in writing to such probate judge the names of the persons elected by them as such members.

The judges of the circuit court of Mobile county shall elect the member of such commission who is required to be a judge of such circuit court. The judges of such circuit court shall certify in writing to such probate judge the name of the circuit judge elected by such circuit judges as such member.

The terms of office of all members of such commission shall be six years, except that the terms of office of the two members of the state bar first elected shall be for one and two years respectively, and of the two members first elected by the senators and representatives in the Alabama legislature from Mobile county shall be for three and four years respectively, and the term of the circuit judge elected by the circuit judges shall be for five years; the length of such terms of office of the members of such commission being indicated by the respective electing bodies. The terms of the initial members of such commission shall begin on January 16, 1982. A vacancy in the office of a member of such commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as such member was originally chosen.

The probate judge of Mobile county shall record all such certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original certificates. Forthwith upon his receipt and recordation of every such certificate, he shall send to the governor a certified copy of every such certificate.

No member of such commission shall be eligible to succeed himself as such member or for nomination to the governor for appointment as judge of such circuit court or district court during the term of office for which such member shall have been selected.

The members of such commission shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their services as such members. No member of such commission other than the member required to be a judge of the circuit court shall

hold any public office, and no member of such commission shall hold any official position in any political party.

If, subsequent to January 15, 1982, a vacancy occurs in the office of judge of the circuit court or in the office of judge of the district court of Mobile county, such commission shall nominate to the governor three persons having the qualifications for such office. Such nomination shall be made only by the concurrence of a majority of the members of such commission. The governor shall appoint to the office in which the vacancy exists one of the three persons so nominated for such office. Any vacancy occurring in the office of judge of the circuit or district court of Mobile county, which is required to be filled by appointment on nominations made by a judicial commission, shall be made within ninety days from the date of the submission of such nominations. In the event the governor fails to fill the vacancy from such nominations within such period, the appointment shall be made by the chief justice of the supreme court of Alabama. The appointee shall hold such office until the next general election for any state officer held at least six months after the vacancy occurs and until his successor is elected and qualified; the successor shall hold office for the unexpired term and until his successor is elected and qualified.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 410 ratified

Indebtedness to Improve Roads and Bridges in Washington County.

Washington county may become indebted and may issue bonds for the construction or improvement of public roads and bridges in said county in an amount not to exceed the debt limits prescribed for counties by this Constitution. To pay said indebtedness and interest thereon, Washington county may impose and collect an annual road paving fee on all motor vehicle licenses issued in the county. The indebtedness, the bonds and the fee authorized hereby shall be in addition to those authorized by the Constitution of Alabama prior to the adoption of this amendment. But no such additional indebtedness shall be created, and no such additional bonds shall be issued, and no such additional fee shall be levied, until each improvement or construction proposed to be built thereby and its approximate location shall have been determined upon and made public by the Washington county commission, and the proposed increase of indebtedness or issue of bonds or fee therefor shall have been first authorized by a majority vote by ballot of the qualified voters of Washington county voting upon such proposition. Any local, special or general legislation enacted by the legislature to augment or implement the provisions of this amendment need not be advertised as provided in Section 106 or any other provision of this Constitution.

Amendment 411 ratified

Salaries, Fees, etc., of County Officials Charged with Assessing and Collecting Ad Valorem Taxes; Abolishment, Combination or Alteration of Offices of Tax Assessor, Tax Collector or License Commissioner.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local law applicable to the various counties of this state, establish the salaries, fees, commissions or allowances to be charged or received by the tax assessors, tax collectors, license commissioners, revenue commissioners or other officials charged with the assessing and collecting of ad valorem taxes in the various counties of this state, including changing the method and basis of their compensation; and may place any or all of such officials on a salary and further provide for disposition of the fees, commissions, allowances or other compensation theretofore paid to such officials; and may provide that the salaries of such officials may be paid from the ad valorem taxes assessed and collected by them on a pro rata basis from the various funds receiving such ad valorem taxes; provided, however, that following the effective date of any general law passed pursuant to this constitutional amendment, the legislature may not thereafter either increase or decrease the salaries of such officials during any term for which such officials have been elected or appointed, and in the case of such officials who were converted from a fee basis to a salary basis of compensation, the legislature may not decrease the salaries of such officials during any term for which such officials have been elected or appointed or may be thereafter re-elected or re-appointed. The legislature may by local act provide for the abolishment, combination or

other alteration of the offices of tax assessor, tax collector or license commissioner with approval of a majority of voters in the county affected.

In the event this amendment is approved and subsequently ratified by the qualified electors of this state who vote thereon when it is submitted, then any law theretofore passed by the legislature addressing the subject matter covered by this amendment shall become effective according to the provisions of said law.

Amendment 412 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Calhoun County and Method of Disbursement Thereof.

The county governing body may from time to time, by resolution fix, alter and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Calhoun county, and the method of disbursement thereof, upon notice to affected citizens not less than 60 days from the effective date. Provided, however, a majority of the qualified electors of the county shall first give approval therefor in an election called by the county governing body to determine this issue; provided further, however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of Calhoun county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof, no further election need be held.

Amendment 413 ratified

Operation of Bingo Games by Certain Nonprofit Organizations in Montgomery County.

The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by certain nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in Montgomery county, subject to the provisions of any resolution or ordinance by the county governing body or the governing bodies of the respective cities and towns, within their respective jurisdictions as provided by law regulating such operation. The said governing bodies shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the issuance of permits or licenses and for operation of bingo games, within their respective jurisdictions; provided, however, that said governing bodies must insure compliance pursuant to said law and the following provisions:

- (a) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian; nor shall any person under the age of 19 be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo;
- (b) No bingo permit or license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless such organization shall have been in existence for at least 12 months immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license;
- (c) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. if the premises is leased, the rate or rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games;
- (d) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association or corporation to have said individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization, nor shall said nonprofit organization pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game;
- (e) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by any other person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which said nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating said bingo game;
- (f) Prizes given by any qualified nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value, set by the legislature, during any bingo session. The legislature shall set a maximum amount for any calendar week.
- (g) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition thereof, shall take any expenses for the operation of a bingo game except as permitted by law.

Amendment 414 ratified

Judge of Probate of Bullock County; Compensation; Not to Serve on County Governing Body.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and compensation, and the method or basis of fixing the compensation to be charged or received by the judge of probate of Bullock county, and may put such officer on a salary basis and provide that the fees, commissions, percentages, and allowances payable to such officer according to law shall be paid into the county treasury. The judge of probate of Bullock county shall not serve as the chairman, or as a member, of the county governing body.

Amendment 415 ratified

Industrial Sites and Industrial Park Projects in Calhoun County and Municipalities Therein.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, Calhoun county and each municipality situated in said county, shall, other provisions of law or this Constitution notwithstanding, have, independently or in cooperation with one or more of such governmental entities, full and continuing power (a) to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and to improve and develop such land for use as industrial sites or industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas and utilities to serve said projects, (b) to lease, sell, grant, exchange or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of such county or municipality, all or any part of any such project to any person, firm or corporation, public or private, including any industrial development board, other public corporation, or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or any municipality therein, for the purpose of constructing or developing thereon, by such purchaser or leasee, and equipping and operating, industrial, transportation, distribution, warehouse or research facilities, and offices and other facilities auxiliary to the foregoing, and (c) to grant public funds to such industrial development boards, public corporations or authorities. Nothing herein shall authorize the county, or any municipality therein, to construct buildings for the purpose of lease or sale.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Calhoun county nor any municipality in said county shall be subject to the provisions of Sections 93 or 94 of the Constitution of Alabama, as amended, and the legislature shall have the power, by special or local law, to create, or provide for the creation of, any public corporation, authority, board, agency, or other entity empowered or intended to assist or aid in any way Calhoun county or any municipality therein in carrying out the purposes of this amendment and such special or local law shall not be subject to the provisions of Sections 104 and 106 of this Constitution, as amended. The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and the powers granted hereby may be exercised as alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to such county, or to any municipality therein, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

No action may be taken under this amendment by the said county or any of the municipalities therein until after the question of whether the county and the said municipalities shall have the authority to take such action shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of the county at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of the county and a majority of the said qualified voters voting at the said election shall have voted in favor of the county and the said municipalities having the authority to take such action; provided, that if a majority of the qualified electors of the county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof, then the approval of this amendment expressed by said vote in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the taking of any and all action provided for in the first sentence of this amendment and no additional election by the electors of the county shall ever be required to authorize the taking of any such action. If the majority of the qualified electors of the county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall not vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment, or if the majority of the qualified electors of the county voting in any

election called by the governing body under the provisions of this amendment should not vote in favor of the county and the municipalities having the authority to take such action at an election so called, the governing body of the county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the question of whether the county and the municipalities therein shall be authorized to take such action, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. Any such election called by the governing body of the county shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed and may be contested in the manner and within the time provided by the then existing general laws of Alabama pertaining to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties. Any such election shall be conclusive on the question of whether the county and the municipalities therein shall have the authority to take such action and it will not thereafter be necessary for an election to be held in connection with each exercise by either the county or the municipalities of the power and authority granted them by the provisions of the first sentence of this amendment.

Amendment 416 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Clarke County.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, alter and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Clarke county, and the method and disbursement thereof.

Amendment 417 ratified

Abolition of Office of Constable in Fayette County.

The office of constable in Fayette county, Alabama, may be abolished by a vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting in a special election called by the county governing body to determine this issue; provided, however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of Fayette county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof, no further election need be held.

Amendment 418 ratified

Costs and Charges of Court and Compensation of Judge of Probate of Franklin County.

The legislature may, by general or local laws, fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of court and the fees, commissions, percentages, allowances, and salary, including the method or basis of his compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate of Franklin county, and may place the judge of probate on a salary and provide that the fees, commissions, percentages, and allowances collected by the judge of probate shall be paid into the county treasury from which his salary shall be paid. The provisions of this constitutional amendment shall not be implemented in Franklin county until implementation is approved by a vote of a majority of the qualified electors of Franklin county voting in an election called by the county governing body to determine said issue; provided, however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of Franklin county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof, no further election need be held.

Amendment 419 ratified

Abolition of Office of Constable in Lamar County.

The office of constable in Lamar county, Alabama, may be abolished by a vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the county voting in a special election called by the county governing body to determine this issue; provided, however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of Lamar county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof, no further election need be held.

Amendment 420 ratified

Additional Ad Valorem Tax in Macon County for Education Purposes.

The legislature may authorize the levy and collection of a ten mill ad valorem tax in Macon county, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, on real and personal property that is subject to such tax under the laws of this state, for public education purposes.

The tax authorized by this amendment shall not be levied in Macon county until it is approved by a vote of the electorate of said county or unless a majority of the qualified electors of Macon county who vote at the statewide election called for the submission of this amendment shall approve it.

Amendment 421 ratified

Compensation of Judge of Probate of Pike County and Disposition of Charges, etc., Collectible by Such Official.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Pike county, place the judge of probate on a salary and provide for the disposition of such charges, costs, fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such official.

Amendment 422 ratified

Repeal of Amendment 196.

Amendment No. 196 of the Constitution of 1901, relating to the costs and charges of courts and compensation of certain officers in St. Clair county is hereby repealed.

Amendment 423 ratified

Consolidation of Offices of Tax Assessor and Tax Collector of Winston County Into Office of County Revenue Commissioner.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local law, provide for the establishment of a consolidated and unified system for the assessment and collection of taxes in Winston county and for the consolidation of the offices of tax assessor and tax collector of such county into one office to be known as the county revenue commissioner and for the abolition of the offices of tax assessor and tax collector of such county.

Unless otherwise provided by law, the revenue commissioner of Winston county shall be charged with the performance of any duty provided by law for the tax assessor and tax collector of Winston county, and his compensation shall be fixed by law. Immediately upon the beginning of the first term of office of revenue commissioner of Winston county, the offices of tax assessor and tax collector shall be abolished.

Amendment 424 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Winston County and Distribution of Revenues Therefrom.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general, special or local law, fix, regulate and alter the costs and charges of any court in Winston county and the method or basis of distribution of any revenues therefrom.

Amendment 425 ratified

Adoption of Proposed Constitutional Amendments Affecting Only One County.

Any proposed constitutional amendment which affects or applies to only one county shall be adopted as a valid part of the constitution by a majority vote of the people of the county and in any political subdivision thereof so affected, provided that such proposed amendment has first been unanimously approved by at least a three-fifths vote of the elected members of each house and unanimously approved by a local constitutional amendment commission composed of the governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state and speaker of the house of representatives and notice of such election, together with the proposed amendment shall be given by proclamation of the governor, which proclamation shall be published once a week for four successive weeks next preceding the day appointed for the election in each newspaper qualified to run legal notices in the county affected. The proposed local constitutional amendment shall then be approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors of the county and in any political subdivision thereof affected by such proposed amendment voting in a referendum election held for the purpose of determining if such proposed amendment shall become adopted as a valid part of the Constitution.

Amendment 426 ratified

Amendment to Amendment No. 328, Article VI, Section 6.09(d).

(d) The commission may submit a report to the legislature at any time within the first five calendar days of any session. The recommendations of the commission shall become law upon confirmation by a joint resolution or such recommendations may be altered by an act of the legislature at the session to which the report is submitted. The compensation of a judge shall not be diminished during his official term.

Amendment 427 ratified

Alabama State House.

In the event the legislature determines it to be necessary or desirable that the Capitol be repaired, renovated, restored, constructed or reconstructed, the legislature, by resolution, shall designate and provide a suitable place for the meeting of the legislature and the transacting of business of the legislative department. Such place shall be designated and known as the Alabama State House.

Amendment 428 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 214.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, marketing and use of poultry and poultry products. The legislature may provide for the promotion of poultry and poultry products and the poultry industry by research, education, advertising and other methods, and the legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby producers, owners or growers of poultry may by referendum held among such producers, owners or growers of poultry in this state levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of poultry and poultry products for the financing of any such promotional program or activity in cooperation with processors, dealers, handlers and other buyers of poultry and poultry products. Provided, no assessment levied hereunder shall exceed two and one-half cents (2 1/2 ¢)

per hen or other domesticated fowl or any other classes of poultry sold by producers thereof. The legislature is authorized to make provisions for nonpayment and for the refund of assessments levied upon owners, producers or growers of poultry to any such person who does not desire to participate in the promotional program. The legislature shall provide for the collection and distribution of assessments or charges authorized hereunder and to provide penalties for failure to make such collection and distribution of assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization organized for the promotion and betterment of poultry and poultry products in Alabama to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include conducting elections or referendum among producers, owners or growers of poultry. The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities authorized herein by the department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof. Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon poultry and poultry products.

Amendment 429 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Certain Counties and Municipalities Therein.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, the governing body of Bullock, Coffee, Coosa, Dallas, Etowah, Geneva, Houston, Jefferson, Lawrence, Macon, Marengo, Mobile, Morgan, Talladega, Madison, Shelby, and Tuscaloosa counties and of each municipality situated in said counties, other provisions of law or this Constitution notwithstanding, shall each have, independently or in cooperation with one or more of such governmental entities in such counties, full and continuing power (a) to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire, land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and to improve and develop such land for use as industrial site, or industrial park, projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas and utilities to serve said projects, and (b) to lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county, or of municipality exercising such power, all, or any part of, any such project to any person, firm or corporation, public or private, including to any industrial development board or authority heretofore or hereafter created by any such county or municipality therein, for the purpose of the constructing, or developing thereon, by such purchaser or lessees, and the equipping and operating of, industrial, transportation, distribution, warehouse or research facilities, and of office and other facilities auxiliary to the foregoing. Nothing herein shall authorize the counties named, or any municipality there, to construct residential or any other buildings for the purpose of lease or sale.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither the governing bodies of the counties named hereinabove, nor of any municipality situated in said counties to which this amendment is or becomes applicable, shall be subject to the provisions of sections 93 or 94 of the Constitution of Alabama, as amended. The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and the powers granted hereby may be exercised as alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the governing body of such counties, or of any municipality therein, or to any agency, board, or authority created or approved thereby pursuant to this Constitution or the laws of this state.

The names and addresses of all parties involved in conveyances of land herein provided, and the amount of any monies paid or received, shall be published in the newspaper in the county with the largest circulation.

This amendment shall not be construed to grant any power of eminent domain in addition to that which may be provided otherwise by statute heretofore or hereafter enacted by the legislature of Alabama; nor shall this amendment be construed to affect the annexation statutes heretofore or hereafter enacted by said legislature.

Furthermore, no county or municipality shall sell any real property acquired under the authority hereof for a price less than its actual purchase and development cost of such property, unless:

- (a) The price be approved at a public meeting of the governing body of such county or municipality; and
- (b) At least fourteen (14) days prior to such public meeting at which such price is approved by such governing body, it has published notice in the newspaper with the largest circulation in the county in which the property is located stating (1) the acreage proposed to be sold, (2) the section or sections or subdivisions of record in which the property is located, (3) the price per acre at which sale is proposed to be made, and (4) the place where a map of the property can be examined by the public; and
- (c) The price thus approved is no less than the price advertised as aforesaid; provided, however, that should any real property be acquired for any purpose authorized by this amendment by eminent domain pursuant to other legislative authority as aforesaid, such property shall not be sold, in any event, for less than the price determined and paid pursuant to the orders of the court in such condemnation proceedings. Provided further, that no municipality shall acquire real property in unincorporated areas without a prior consent thereto as expressed in a resolution by the county governing body. Provided further, that no county or municipality shall acquire real property which is located in another county or municipality without such other county's or municipality's prior consent thereto as expressed in a resolution by its governing body. Nothing in the provisions of this constitutional amendment shall be construed to allow construction of dormitories or other type housing on or off university or college campuses.

Amendment 430 ratified

Consolidation of Offices of Tax Assessor and Tax Collector in Blount County.

The legislature may from time to time, by general or local law, provide for the abolition of the offices of tax assessor and tax collector of Blount county and create a completely new office in such county and transfer to such office the duties of each of the said offices of tax assessor and tax collector in such county; provided that the officer to fill the newly created office will be compensated for the performance of the duties of said office by a salary fixed according to law.

Amendment 431 ratified

Membership and Powers of Bullock County Development Authority.

As used in this amendment, "the authority" means the Bullock county development authority authorized and established pursuant to Amendment 128 to this Constitution; "board" means the governing body of the authority; "member" means a member of the board; "commission" means the Bullock county commission; "jail and county buildings" means the Bullock county jail or other facility for holding prisoners and shall include any building owned and construed [constructed] by the county or a building authority and occupied by the county, or a state or federal government agency or entity; "building authority" means the entity established or to be established to finance and construct a jail and county buildings; and "industrial tax" means the tax authorized and imposed under the authority of Amendment 128 of this Constitution.

The authority is hereby granted continuing and permanent status. The membership of the authority is hereby fixed at seven (7). Each member shall serve a term of six (6) years and shall not serve more than two consecutive terms; provided however, that a member shall continue to serve until a successor is appointed. When a vacancy occurs or upon expiration of a term of a member, the remaining members shall nominate three reputable citizens interested in county development and present their names to the commission which by majority vote shall appoint one of the nominees to the board. If the commission fails to appoint one of the original nominees [nominees], the remaining members shall nominate three additional citizens in accordance with the aforementioned procedure. If the commission fails to appoint one of the six nominees, then the remaining members shall continue to submit nominees according to the aforementioned procedure until the commission appoints a member.

All expenditures, bids and contracts [contracts] respecting the industrial tax, except those made by the building authority, shall be in the name and under the control of the authority; provided, however, except as provided in the

third sentence of this paragraph, no industrial tax funds shall hereafter be expended without the approval of the commission. The authority may borrow money and expend funds for educational and health purposes and to enhance or develop other resources for the purpose of attracting industry to Bullock county. The authority may expend or appropriate or pledge or contract to pay over to the building authority for as long as its original issue of bonds or warrants is outstanding not more than one-half of the industrial tax revenues, subject to all prior commitments thereof for debt service, debt retirement or other debt repayment, for the purpose of constructing, financing or maintaining a jail or county buildings, or to assist the building authority in doing so, or for educational purposes, provided that such expenditures shall not impair the debts of the authority, and the industrial tax shall not be pledged to secure debts incurred for construction or maintenance or any other purposes except those provided for in this amendment or in Amendment 128 to this Constitution.

The rentals and obligations of the county under any lease entered into by the county with the building authority shall not be charged against the county's constitutional debt limit, regardless of the duration of the lease.

Act No. 81-838 of the 1981 Regular Session is hereby validated and declared to be fully effective according to its scope and tenor. The tax authorized by said act or by Act No. 81-1028 of the 1981 Second Special Session and any other tax for a jail or county buildings authorized by any act of the legislature in the 1981 or 1982 regular or special sessions shall not exceed one-half of one percent and any such tax shall be imposed only until the original issue of bonds or warrants for such construction is paid.

The tax authorized and permitted by sections 40-12-4 through 40-12-8 of the Code of Alabama 1975 for educational purposes is hereby fixed at one-half of one percent in Bullock county. Provided, however, the commission may levy an additional one-half of one percent tax provided by the aforementioned code section if the county board of education revenues fall below 1980-81 levels from all sources including funding provided by the authority. The industrial tax is hereby declared to parallel the state sales and use taxes and such tax shall be collected by the Alabama department of revenue.

Any changes in tax rates or tax collections required by this amendment shall be accomplished within ninety days from the effective date of this amendment.

Amendment 432 ratified

Fire Protection Districts in Etowah County.

The governing body of Etowah county is hereby authorized to establish and maintain fire fighting districts within Etowah county. Said governing body is further authorized to enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within such county for fire protection and services. The fire fighting districts herein authorized shall not include any corporate municipality of Etowah county unless such municipality requests through resolution of its governing body to be included in such fire fighting program. Any act heretofore enacted regarding said Etowah county fire fighting districts is hereby ratified and confirmed insofar as it is consistent with this amendment.

Amendment 433 ratified

Repeal of Amendment No. 236.

Amendment No. 236 of the Constitution of 1901, relating to the compensation of certain officers of Greene county, is hereby repealed.

The provisions of this constitutional amendment shall not be implemented in Greene county until implementation is approved by a vote of a majority of the qualified electors of Greene county voting in an election called by the county governing body to determine said issue; provided, however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of Greene county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof, no further election need be held.

Amendment 434 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Wilcox County and Method of Distribution Thereof.

The legislature may from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the costs and charges of courts in the county of Wilcox and the method of distribution thereof.

The provisions of this constitutional amendment shall not be implemented in Wilcox county until implementation is approved by a vote of a majority of the qualified electors of Wilcox county voting in an election called by the county governing body to determine said issue; provided, however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of Wilcox county who participate in the election held on the adoption of this amendment vote in favor thereof, no further election need be held.

Amendment 435 ratified

Annual License Taxes, Registration, etc., on Trucks, Trailers, etc., in Conecuh County.

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Conecuh county commission is hereby authorized to establish, by validly enacted ordinance, the amount of all Conecuh county annual license taxes and registration fees and ad valorem taxes on all trucks, truck-tractors, trailers and semitrailers located within the county.

Amendment 436 ratified

Fire Districts and Fire Prevention Services in Jackson County.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the establishment of fire districts within Jackson county to provide fire fighting and prevention services; and may authorize the levy and collection of certain rates, fees, charges or taxes for such services.

Amendment 437 ratified

Indebtedness for Daniel "Chappie" James Aerospace Memorial by Macon County.

Macon county is hereby authorized to incur indebtedness to the extent of not exceeding \$3,500,000 in aggregate principal amount, and to issue its bonds in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred, for the purpose of obtaining funds in such amount and contributing that amount to Tuskegee Institute to be used for the construction of "The Daniel 'Chappie' James Aerospace Memorial." Such bonds may be issued only after the question of the issuance thereof shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of said county at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of said county and a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of said bonds, which election shall be called, held, conducted, and canvassed, and may be contested, in the manner and within the time provided by the then existing laws of Alabama pertaining to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties; provided however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of said county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the voters of said county in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds, and in that event no additional election by the electors of said county shall be required to authorize the issuance of said bonds. In the event the majority of the qualified electors of said county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment should not vote in favor of the adoption thereof, or in the event the majority vote at any election held in said county pursuant to the provisions of this amendment after its adoption is not in favor of the issuance of the bonds proposed at said election, the governing body of said county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of said bonds, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. The power to become indebted and to issue bonds in evidence of such indebtedness shall be in addition to all other powers which the said county may have under the Constitution and laws of Alabama, and any bonds issued pursuant to this amendment shall not be chargeable against the amount of

indebtedness which said county may incur under the Constitution and laws of Alabama in effect prior to the adoption of this amendment. All bonds issued under this amendment shall be general obligations of the county secured by an irrevocable pledge of its full faith and credit, may (any provisions of the Constitution and laws of this state to the contrary notwithstanding) be additionally secured by a special and irrevocable pledge of a sufficient amount of the proceeds from the special 1/4 of 1% ad valorem tax authorized by Section 215 of the Constitution of Alabama, as amended, to be levied and collected by the county, shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the sale of said bonds respecting the maturities, sale, execution and redemption of bonds by counties.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 438 ratified

Indebtedness for Daniel "Chappie" James Aerospace by Memorial City of Tuskegee.

The city of Tuskegee in Macon county is hereby authorized to incur indebtedness to the extent of not exceeding \$3,500,000 in aggregate principal amount, and to issue its bonds in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred, for the purpose of obtaining funds in such amount and contributing that amount to Tuskegee Institute to be used for the construction of "The Daniel 'Chappie' James Aerospace Memorial." Such bonds may be issued only after the question of the issuance thereof shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of said municipality at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of said municipality and a majority of said qualified electors voting at said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of said bonds, which election shall be called, held, conducted, and canvassed, and may be contested, in the manner and within the time provided by the then existing laws of Alabama pertaining to elections on the issuance of bonds by municipalities; provided, however, that if a majority of the qualified electors of said municipality participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the voters of said municipality in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds, and in that event no additional election by the electors of said municipality shall be required to authorize the issuance of said bonds. In the event the majority of the qualified electors of said municipality participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment should not vote in favor of the adoption thereof, or in the event the majority vote at any election held in said municipality pursuant to the provisions of this amendment after its adoption is not in favor of the issuance of the bonds proposed at said election, the governing body of said municipality may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of said bonds, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. The power to become indebted and to issue bonds in evidence of such indebtedness shall be in addition to all other powers which the said municipality may have under the Constitution and laws of Alabama, and any bonds issued pursuant to this amendment shall not be chargeable against the amount of indebtedness which said municipality may incur under the Constitution and laws of Alabama in effect prior to the adoption of this amendment. All bonds issued under this amendment shall be general obligations of the municipality secured by an irrevocable pledge of its full faith and credit, may (any provisions of the Constitution and laws of this state to the contrary notwithstanding) be additionally secured by a special and irrevocable pledge of a sufficient amount of the proceeds from the 1 1/4% ad valorem tax authorized by Amendment 56 to the Constitution of Alabama, to be levied and collected by the municipality, shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the sale of said bonds respecting the maturities, sale, execution and redemption of bonds by municipalities.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 439 ratified

Forest Fire Protection in Marshall County.

The legislature may prescribe by local law for Marshall county for forest fire protection in the county and may authorize the county governing body to further promote and provide for tax on acreage, on a basis other than ad valorem, therefore. The legislature may provide for the manner for levying and collecting such assessments and the distribution thereof. The legislature may further provide for the administration of such forest fire protection promotion.

Amendment 440 ratified

Operation of Bingo Games in Mobile County.

The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by certain nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in Mobile county, subject to the provisions of any resolution or ordinance by the county governing body or the governing bodies of the respective cities and towns, within their respective jurisdictions as provided by law regulating such operation. The said governing bodies shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the issuance of permits or licenses and for operation of bingo games, within their respective jurisdictions; provided, however, that said governing bodies must ensure compliance pursuant to said law and the following provisions:

- (a) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian; nor shall any person under the age of 19 be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo;
- (b) No bingo permit or license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless such organization shall have been in existence for at least 12 months immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license;
- (c) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises is leased, the rate or rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games;
- (d) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association or corporation to have said individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization, nor shall said nonprofit organization pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game;
- (e) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by any other person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which said nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating said bingo game;
- (f) Prizes given by any qualified nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value, set by the legislature, during any bingo session. The legislature shall set a maximum amount for any calendar week;
- (g) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition thereof, shall take any expenses for the operation of a bingo game except as permitted by law.

The provisions of this constitutional amendment shall be self-executing, but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the general purposes and objectives herein set forth.

Amendment 441 ratified

Comprehensive Health Insurance Plan for Retired Mobile County Employees.

The Mobile county commission may, from time to time by resolution duly adopted and spread upon its minutes, provide for a comprehensive health insurance plan for retired county employees. If such plan is so adopted, the Mobile county commission shall determine the extent of coverage of such plan and shall prescribe rules and regulations governing participation in such plan.

Amendment 442 ratified

Privilege, License, etc., Taxes and Securities for Funding County Facilities in Randolph County.

(A) As used in this amendment, the following terms shall be given the following respective meanings:

"COUNTY" means Randolph county, Alabama.

"COUNTY FACILITIES" means (a) any land, building, equipment and any other facility or facilities necessary or useful in the housing, confinement, detention, feeding, treatment, rehabilitation and training of persons held in lawful custody, and (b) any land, building, equipment or other facility useful as a county courthouse building.

"COUNTY FACILITIES BUILDING FUND" means the county facilities building fund established herein for the purpose of receiving certain tax receipts required by the provisions hereof to be paid therein.

"EXISTING AD VALOREM TAX" means the two and one-half mill special ad valorem tax authorized to be levied by the county pursuant to section 215 of the Constitution.

"SECURITIES" means any bonds or warrants, including refunding bonds or warrants, issued by the county under the provisions of this amendment.

"SPECIAL AD VALOREM TAX" means the special county hospital ad valorem tax authorized to be levied by the county pursuant to amendment no. 72 to the Constitution.

"SPECIAL SALES TAX" means the special county privilege, license and excise taxes authorized and directed by this amendment to be levied by the county on those engaged in the business of selling tangible personal property at retail and conducting places of amusement in the county and paralleling the state sales and use taxes.

"SPECIAL TAXES" means the special ad valorem tax, the special sales tax, and the existing ad valorem tax.

(B) The county is hereby authorized and directed, within 60 days after the proclamation of the ratification of this amendment, to levy and collect, or provide for the collection of special privilege, license and excise taxes on those engaged in the business of selling tangible personal property and conducting places of amusement in the county at the rate of one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the gross receipts of the businesses made subject to the special sales tax, which tax shall, to the fullest extent possible, parallel the sales and use taxes levied by the state. All revenues derived by the county from the levy of the special sales tax, less the cost of collection of such revenues not to exceed 5% thereof to be paid to the department of revenue, shall be paid into the county facilities building fund. The county shall discontinue the levy of the special sales tax when all of the securities issued hereunder shall have been paid in full, or when the county shall have expended the sum of \$1,500,000 out of the county facilities building fund to pay costs of county facilities, whichever shall last occur.

(C) The county is hereby authorized and directed (subject to prior pledges and agreements, if any) to pay, out of taxes collected each year, beginning with taxes collected with respect to the tax year that began October 1, 1982, one-half of the tax receipts derived from the levy of the special ad valorem tax into the county facilities building fund. The county shall discontinue paying such tax receipts into the county facilities building fund when all of the securities issued hereunder have been paid in full, or when the county shall have expended the sum of \$1,500,000 out of the county facilities building fund to pay costs of county facilities, whichever shall last occur.

(D) The county is hereby authorized and directed (subject to prior pledges and agreements, if any) to pay four-tenths of the tax receipts derived by the county from the levy of the existing ad valorem tax into the county facilities

building fund. The county shall discontinue paying such tax receipts into the county facilities building fund when all of the securities issued hereunder have been paid in full, or when the county shall have expended the sum of \$1,500,000 out of the county facilities building fund to pay costs of county facilities, whichever shall last occur.

(E) The county is hereby authorized and directed to establish the county facilities building fund for the purpose of receiving the moneys required to be paid therein by the provisions hereof. Funds on deposit in the county facilities building fund shall be used to pay the costs of acquiring, providing, constructing and equipping new county facilities, renovating, reconstructing, improving, enlarging or equipping any existing county facilities or any combination thereof, up to an amount not exceeding \$1,500,000, and to pay principal of and interest and premium, if any, on securities issued hereunder to finance county facilities.

(F) The county is hereby authorized to sell and issue from time to time its securities, not exceeding \$1,500,000 in aggregate principal amount, for the purpose of acquiring, providing, constructing and equipping new county facilities, renovating, reconstructing, improving, enlarging or equipping any existing county facilities or any combination thereof and to pledge for payment of the securities the portions of the special taxes required to be paid into the county facilities building fund.

For the purpose of refunding any securities, including refunding securities issued under the provisions of this amendment, whether the refunding shall occur before, at or after the maturity of the securities refunded and for the purpose of paying all premiums and expenses of the refunding (including attorneys' fees, costs of printing the refunding securities, fiscal agents' fees, and accountants' fees), the county is hereby authorized to sell and issue from time to time refunding securities in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding the sum of (a) the outstanding principal amount of the securities to be refunded, (b) the interest (accrued or to accrue) to the respective maturities of the securities to be refunded, or if the securities to be refunded are to be called for redemption, either on the earliest date on which under their terms they may be redeemed or some later date or dates, the interest (accrued or to accrue) on the securities to be refunded to the date or dates on which they are to be called for redemption, (c) the amount of any redemption premium required, by the terms of the securities, to be paid as a condition to their redemption prior to their respective maturities, and (d) the amount of any expenses (actual or estimated) of such refunding.

The securities issued hereunder may but need not be general obligations of the county, but shall be secured by the portions of the special taxes pledged for their payment in the proceedings of the county whereunder the securities are authorized to be issued and required to be paid into the county facilities building fund.

All securities issued under this amendment may be in such form and denominations and of such tenor and maturities, may bear interest at such rate or rates, payable at such time or times, not exceeding thirty (30) years from their date, may be sold at public or private sale and may contain such provisions not inconsistent with this amendment as shall be provided in the proceedings of the governing body of the county wherein such securities are authorized to be issued. The power to levy the special sales tax, to pay as required herein the portions of the special ad valorem tax and the existing ad valorem tax into the county facilities building fund and the power to issue the securities shall be in addition to all other powers which the county may have under this Constitution and the laws of Alabama. The indebtedness evidenced by the securities issued under this amendment shall be in addition to and shall not be charged against the limitation on the indebtedness of the county provided for in section 224 of the Constitution.

(G) It is the intention hereof that the governing body of the county shall (a) levy the special sales tax, and (b) pay one-half of the revenues from the special ad valorem tax and four-tenths of the revenues from the existing ad valorem tax (subject only to prior pledges of either thereof) as shall together be sufficient to provide funds to pay costs of county facilities herein provided for, either directly or through payment of the principal of and interest (and premium, if any) on the securities authorized to be issued hereunder, all to the end that adequate county facilities will be available in the county. Proceeds of the special taxes that are not needed in any fiscal year to pay principal of and interest on securities issued hereunder or to refund securities shall be used to pay costs of constructing and maintaining the county facilities herein provided for, or to purchase and retire securities or call securities for redemption prior to the maturity thereof.

(H) The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and authorization from or any other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of the securities hereunder or to the levy of the special taxes or the use of the proceeds of the special taxes as provided herein; provided, however, that the provisions of this amendment shall not become operative unless approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Randolph county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose upon the call of the Randolph county commission, and provided further, that if this amendment is approved by the qualified electors of Randolph county who vote thereon upon its submission, such election shall constitute a referendum held for such purpose and no further election need be called.

(I) It is hereby specifically declared that this amendment is not being proposed pursuant to the provisions of that certain amendment to the Constitution (known as amendment no. 425) that was proposed by Act No. 82-330 adopted at the 1982 Regular Session of the legislature of Alabama, and provisions of the said amendment 425 are hereby declared to be inapplicable.

Amendment 443 ratified

Conveyance of State Docks Property to Local Authorities.

The state of Alabama, through the Alabama state docks department, is authorized to convey, without consideration, title to its real property, equipment and facilities located in Lauderdale county, Alabama, and known as the Alabama state docks to the Florence-Lauderdale county port authority, a public corporation, but subject to existing leases and other contractual agreements now in effect. Any laws or parts of laws or any provisions of the Constitution of 1901, as amended, which are in conflict with this amendment are hereby revised, superseded and repealed to the extent they are in conflict with this amendment.

The state of Alabama, through the Alabama state docks department, is authorized to convey, with consideration at a price to be established by the director of the Alabama state docks department and his appraisers, title to its real property, equipment and facilities located in Morgan county, Alabama, and known as the Alabama state docks to the Decatur-Morgan county port authority, a public corporation, and in Walker county, Alabama, known as the state docks in Cordova in Walker county to the Walker county commission, but subject to existing leases and other contractual agreements now in effect. Any laws or parts of laws or any provisions of the Constitution of 1901, as amended, which are in conflict with this amendment are hereby revised, superseded and repealed to the extent they are in conflict with this amendment.

Amendment 444 ratified

Randolph County Facilities Building Fund.

(A) As used in this amendment, the following terms shall be given the following respective meanings:

"COSTS OF COUNTY FACILITIES" means the costs of acquiring, providing, constructing and equipping new county facilities, renovating, reconstructing, improving, enlarging or equipping any existing county facilities or any combination thereof.

"COUNTY" means Randolph county, Alabama.

"COUNTY FACILITIES" means (a) any land, building, equipment and any other facility or facilities necessary or useful in the housing, confinement, detention, feeding, treatment, rehabilitation or training of persons held in lawful custody, and (b) any land, building, equipment or other facility useful as a county courthouse building.

"COUNTY FACILITIES BUILDING FUND" means the county facilities building fund to be established by the county pursuant to the provisions hereof for the purpose of receiving certain tax receipts required by the provisions hereof to be paid therein.

"EXISTING AD VALOREM TAX" means the two and one-half mill road, bridge and public building ad valorem tax authorized to be levied by the county pursuant to Section 215 of the Constitution.

"RELATED SECURITIES" means any bonds or warrants, including refunding bonds or warrants, issued for purposes for which securities may be issued hereunder after the effective date of this amendment under the provisions of any other amendment to the Constitution or statute, provided that the governing body of the county in the proceedings authorizing the issuance of such bonds or warrants has pledged for the payment of such bonds or warrants those moneys required by the provisions hereof to be paid into the county facilities building fund.

"SECURITIES" means any bonds or warrants, including refunding bonds or warrants, issued by the county under the provisions of this amendment.

"SPECIAL AD VALOREM TAX" means the special county hospital ad valorem tax authorized to be levied by the county pursuant to Amendment No. 72 to the Constitution.

"SPECIAL TAXES" means the special ad valorem tax and the existing ad valorem tax.

(B) The county is hereby authorized and directed (subject to prior pledges and agreements, if any) to pay, out of taxes collected each year, beginning with taxes collected with respect to the tax year that began October 1, 1982, one-half of the tax receipts derived from the levy of the special ad valorem tax into the county facilities building fund. The county shall discontinue paying such tax receipts into the county facilities building fund when all of the securities issued hereunder and any related securities issued by the county have been paid in full, or when the county shall have expended the sum of \$1,500,000 out of the county facilities building fund to pay costs of county facilities, whichever shall last occur.

(C) The county is hereby authorized and directed (subject to prior pledges and agreements, if any) to pay, out of taxes collected each year, beginning with taxes collected with respect to the tax year that began October 1, 1982, four-tenths of the tax receipts derived by the county from the levy of the existing ad valorem tax into the county facilities building fund. The county shall discontinue paying such tax receipts into the county facilities building fund when all of the securities issued hereunder and any related securities issued by the county have been paid in full, or when the county shall have expended the sum of \$1,500,000 out of the county facilities building fund to pay costs of county facilities, whichever shall last occur.

(D) The county is hereby authorized and directed to establish the county facilities building fund for the purpose of receiving the moneys required to be paid therein by the provisions hereof and any other tax receipts or other moneys of the county that the county may determine to pay therein. Funds on deposit in the county facilities building fund shall be used to pay costs of county facilities, up to an amount not exceeding \$1,500,000, and to pay principal of and interest and premium, if any, on (1) securities issued hereunder to finance costs of county facilities and (2) related securities issued to finance costs of county facilities.

(E) The county is hereby authorized to sell and issue from time to time its securities, not exceeding \$1,500,000 in aggregate principal amount, for the purpose of financing costs of county facilities and to pledge for payment of the securities the portions of the special taxes required to be paid into the county facilities building fund.

For the purpose of refunding any securities, including refunding securities issued under the provisions of this amendment, whether the refunding shall occur before, at or after the maturity of the securities refunded and for the purpose of paying all premiums and expenses of the refunding (including, without limitation, attorneys' fees, costs of printing the refunding securities, fiscal agents' fees, and accountants' fees), the county is hereby authorized to sell and issue from time to time refunding securities in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding the sum of (a) the outstanding principal amount of the securities to be refunded, (b) the interest (accrued or to accrue) to the respective maturities of the securities to be refunded, or if the securities to be refunded are to be called for redemption, either on the earliest date on which under their terms they may be redeemed or some later date or dates, the interest (accrued or to accrue) on the securities to be refunded to the date or dates on which they are to be called for redemption, (c) the amount of any redemption premium required, by the terms of the securities, to be paid as a condition to their

redemption prior to their respective maturities, and (d) the amount of any expenses (actual or estimated) of such refunding.

The securities issued hereunder may but need not be general obligations of the county, but shall be secured by the portions of the special taxes pledged for their payment in the proceedings of the county whereunder the securities are authorized to be issued and required to be paid into the county facilities building fund.

All securities issued under this amendment may be in such form and denominations and of such tenor and maturities, may bear interest at such rate or rates, payable at such time or times, not exceeding 30 years from their date, may be sold at public or private sale and may contain such provisions not inconsistent with this amendment as shall be provided in the proceedings of the governing body of the county whereunder such securities are authorized to be issued. The power to pay, as required herein, the portions of the special ad valorem tax and the existing ad valorem tax into the county facilities building fund and the power to issue the securities shall be in addition to all other powers which the county may have under this Constitution and the laws of Alabama. The indebtedness evidenced by the securities issued under this amendment shall be in addition to all other indebtedness authorized to be incurred by the county and shall not be charged against the limitation on the indebtedness of the county provided for in Section 224 of the Constitution.

(F) The county is hereby authorized to pledge for payment of principal of and interest (and premium, if any) on related securities the portions of the special taxes required to be paid into the county facilities building fund.

(G) It is the intention hereof that the governing body of the county shall pay one-half of the revenues from the special ad valorem tax and four-tenths of the revenues from the existing ad valorem tax (subject only to prior pledges of and agreements pertaining to either thereof) as shall, together with any other moneys paid into the county facilities building fund, be sufficient to provide funds to make available county facilities for the county, either directly through payment of costs of county facilities or through payment of the principal of and interest (and premium, if any) on the securities authorized to be issued hereunder and on any related securities that may be issued by the county for the purpose of paying costs of county facilities, all to the end that adequate county facilities will be available in the county. Proceeds of the special taxes paid into the county facilities building fund that are not needed within 12 months of the date of such payment to pay principal of and interest on securities issued hereunder or on related securities or to refund securities shall be used to pay costs of constructing and maintaining the county facilities herein provided for, or to purchase and retire securities or related securities or to call securities or related securities for redemption prior to the maturity thereof.

(H) The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and authorization from or any other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of the securities hereunder or to the use of the proceeds of the special taxes as provided herein; provided, however, that the provisions of this amendment shall not become operative unless approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon at a referendum election held for such purpose upon the call of the county commission, and provided further, that if this amendment is approved by the qualified electors of the county who vote thereon upon its submission, such election shall constitute a referendum held for such purpose and no further election need be called.

(I) It is hereby specifically declared that this amendment is not being proposed pursuant to the provisions of that certain amendment to the Constitution (known as Amendment No. 425) that was proposed by Act No. 82-330 adopted at the 1982 Regular Session of the legislature of Alabama, and provisions of the said Amendment 425 are hereby declared to be inapplicable to this amendment.

Amendment 445 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 432. Fire Protection Districts in Etowah County.

The Etowah county commission is authorized in its discretion to establish fire districts within the geographical boundaries of Etowah county, said districts to exclude any corporate municipality. Provided, however, any corporate municipality may request through resolution of its governing body to become subject to the provisions of this amendment upon the approval of the additional tax levied herein by a majority of the qualified electors of the corporate municipality.

The county commission is further authorized to enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within such county for fire protection and services.

There is hereby levied, in addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, a fire protection tax of three mills. The fire protection tax levied herein shall be based upon the value of real and personal property assessed by affected property owners, as shown on the records of the tax assessor of Etowah county, Alabama, and shall be assessed and collected as are all ad valorem taxes in the county. The amount collected each year from assessment of this fire protection tax shall be paid into the county general fund and used in furtherance of fire protection within the affected area. Prior to the levy of the fire protection tax in a fire district, there shall be submitted to the electors of the district, at a special election called for that purpose in the district, the question of whether the said tax shall be levied, and the said tax shall be authorized at such election by a majority of the qualified electors within any particular fire district of the county or corporate municipality therein who vote at such election; provided further, that if a majority of the qualified electors of any of the fire districts participating in the election on the ratification of this amendment shall vote for the ratification of this amendment, then the approval of this amendment as expressed by the vote in said district in favor of its ratification shall, of itself, authorize the levy and collection of the tax for fire protection purposes in that fire district, commencing with the levy for the tax year for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 1985.

Elections on the question of the levy of a district fire protection tax may be held at any time and from time to time, provided, that if any such election held after the ratification of this amendment the proposal to levy the tax so submitted should be defeated then the proposal may not be submitted at another election held in the same district within two years from the last election held under this amendment.

Any act heretofore enacted regarding said Etowah county fire fighting districts is hereby ratified and confirmed insofar as it is consistent with this amendment.

Amendment 446 ratified

Bonds of Alabama State Docks Department not Debt of State.

Bonds or other securities issued by or on behalf of the Alabama state docks department shall not constitute a debt of the state within the meaning of Section 213 of this Constitution, as heretofore or hereafter amended, or any similar provision of this Constitution supplemental to, or superseding, said Section 213, as so amended, if by their terms such bonds or securities do not constitute a charge on the general credit or tax revenues of the state, but are payable solely from any or all of the revenues from any or all of the state docks facilities wherever situated (whether of [or] not such facilities were in existence or owned by or on behalf of the state at the time such bonds or securities were issued) or from sources other than state taxes, licenses or appropriations; provided, however, that the proceeds of any fee, tariff or charge (regardless of how denominated or calculated) collected by the Alabama state docks department in connection with the operation of the state docks facilities wherever situated shall be considered revenues from such facilities within the meaning of this amendment.

Amendment 447 ratified

General Obligation Bonds of Mobile County.

Section A. As used in this amendment the following terms shall be given the following respective meanings:

"COUNTY" means Mobile county.

"OUTSTANDING SECURITIES" means any bonds, warrants, notes or other securities issued by the county subsequent to September 30, 1979, and prior to February 1, 1984, that are payable in whole or in part out of proceeds received by the county from the ad valorem tax authorized by Section 215 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended.

"OUTSTANDING SPECIAL TAX SECURITIES" means any securities at the time outstanding that are payable in whole or in part out of proceeds of the special tax.

"SPECIAL TAX" means the annual ad valorem tax on each dollar of the assessed valuation of taxable property in the county authorized to be levied by the county by the amendment known as Amendment XVIII [18] to the Constitution of Alabama, as amended by the amendment to the Constitution known as Amendment CLII [152], and also provided for in the amendments to the Constitution known as Amendments C, CXXII, CLI, CXCI, CXCV and CCC [100, 122, 151, 193, 195 and 300], and by procedures taken under the amendments to the Constitution known as Amendments CCCXXV and CCCLXXIII [325 and 373].

Section B. Mobile county is hereby authorized to apply proceeds of the special tax to the payment of the principal of and interest on and premium, if any, that will hereafter mature or otherwise become payable on the outstanding securities. The right of the county to apply the proceeds of the special tax for payment of the outstanding securities shall be subject to the provisions of this Constitution respecting the special tax and the pledge thereof for the benefit of the outstanding special tax securities. The proceeds of the special tax may be used for payment of the principal and interest on (and premium, if any) the outstanding securities, whether or not any bonds are issued hereunder.

Section C. Mobile county is hereby authorized to issue from time to time its bonds for the purpose of refunding all or any one or more of the issues of outstanding securities. The aggregate principal amount of all bonds at any time issued under this amendment, when added to the aggregate principal amount of all then outstanding bonds theretofore issued by the county under any other amendment to the Constitution of Alabama that are payable from or secured by the special tax shall not exceed 6 1/2 per centum of the assessed valuation of taxable property situated in the county as assessed for county taxation for the fiscal year of the county next preceding that during which any bonds herein authorized shall be issued.

No bonds may be issued under the authority of this amendment until after the question of the issuance of such bonds shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of the county at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of the county and a majority of the said qualified electors voting at the said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of such bonds; provided, that if a majority of the qualified electors of the county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the said vote in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds provided for in the first sentence of this amendment and no additional election by the electors of the county shall be required to authorize the issuance of those bonds. If the majority of the qualified electors of the county participating in the election on the adoption of this amendment should not vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment, or if the majority of the qualified electors of the county voting at any election called by the governing body of the county under the provisions of this amendment should not vote in favor of the issuance of the bonds proposed at an election so called, the governing body of the county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of such bonds, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. Any such election called by the governing body of the county shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed, and may be contested, in the manner and within the time provided by the then existing general laws of Alabama pertaining to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties.

The bonds issued hereunder shall be general obligations of the county for the payment of the principal of and interest on which the full faith and credit of the county shall be irrevocably pledged, and in addition thereto there shall be irrevocably pledged for payment of the said principal and interest so much of the special tax as may be necessary to pay the said principal and interest at their respective maturities, each such pledge to be on a parity with all valid pledges of the special tax at any time heretofore or hereafter made, to such extent as shall not impair the obligations of any then existing valid prior pledges.

All bonds issued under this amendment may be in such aggregate principal amounts, may be in such form and denominations and of such tenor and maturities, may be payable in such installments and at such time or times, not exceeding in the case of each such bond 30 years from its date, and may contain such provisions not inconsistent with this amendment as shall be provided in the proceedings of the governing body of the county whereunder such bonds shall be authorized to be issued. Except as herein otherwise provided, all bonds issued under this amendment shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the issuance of such bonds respecting the sale, execution, issuance and redemption of bonds by counties. The indebtedness evidenced by the bonds issued under this amendment or under any other amendment to the Constitution which are payable out of or are secured by a pledge of the special tax shall be in addition to and shall not be charged against the limitation on the indebtedness of the county provided for in Section 224 of the Constitution.

So long as the principal of or interest on any of the bonds issued under this amendment remains unpaid, the governing body of Mobile county shall continue the levy of the special tax at such rate as may be sufficient to pay the said principal and interest at their respective maturities. The rate at which the county may levy the special tax is hereby fixed at 6 1/2 mills on each dollar of the assessed valuation of properties subject to taxation by the county as assessed for county taxation, which rate shall be the maximum rate at which the county may levy the special tax except to the extent that the said rate may be increased pursuant to provisions of this constitution hereafter adopted. Such rate shall not be subject to adjustment pursuant to the provisions of amendment 195 to the constitution.

Section D. The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and authorization from or other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder, the levy of the special tax for payment thereof, or the use of the proceeds of the special tax for the purpose of paying the principal of or interest on the outstanding securities.

Amendment 448 ratified

Paramount Duty of Legislature to Make Basic Appropriations at Regular Sessions.

(A) The following words and phrases, whenever used in this amendment, shall have the following respective meanings:

"Basic Appropriations" means, with respect to any regular session of the legislature, such appropriations as the legislature may deem appropriate for the expenditures by the state during the ensuing budget period for the ordinary expenses of the executive, legislative and judicial departments of the state, for payment of the public debt, and for education (excluding, however, any item within the scope of the foregoing that is at the time provided for by a continuing appropriation or otherwise).

"Budget Period" means a fiscal year of the state or such period other than [a] fiscal year as may hereafter be fixed by law as the period with respect to which state budgets are prepared and state appropriations are made.

(B) On or before the second legislative day of each regular session of the legislature, beginning with the first regular session after January 1, 1983, the governor shall transmit to the legislature for its consideration a proposed budget for the then next ensuing budget period.

(C) The duty of the legislature at any regular session to make the basic appropriations for any budget period that will commence before the first day of any succeeding regular session shall be paramount; and, accordingly, beginning

with the first regular session held after January 1, 1983, no bill (other than a bill making any of the basic appropriations) shall be signed by either the presiding officer of the house or senate and transmitted to the other house until bills making the basic appropriations for the then ensuing budget period shall have been signed by the presiding officer of each house of the legislature in accordance with Section 66 of this Constitution and presented to the governor in accordance with Section 125 of this Constitution; provided, that this paragraph (C) shall not affect the adoption of resolutions or the conduct of any other legislative functions that do not require a third reading; and provided further, that following adoption, by vote of either house of not less than three-fifths of a quorum present, of a resolution declaring that the provisions of this paragraph (C) shall not be applicable in that house to a particular bill, which shall be specified in said resolution by number and title, the bill so specified may proceed to final passage therein.

(D) Upon the signing and presentation to the governor in accordance with the said Sections 66 and 125 of bills making the basic appropriations, the provisions of the foregoing paragraph (C) prohibiting the final passage of bills in the house and senate (other than bills making any part of the basic appropriations) shall cease to be effective and shall not be revived or become again effective as a result of (i) the subsequent legislative history of any bill so signed and presented, including any veto, return with executive amendment, or any other action, or failure to act, by either the governor or the legislature under the provisions of the said Section 125; or (ii) a determination, by either judicial decree or opinion of the justices of the Alabama Supreme Court, that any bill so signed and presented is wholly or in part invalid.

(E) The legislature may, by statute or rule, make such further provisions for the timely passage of bills making the basic appropriations as are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution.

(F) Nothing contained herein shall be construed as requiring the legislature to make any appropriation not otherwise required by this Constitution to be made.

Amendment 449 ratified

Eradication or Control of the Boll Weevil in Cotton.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the eradication or control of the boll weevil in cotton. The legislature may provide for and is authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of this activity by prescribing a procedure whereby cotton growers may, by referendum held among such growers in this state, levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees and charges, based upon the amount of acreage of cotton planted. The legislature is authorized to make provisions for non-payment of such assessments. The legislature shall provide for the collection and distribution of assessments or charges authorized hereunder and to provide penalties for failure to pay said assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a non-profit organization which has been organized for the purpose of eradicating or controlling the boll weevil in cotton; to administer and carry out said eradication or control program; to also include conducting elections or referendums among cotton growers.

The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated organization of any funds received, subject to the supervision and control of the activities authorized herein by the state department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. Assessments, fees, or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof. The legislature shall further provide a procedure for the examination and auditing of said organization and for reasonable rules and regulations to be adopted by the state board of agriculture and industries; to effectively carry out the intent and purposes herein enumerated. Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program to eradicate or control the boll weevil in cotton.

Amendment 450 ratified

Alabama Trust Fund.

Section 1. For the continuing benefit of the state of Alabama and the citizens thereof, there is hereby created an irrevocable, permanent trust fund named "the Alabama trust fund" which shall be funded and administered in accordance with the provisions of this amendment.

Section 2. As used in this amendment, the following words and phrases shall have the following respective meanings:

"BOARD" means the board of trustees of the trust fund.

"ELIGIBLE INVESTMENTS" means any of the following:

(1) Demand deposits (interest bearing) in federally insured banks and interest bearing deposits (whether or not evidenced by certificates of deposit) in federally insured banks; provided, however, that said deposits plus interest shall be fully secured by obligations described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this definition, to the extent that said deposits plus interest exceed insurance available from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or from any agency of the United States of America that may succeed to the functions of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;

(2) Bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness that are direct obligations of the United States of America or that are unconditionally guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the United States of America;

(3) Bonds, debentures, notes or other evidences of indebtedness issued or guaranteed by any federal agencies or government-sponsored enterprises authorized to issue their own debt instruments, including, without limitation to, the following: Federal Farm Credit Bank, Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, the Export-Import Bank of the United States, Federal Land Banks, the Federal National Mortgage Association, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Governmental National Mortgage Association, the Federal Financing Bank, Federal Banks for Cooperatives, Federal Home Loan Banks, Federal Home and Loan Mortgage Association or the Farmers Home Administration;

(4) Repurchase agreements with federally insured banks or with government bond dealers reporting to and trading with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, provided that such repurchase agreements are secured by obligations described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this definition; and

(5) Interest bearing time deposits (whether or not evidenced by certificates of deposit) in savings and loan associations (a) the deposits of which are insured to the maximum extent possible by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation or any agency of the United States of America that may succeed to its functions and (b) the principal office of which is located in the state; provided, however, that said deposits plus interest shall be secured by obligations described in subdivisions (2) and (3) of this definition, to the extent that said deposits plus interest exceed insurance available from the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation or from any agency of the United States of America that may succeed to the functions of the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation;

(6) Corporate securities, provided, however, that no more than a maximum of 25 percent of the trust capital may be invested in such securities by the Board at any time and provided further that no more than a maximum of one percent of the 25 percent may be invested in any one corporation. The legislature may provide authorization to the Board to invest up to a maximum of 40 percent in corporate securities by a three-fifths vote of the membership of both the house of representatives and the senate. All corporate securities shall at the time of purchase by the Board carry a rating of "A" or better by Moody's and/or Standard and Poors; provided, however, that if neither Moody's nor Standard and Poors is in existence or ceases to issue bond ratings, then, in that event, otherwise eligible corporate securities must carry one of the three highest grade or quality ratings issued by the securities rating firm that, in the opinion of the Board, is recognized as the most reputable.

"FEDERALLY INSURED BANK" means any bank which has its principal office located in Alabama, whether organized under the laws of the United States of America or the laws of this state, and which is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or which obtains deposit insurance to the maximum extent possible from any agency of the United States of America that may succeed to the functions of the Federal Deposit Insurance

Corporation.

"FISCAL YEAR" means the fiscal year of the state as may from time to time be provided by law.

"OIL AND GAS CAPITAL PAYMENT" means any payment (including any royalty payment) received after August 1, 1984, by the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof as all or part of the consideration for the sale, leasing or other disposition by the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof of any right to explore and drill for or to produce oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals in any area on the water side of the high water mark of Mobile Bay or in any other offshore area and shall include any revenue by the state from federal oil and gas leases off the coast of Alabama. Any royalty or other payment, with the exception of any taxes heretofore or hereafter levied that is based upon or determined with respect to, the production of oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals and that is paid to the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof regardless of the time of such payment shall be considered an oil and gas capital payment.

"STATE" means the state of Alabama.

"TRUST CAPITAL" means all assets of the trust fund other than trust income.

"TRUST FUND" means "the Alabama trust fund" created by this amendment.

"TRUST INCOME" means the net income received by the state, subsequent to the transfer of the initial trust capital by the state treasurer to the board, from the investment and reinvestment of all assets of the trust fund, determined in accordance with the provisions of this amendment.

"TRUSTEE" means a member of the board of trustees of the trust fund.

Section 3. (a) The trust fund shall be under the management and control of the board, and all powers necessary or appropriate for the management and control of the trust fund shall be vested solely in the board. The board shall have a membership of nine trustees consisting of the governor, the state treasurer, the director of finance (or such other official as may by law succeed to the responsibilities of the director of finance), three trustees appointed by the governor, two trustees appointed by the lieutenant governor, and one trustee appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives. The governor, the state treasurer and the director of finance shall each serve as a trustee ex officio, and the service of each such official as a trustee shall begin and end concurrently with the beginning and end of his or her tenure in such office. As promptly as practicable after the effective date of this amendment, the other trustees shall be appointed for the following initial terms: The trustees to be appointed by the governor shall be appointed for terms beginning immediately upon their respective appointments and ending at noon on October 1, in the first, second and third calendar years, respectively, next following the calendar year in which this amendment shall become effective; the trustees to be appointed by the lieutenant governor shall be appointed for terms beginning immediately upon their respective appointments and ending at noon on October 1, in the fourth and fifth calendar years, respectively, next following the calendar year in which this amendment shall become effective; and the trustee to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives shall be appointed for a term beginning immediately upon his or her appointment and ending at noon on October 1, in the sixth calendar year next following the calendar year in which this amendment shall become effective. Thereafter, the term of office of each appointed trustee shall be six years, commencing at noon on October 1 on which the term of the immediate predecessor trustee shall end.

(b) If at any time there shall be a vacancy among the appointed trustees, a successor trustee shall be appointed to serve for the unexpired term applicable to such vacancy. The appointment of each appointed trustee (other than those initially appointed), whether for a full six-year term or to complete an unexpired term, shall be made by the same officer of the state who appointed the trustee whose term shall have expired or is to expire or in whose position on the board a vacancy otherwise exists and shall be made not earlier than 30 days prior to the date on which such trustee is to take office as such. Each appointed trustee shall hold office from the effective date of his or her appointment by and with the consent of the senate and shall hold office until his or her successor is appointed as provided for herein. Trustees shall be eligible for reappointment without limit as to the number of terms previously served.

(c) At the beginning of each session of the legislature the governor shall certify to the senate for confirmation the names of all who shall have been appointed as trustees since the commencement of the last session of the legislature.

(d) Each appointed trustee shall, at the time of his or her appointment and at all times during his or her term of office, be a qualified elector of the state, and a failure by any trustee to remain so qualified during such term shall cause a vacancy of the office of such trustee. Each appointed trustee shall have recognized competence and experience in the evaluation and management of investments. Any appointed trustee may be impeached and removed from office as a trustee in the same manner and on the same grounds provided in section 174 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, or successor provision thereof, and the general laws of the state for impeachment and removal of the officers of the state subject to said section 174 or successor provision thereof. The governor, the state treasurer and the director of finance may not be impeached and removed from office as trustees apart from their impeachment and removal from the respective offices by virtue of which, ex officio, they serve as trustees.

(e) The governor, the state treasurer and the director of finance shall be entitled to vote, and shall perform the duties of trustees, ex officio, without any compensation other than that to which they are respectively entitled as governor, state treasurer and director of finance. Appointed trustees shall be entitled to such compensation for their services as may from time to time be provided by law duly enacted by the legislature, but the power to provide compensation of appointed trustees shall be discretionary with the legislature and nothing in this amendment shall be construed to confer upon such trustees an absolute right to any compensation for their services. Each trustee shall be reimbursed for expenses actually incurred in the performance of his or her duties as a trustee.

(f) A majority of the trustees shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business by the board, and decisions shall be made on the basis of a majority of the quorum then present and voting, with each trustee to have a single vote. No vacancy in the membership of the board or the voluntary disqualification or abstention of any trustee shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all of the powers and duties of the board. The governor shall be the chairman and presiding officer of the board. The director of finance shall be vice chairman, and the state treasurer shall serve as secretary. The board may appoint such other officers to perform such duties, not inconsistent with the provisions of this amendment or applicable law, as the board shall deem necessary or appropriate. In addition to such regular meetings of the board as may be provided by law or by bylaws or rules duly adopted by the board, special meetings of the board may be called by the governor acting alone or by any three other trustees acting in concert, in each case upon two days' notice to each trustee given in person or by registered letter or telegram; provided, however, that such notice to each trustee may be waived by such trustee, either before or after the meeting with respect to which such notice would otherwise be required. Any meeting held by the board for any purpose shall be open to the public, except that executive sessions may be held by the board when the character or good name of a person is involved. All proceedings of the board, except executive sessions, shall be reduced to writing on behalf of the board and maintained in the permanent records of the board, a copy of which shall be filed in the principal office of the board and shall be open for public inspection there during regular business hours. The principal office of the board shall be the principal office of the director of finance.

(g) No trustee shall vote on or participate in the discussion or consideration of any matter coming before the board in which such trustee, personally or through family connections or business associations, has any direct or indirect pecuniary interest, including, but without limitation thereto, decisions of the board concerning the investment of moneys constituting part of the trust fund in any deposit or obligation of any bank or corporation in which such trustee may have such an interest. If there shall be brought before the board any matter in which a trustee shall have any interest which may conflict with his or her duties as a trustee, he or she shall immediately make a complete disclosure to the board of such interest and shall thereafter withdraw from participation in any deliberation and decision of the board with respect to such matter.

(h) The board shall have all of the powers necessary to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this amendment, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following powers:

(1) To adopt, alter and repeal bylaws, regulations and rules for the regulation and conduct of its affairs and business;

(2) To make, enter into and execute contracts, agreements and other instruments and to take such other actions as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish any purpose for which the trust fund was created or to exercise any power expressly, or by reasonable implication, granted by this amendment;

(3) To enter into contracts with, to accept aid and grants from, to cooperate with and to do any and all things that may be necessary in order to avail itself of the aid and cooperation of the United States of America, the state or any agency, instrumentality or political subdivision of either thereof in furtherance of the purposes of this amendment; and

(4) To appoint, employ and contract with such employees, agents, advisors and consultants, including, but not limited to, attorneys, accountants, financial experts and such other advisors, consultants and agents as may in its judgment be necessary or desirable, and to fix their compensation; provided, however, that any obligation created or assumed by the board shall not create any pecuniary obligation or liability of the state or the trust fund other than such as shall be payable out of moneys appropriated by the legislature to defray the expenses of the board in carrying out the purposes of this amendment. No lien or charge against any assets of the trust fund for any purpose whatsoever shall be created by or result from any law enacted by the legislature or any action taken by the board or any other department, agency or instrumentality of the state.

(i) The expenses of making and disposing of investments, such as brokerage commissions, legal expenses referable to a particular transaction, transfer taxes and other customary transactional expenses shall be payable out of any trust income of the trust fund. The legislature shall provide for the administrative and other necessary expenses of the board in the same manner as it provides for the expenses of operating other departments and agencies of the state.

Section 4. (a) There shall be transferred from the general fund of the state into the trust fund, as the initial trust capital, moneys in an amount equal to the sum of all proceeds of any oil and gas capital payments received by the state pursuant to the sealed bids awarded on August 14, 1984, including any revenues and earnings deposited in any fund pursuant to section 9-17-68, Code of Alabama 1975; provided, however, that the division of lands of the department of conservation and natural resources shall be entitled to four percent of the \$347,483,000 which has been received by the state pursuant to the sealed bids awarded on August 14, 1984, which sum shall be carried in the state treasury to the credit of the state lands fund.

Promptly following the effective date of this amendment, the state treasurer shall take all actions necessary to transfer to the board the possession, control and management of the initial trust capital. If at the time of such transfer into the trust fund all or part of the initial trust capital is invested in certificates of deposit or other investments which cannot be converted into cash prior to the maturity thereof without loss of interest or other penalty, the state treasurer shall directly transfer such certificates of deposit or other investments to the board as part of the initial trust capital without first converting the same into cash. In the event that any certificates of deposit or other investments shall be transferred into the trust fund, the initial trust capital shall not include the income or profit from such certificates of deposit or other investments that has been received by the state on or before such transfer or that constitutes accrued interest, amortized discount or other amounts which in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, should be considered as having been earned by the state as of the date of such transfer. Any such income or profits from such certificates of deposit or other investments that has been received by the state on or before such transfer shall remain in the general fund subject to appropriation by the legislature. To the extent that any income or profit derived from such certificates of deposits or other investments is referable to any period after the transfer thereof into the trust fund, such income or profit shall not constitute trust capital nor trust income but shall remain in the general fund subject to appropriation by the legislature.

(b) The trust capital shall be augmented by (i) such other moneys or assets as the legislature may by law appropriate and transfer to the trust fund as a permanent part thereof; (ii) such other moneys or assets as may be contributed to the trust fund from any source; and (iii) all proceeds of any oil and gas capital payments as defined in this amendment subsequent to August 14, 1984; provided, however, that the division of lands of the department of conservation and natural resources shall be entitled to one percent of all proceeds of any oil and gas capital payments

as defined in this amendment subsequent to August 14, 1984, which sum shall be carried in the state treasury to the credit of the state lands fund. In addition, within 90 days after September 1, 2001, the board of trustees of the Alabama heritage trust fund shall transfer the trust capital of the Alabama heritage trust fund to the Alabama trust fund and shall transfer the trust income of the Alabama heritage trust fund to the state general fund. The trust capital received by the Alabama trust fund from the Alabama heritage trust fund shall thereafter be trust capital of the Alabama trust fund. The Alabama heritage trust fund, the board of trustees of the Alabama heritage trust fund, and all other aspects of the Alabama heritage trust fund shall terminate and dissolve 90 days after September 1, 2001.

(c) Provided, however, beginning with state fiscal year 1989-90, one percent of the income from the Alabama trust fund shall be reinvested in the Alabama trust fund; two percent of such income shall be reinvested in the following year; and one additional percent of such income each subsequent year shall be reinvested until a total of 10 percent of such income from the Alabama trust fund each year shall be reinvested in the Alabama trust fund.

Section 5. (a) The trust capital shall be held in perpetual trust and shall not be appropriated by the legislature or expended or disbursed for any purpose other than to acquire eligible investments in accordance with the provisions of this amendment. All eligible investments acquired, in whole or in part, with moneys constituting part of the trust capital shall to the extent of such moneys constitute part of the trust capital, but any trust income derived therefrom shall be paid directly into the general fund as it is received by the board, subject to appropriation and withdrawal by the legislature.

(b) To the extent practicable, the board shall keep all moneys at any time held in the trust fund invested in such eligible investments as shall, in its sole and uncontrolled judgment, produce the greatest trust income over the term of such investments while preserving the trust capital. In making any investment of moneys held in the trust fund, the board shall exercise the judgment and care, under the circumstances prevailing at the time of such investment, which an institutional investor of the highest standard of prudence, intelligence and financial expertise would exercise in the management and investment of large assets entrusted to it not for the purpose of speculative profit but for the permanent generation and disposition of funds, considering the probable safety of capital as well as the expected amount and frequency of income. The board shall have full power and authority to select the eligible investments in which moneys held in the trust fund shall at any time be invested, and, to the extent not inconsistent with any express provision of this amendment, the eligible investments so selected shall be acquired from such issuers, underwriters, brokers or other sellers on such terms and conditions; shall be acquired for purchase prices reflecting such discount below or premium above the par or face amount thereof; shall bear such dates and be in such form, denominations and series; shall mature or be subject to mandatory redemption on such dates; shall bear interest at such rate or rates payable at such intervals or, alternatively, shall provide income to the holder thereof in such manner (including, without limitation thereto, the purchase of such investments at a discount which represents all or part of the income or profit derived therefrom); shall be unsecured or secured in such manner and subject to the provisions of Section 2, paragraphs 2 and 3; shall contain such provisions for prepayment or redemption at the option of the issuer or obligor; and shall contain or be subject to such other provisions as shall, in all of the foregoing respects, be determined by the board in exercise of its sole and uncontrolled judgment. The board shall have full power and authority to invest the trust capital in any eligible investments producing trust income in accordance with such schedule as the board shall, in the exercise of its sole and uncontrolled judgment, determine to be in the best interests of the state, and in determining such schedule the board may emphasize future benefits in preference to near-term needs. The board shall have complete and uncontrolled discretion in making decisions as to when moneys in the trust fund shall be invested, as to the purchase price or other acquisition cost to be paid or incurred in acquiring investments for the trust fund, as to when investments constituting part of the trust fund shall be sold, liquidated or otherwise disposed of, and, as to the amount and nature of the price or other consideration to be received by the trust fund upon the sale, liquidation or other disposition of investments constituting part of the trust fund. No law shall be enacted nor any action taken by the executive department of the state which impairs or interferes with the power, authority and discretion conferred upon the board by this amendment with respect to the acquisition, management, control and disposition of investments at any time constituting part of the trust fund.

(c) To the extent appropriate and not at the time prohibited by law, the board shall use the facilities of the state treasurer in the administration of the trust fund, including, but without limitation thereto, the keeping of records, the management of bank accounts, the transfer of funds and the safekeeping of securities evidencing investments.

(d) The board shall cause an annual audit of the trust fund to be performed for each fiscal year by the state examiners of public accounts or, in the discretion of the board, by an independent certified public accounting firm and shall cause a report of such audit to be prepared in accordance with applicable accounting principles. The board shall cause to be prepared and publicized such financial and other information concerning the trust fund as may from time to time be provided by law duly enacted by the legislature, but in the absence of any law directing the preparation and publication of different reports, the board shall cause to be prepared and made public, within 30 days after the end of each quarterly period in each fiscal year, a report containing (i) a statement of the trust capital then held in the trust fund showing any changes thereto since the last quarterly report, (ii) a statement of the trust income received during the quarterly period in question, (iii) a statement of the investments then held in the trust fund including descriptions thereof and the respective values thereof, (iv) a statement of the trust income received to date during the current fiscal year, and (v) any other information determined by the board to reflect a full and complete disclosure of the financial operations of the fund.

Section 6. An individual trustee shall not in any way be personally liable for any liability, loss or expense suffered by the trust fund unless such liability, loss or expense arises out of or results from the willful misconduct or wrongdoing of such trustee.

Section 7. This amendment shall be self-executing, but the legislature shall have the right and power to enact laws supplemental to this amendment and in furtherance of the purposes and objectives thereof, provided that such laws are not inconsistent with the express provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 451 ratified

Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

The legislature by general law may provide for the creation and organization of a commission charged with the responsibility of improving soil and water conservation and forestry practices within the state, and in order to further the carrying out of that responsibility the legislature may appropriate moneys to such commission for the purpose of meeting the expenses of the commission and to allow the commission to share, through a cost-sharing award or grant program, the costs of soil conservation projects and practices, water quality improvements, reforestation projects and improved forestry practices on or with respect to agricultural or timber lands in the state owned or operated by individuals or other types of persons specified by the legislature, sections 93 and 94 of this Constitution, as amended, to the contrary notwithstanding. In any law enacted by the legislature respecting soil and water conservation cost-sharing grants as contemplated hereby, the legislature shall provide for the powers of the commission and for the receipt, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by such commission of any appropriated moneys and other funds received by the commission to fund its expenses and cost-sharing programs. The legislature shall provide that such commission shall consist of such citizens of the state [as] may be designated by law by the legislature, provided that [the] legislature may designate as ex officio members of the commission persons who are holders of other public offices or officers of such private organizations and associations as the legislature may designate that are interested in agricultural or timber property and soil and water conservation practices related thereto. Moneys appropriated to such commission for cost-sharing grants to be made pursuant to criteria provided by the legislature or promulgated by the commission pursuant to legislative delegation of the power so to do, shall be invested by the commission at its direction, or retained in the state treasury as the commission shall determine, until expended at the direction of the commission, provided that none of such appropriated moneys shall revert to the fund or funds from which they were appropriated in the event such moneys remain undisbursed or unencumbered on the last day of the fiscal year of the state in which they were appropriated to the commission, but rather shall remain available for disbursement by the commission in its programs in subsequent fiscal years.

Amendment 452 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 201. Promotion of Cattle Industry.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, marketing, use, improvement and sale of cattle. The legislature may provide for the promotion of cattle and the cattle industry by research, education, advertising and other methods, and the legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby owners of cattle may by referendum held among the owners of cattle in this state levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of cattle for the financing of any promotional program or activity in cooperation with processors, dealers and handlers of cattle. The legislature shall make provisions for the nonpayment of assessments by cattle owners, and for the refund of assessments to any cattle owner dissatisfied with the assessment program. The legislature shall provide for the collection and distribution of any such assessments or charges by dealers, handlers, processors and purchasers of cattle and provide penalties for failure to make collection and distribution of such assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization organized for the promotion and betterment of cattle and beef products to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among cattle owners. The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities authorized herein by the department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted in pursuance hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof. Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon cattle and beef products.

Amendment 453 ratified

Promotion of Grain Industry.

The legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, improvement, marketing, use and sale of wheat and other feed grains as defined and authorized by the legislature. The legislature may provide for the promotion of wheat and other feed grains and wheat and other feed grain products by research, education, advertising and other methods. The legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby producers of wheat and other feed grains may by referendum among such producers levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of wheat and other feed grains for the financing of any such promotional program or activity in cooperation with buyers, processors, dealers, and handlers of wheat and other feed grains. The legislature may make provisions for the non-payment of assessments by wheat and other feed grain producers, and shall make provisions for the refund of assessments to any wheat and other feed grain producer who does not desire to participate in an assessment program. The legislature shall provide for the collection, disbursement, distribution or expenditure of assessments or charges authorized hereunder and to provide penalties for failure to make collection and distribution of assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization for the promotion and betterment of wheat and other feed grains and wheat and other feed grain products to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among producers of wheat and other feed grains. The legislature may provide the manner by which such referendum is held, including the procedure for application for approval to conduct the referendum, the appropriate action to be taken by the state board of agriculture and industries on such application, the requirements and eligibility of the association or organization which will conduct such referendum, the procedures for voting and eligibility to vote in such referendum, the details of the conduct of such referendum. The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities as authorized herein by the department of agriculture

and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. The legislature shall further provide a procedure whereby said association or organization is bonded, for the examination and auditing of said association or organization, and for reasonably necessary rules and regulations to be adopted by the state board of agriculture and industries to effectively carry out the intent and purposes herein enumerated. Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of the Constitution or any provision thereof. Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon wheat and other feed grains.

Amendment 454 ratified

Conveyance of Alabama State Docks Department Property.

The state of Alabama, through the Alabama state docks department, is authorized to convey, without consideration, title to its real property, equipment and facilities located in Lauderdale county, Alabama, and known as the Alabama State Docks to the Florence-Lauderdale County Port Authority, a public corporation, but subject to existing leases and other contractual agreements now in effect. Any laws or parts of laws or any provisions of the Constitution of 1901, as amended, which are in conflict with this amendment are hereby revised, superseded and repealed to the extent they are in conflict with this amendment.

The state of Alabama, through the Alabama state docks department, is authorized to convey, without consideration, title to its real property, equipment and facilities located in Morgan county, Alabama, and known as the Alabama State Docks to the Decatur-Morgan County Port Authority, a public corporation, and in Walker county, Alabama, known as the State Docks in Cordova in Walker county to the Walker county commission, but subject to existing leases and other contractual agreements now in effect. Any laws or parts of laws or any provisions of the Constitution of 1901, as amended, which are in conflict with this amendment are hereby revised, superseded and repealed to the extent they are in conflict with this amendment. The provisions herein shall be self-executing.

Amendment 455 ratified

Repeal of School Tax Exemptions in Madison County.

All exemptions authorized by section 40-9-19, Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, against that portion of any local ad valorem taxes levied on any property situated in Madison county that upon collection has the proceeds thereof earmarked for public school purposes are hereby repealed and such exemptions shall no longer be granted against said portion of such local taxes.

Amendment 456 ratified

Hartselle City School Taxes.

The school district taxes now levied and collected for the Hartselle city board of education and authorized by law shall be continued upon approval of this amendment by the qualified electors voting thereon in said school district. Said taxes shall be continued for a period of thirty years, commencing October 1, 1987. Notice shall be given, the ballot prepared and the election conducted in the same manner as required by law for elections on school district taxes and constitutional amendments. The ballot shall be substantially as follows: "For continuation of all school district taxes now provided by law? Yes ... No" If a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon shall vote in favor of continuing such taxes then the said taxes shall be continued; if a majority of the qualified electors voting thereon vote in opposition of continuing such taxes then the provisions of this act shall become null and void and have no effect.

Only the persons who at the time of the election are qualified voters of said district 70 shall be entitled to participate in the question.

The provisions of this act shall be construed in pari materia with all other provisions relating to school district taxes in Morgan county, except as there is a direct conflict herewith.

Amendment 457 ratified

Morgan County Sheriff's Reserve.

The Morgan county commission is authorized to grant money to the Morgan county sheriff's reserve. Any purchases with said monies [moneys] in the Morgan county sheriff's reserve shall be the property of the Morgan county sheriff's office.

Amendment 458 ratified

Truck Tax Established by Pike County Commission.

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the Pike county commission is hereby authorized to establish, by validly enacted ordinance, the rate of all local ad valorem taxes, whether levied by local governing bodies of other lawful entities, on all truck-tractors, trailers and semitrailers located within the county.

Amendment 459 ratified

Judge of Probate of Randolph County.

The legislature may hereafter, from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances or salaries to be charged or received by the judge of probate of Randolph county, and may put such officer on a salary basis and provide for operation of his office on such basis.

Amendment 460 ratified

Annexation in St. Clair County.

Any municipality that was not located wholly or in part within the boundaries of St. Clair county prior to January 1, 1985, shall not annex any territory within St. Clair county without the approval of the electorate of St. Clair county expressed in a vote on the issue of said annexation.

The provisions of this amendment shall not apply to any municipality incorporated in the future that lies entirely within the boundaries of St. Clair county.

The provisions of this amendment shall not apply to any territory presently annexed within St. Clair county by a municipality located outside of the county.

The legislature may pass local or general acts to supplement this amendment, so long as such acts do not contravene the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 461 ratified

Additional Ad Valorem Tax in Wilcox County.

There is hereby levied an additional ad valorem tax, in Wilcox county, on taxable property, at a rate not to exceed an additional 10 mills on each dollar of taxable property in such county. The net revenues generated by said additional tax shall be allocated in the county treasury in the following manner:

3 mills to the public school fund;

7 mills to the county general fund.

The provisions of this amendment shall be implemented upon its passage and ratification.

Act 85-410, H. 777, Regular Session 1985, a constitutional amendment proposing higher ad valorem taxes and which proposed act is pending ratification by the people, is hereby repealed and rescinded.

Amendment 462 ratified

City of Ozark Special Property Tax.

The city of Ozark shall have the power to levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, of not exceeding seven-tenths of one percent of the value of the taxable property situated within the corporate limits of the city, as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for educational purposes, but may be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for public school purposes, which pledges shall take priority as provided in such bonds, warrants or other evidences of indebtedness; provided that such tax and the purpose or purposes thereof and the time such tax is proposed to be continued, shall have been first submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the city and voted for by a majority of those voting at the election. Elections on proposals to levy this tax on property situated within the corporate limits of Ozark shall be ordered and held in the same manner as provided by the law applicable to municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds. The additional tax, authorized by this amendment to be levied on property situated within the corporate limits of Ozark[,] shall be collected in the same manner and under the same requirements and laws as other taxes levied on property by the city of Ozark are collected, and the revenues derived from this tax shall be used solely for school construction and other educational purposes within the limits of the city of Ozark.

If any proposal to levy a tax hereunder is defeated in any election, subsequent elections thereon may be held at any time.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 463 ratified

Mobile County Bond Issuance.

Section A. As used in this amendment the following terms shall be given the following respective meanings:

"COUNTY" means Mobile county.

"OUTSTANDING WARRANTS" means those two general obligation warrants of the county, each in the principal amount of \$1,000,000, dated April 15, 1986 and maturing October 15, 1986, and any of the county's notes, warrants or bonds issued after October 1, 1986 to refund such general obligation warrants.

"SPECIAL TAX" means the annual ad valorem tax at the rate of 65 one-hundredths of 1 per centum (equivalent to 6 1/2 mills on each dollar) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property in the county authorized to be levied by the county by the amendment known as Amendment XVIII [18] to the Constitution of Alabama, as amended by the amendments to the Constitution known as Amendments CLII [152], CCCI [301] and CCCLXIII [363], and also provided for in the Amendments to the Constitution known as Amendments C [100], CXXII [122], CLI [151], CXCIII [193], CXCIV [195] [,] CCC [300], and CDXLVII [447].

Section B. The county is hereby authorized to issue from time to time its bonds, not exceeding \$14,500,000 in aggregate principal amount, of which not in excess of \$2,000,000 in aggregate principal amount shall be issued for the purpose of acquiring and improving, alone or in conjunction with other counties or municipal corporations, certain land located in the county for use by the Department of the Navy of the United States of America; not in excess of \$2,000,000 in aggregate principal amount shall be issued for the purpose of acquiring and/or developing land, in one or more locations, for use as one or more industrial parks; not in excess of \$500,000 in aggregate principal amount shall be issued for the purpose of constructing and equipping an intergovernmental office and service center for agricultural agencies; not in excess of \$3,500,000 in aggregate principal amount shall be issued for

the purpose of acquiring, constructing and equipping additions and improvements to the present county courthouse building in the county; not in excess of \$4,500,000 in aggregate principal amount shall be issued for the purpose of acquiring, constructing and equipping additions and improvements to the present county jail facilities in the county; and not in excess of \$2,000,000 in aggregate principal amount shall be issued for the purpose of refunding all or any portion of the outstanding warrants.

Section C. The county is hereby authorized to issue from time to time its bonds for the purpose of refunding all or any portion of any obligations of the county outstanding as of October 1, 1986 which are payable out of the proceeds of the special tax. Such bonds may be issued in any principal amount so long as the net proceeds of the sale thereof, after payment of expenses of issuance and sale thereof, do not exceed the principal amount of the obligations to be refunded. Part of the cash proceeds paid to the county at the time of the sale of any such refunding bonds as a result of decreased debt service may be used by the governing body of the county to finance salary increases or bonuses for employees of the county, not to exceed five percent (5%) across the board for all employees.

Section D. The aggregate principal amount of all bonds at any time issued under this amendment, when added to the aggregate principal amount of all then outstanding bonds theretofore issued by the county under any other amendment to the Constitution of Alabama that are payable from or secured by the special tax shall not exceed 6 1/2 per centum of the assessed valuation of the taxable property situated in the county as assessed for state taxation for the state tax year next preceding that during which any bonds herein authorized shall be issued.

No bonds may be issued under the authority of this amendment until after the question of the issuance of such bonds shall have been submitted to the qualified electors of the county at any election called for that purpose by the governing body of the county and a majority of the said qualified electors voting at the said election shall have voted in favor of the issuance of such bonds; provided, that if a majority of the qualified electors of the county participating in the election at which this amendment is voted on and voting on the question of the adoption of this amendment shall vote for the adoption thereof, then the approval of this amendment expressed by the said vote in favor of its adoption shall of itself authorize the issuance of the bonds provided for in this amendment and no additional election by the electors of the county shall be required to authorize the issuance of the said bonds. If the majority of the qualified electors of the county participating in the election at which this amendment is voted on and voting on the question of the adoption of this amendment should not vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment, or if the majority of the qualified electors of the county voting at any election called by the governing body of the county under the provisions of this amendment should not vote in favor of the issuance of the bonds proposed at an election so called, the governing body of the county may from time to time call other elections hereunder on the issuance of such bonds, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months. Any such election called by the governing body of the county shall be called, held, conducted and canvassed, and may be contested, in the manner and within the time provided by the then existing general laws of Alabama pertaining to elections on the issuance of bonds by counties.

The bonds issued hereunder shall be general obligations of the county for the payment of the principal of and interest on which the full faith and credit of the county shall be irrevocably pledged, and in addition thereto there shall be irrevocably pledged for payment of the said principal and interest so much of the special tax as may be necessary to pay the said principal and interest at the respective maturities of such bonds, each such pledge to be on a parity with all valid pledges of the special tax at any time heretofore or hereafter made, to such extent as shall not impair the obligation of any than existing valid prior pledges.

Bonds may be issued under this amendment in one or more series, and may bear interest which is tax exempt under the laws of the state of Alabama and the United States of America or which is not exempt from such taxation. Bonds issued hereunder may be sold at either public or private sale in such manner, at such price or prices and at such time or times as may be determined by the governing body of the county to be most advantageous. The principal of each series of bonds issued under this amendment shall mature in annual installments, the first of which installments shall mature not later than three (3) years after the date of the bonds of that series and the last of which shall mature not

later than thirty (30) years after the date of the bonds of that series and otherwise may mature in such amounts during each fiscal year of the county as the governing body of the county shall determine, without regard to the limitations set forth in the amendment to the Constitution known as Amendment CLII [152]; provided, that the maturities of each series of bonds issued under this amendment shall be arranged so that the aggregate amount of principal and interest that will mature in any one fiscal year with respect to that series of bonds, and also all other bonds theretofore issued by the county and then outstanding that are payable out of or secured by a pledge of the special tax, shall not exceed the amount of the proceeds collected from the special tax during the then next preceding tax year. Except as herein otherwise provided, all bonds issued under this amendment shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama existing at the time of the issuance of such bonds respecting the sale, execution, issuance and redemption of bonds by counties. The indebtedness evidenced by the bonds issued under this amendment or under any other amendment to the Constitution which are payable out of or are secured by a pledge of the special tax shall be in addition to and shall not be charged against the limitation on the indebtedness of the county provided for in section 224 of the Constitution.

The governing body of the county shall comply with the provisions of the state of Alabama competitive bid law (section 41-16-20, et seq., Code of Alabama of 1975), to the extent such law is applicable.

Section E. So long as the principal of or interest on any of the bonds issued under this amendment remains unpaid, the governing body of the county shall continue the levy of the special tax at such rate as may be sufficient to pay the said principal and interest at their respective maturities; provided, that the total rate of the special tax that may be levied and collected for payment of the said bonds and all other bonds payable out of or secured by a pledge of the special tax shall not exceed the rate at which the county may levy the special tax as fixed under the amendment to the Constitution known as Amendment CDXLVII [447], except to the extent that the said rate may be increased pursuant to provisions of this Constitution hereafter adopted. Such rate shall not be subject to adjustment pursuant to the provisions of the amendment to the Constitution known as Amendment CXCV [195].

Section F. This amendment is not intended to ratify or validate any contractual arrangements heretofore or hereafter entered into with respect to the sale of any bonds issued and sold hereunder.

Section G. The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and authorization from, or other action by, the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of bonds hereunder or the levy of the special tax for payment thereof.

Amendment 464 ratified

Clarke County Fire Districts.

The Clarke county commission is hereby authorized in its discretion to establish fire districts within the geographical boundaries of Clarke county. The boundaries of such fire districts may be rearranged at the discretion of the county commission as it deems necessary, from time to time, to maximize fire protection services in the county. The county commission may use the corporate limits of the various towns and municipalities in the county as boundaries for fire districts. In such situations, such town or municipal fire district shall have its own volunteer fire department functioning within its boundaries. Each fire district established in an area located outside of the corporate limits of a town or municipality shall likewise have its own volunteer fire department functioning strictly within its district boundaries.

The county commission is further authorized to enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within such county for fire protection and services.

There is hereby levied, in addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, a fire protection tax of two mills. The fire protection tax levied herein shall be based upon the value of real and personal property assessed by affected property owners, as shown on the records of the tax assessor of Clarke county, Alabama, and shall be assessed and collected as are all ad valorem taxes in the

county. The amount collected each year from assessment of this fire protection tax shall be paid into the county general fund and used in furtherance of fire protection within the affected area. Prior to the levy of the fire protection tax in said county, there shall be submitted to the electors of said county, at a special election called for that purpose in said county, the question of whether the said tax shall be levied, and the said tax shall be authorized at such election by a majority of the qualified electors within the said county who vote at such election; provided further, that if a majority of the qualified electors of said county participating in the election on the ratification of this amendment shall vote for the ratification of this amendment, then the approval of this amendment as expressed by the vote in said county in favor of its ratification shall, of itself, authorize the levy and collection of the tax for fire protection purposes in said county, commencing with the levy for the tax year for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 1987.

Elections on the question of the levy of a fire protection tax in said county may be held at any time and from time to time, provided, that if any such election held after the ratification of this amendment the proposal to levy the tax so submitted should be defeated then the proposal may not be submitted at another election held in said county within two years from the last election held under this amendment.

Amendment 465 ratified

City of Jackson Port Authority.

Section 1. The governing body of the city of Jackson, Clarke county, Alabama, is hereby authorized to declare by the adoption of appropriate resolution, the need for the formation of a public corporation to carry out the provisions of this act. Upon the adoption of such resolution the governing body of the city of Jackson shall appoint five persons, each of whom must be a duly qualified elector and property owner in the said city of Jackson, who shall form the board of directors of such corporation and shall proceed to organize such corporation.

Section 2. (a) The certificate of incorporation shall set forth:

- (1) The names and resident addresses of the persons forming the corporation, together with a recital that each of them is a duly qualified elector of and property owner in the city of Jackson;
- (2) The name of the corporation;
- (3) A recital that the governing body of the city of Jackson has declared by the adoption of an appropriate resolution the need for the formation of the corporation;
- (4) The location of the principal office of the corporation;
- (5) A statement that the corporation is organized for the purposes set forth in this amendment with all the powers and authorities specified in this amendment;
- (6) The period of the duration of the corporation; and
- (7) Any other matters which the persons forming the corporation may choose to insert therein which shall not be inconsistent with this amendment or with the laws of the state of Alabama.

(b) The name designated for the corporation in the certificate of incorporation shall be one indicating the purpose thereof, such as the "city of Jackson port authority" or some other name of similar import.

(c) The certificate of incorporation shall be subscribed and acknowledged by each of the persons forming the corporation before an officer or officers authorized by the laws of the state of Alabama to take acknowledgements to deeds, and the certificate of incorporation shall have attached thereto a certified copy of the resolution provided for in section 1, and a certificate by the secretary of state that the name proposed for the corporation is not identical with that of any other corporation in the state or so nearly similar thereto as to lead to confusion and uncertainty.

Section 3. The certificate of incorporation, when executed and acknowledged in conformity with section 2, shall be filed with the judge of probate of Clarke county and with the secretary of state. The judge of probate shall thereupon examine the certificate of incorporation and, if he finds that the recitals contained therein are correct, that the

requirements of section 2 have been complied with, and that the name is not identical with or so nearly similar to that of another corporation already in existence in this state so as to lead to confusion and uncertainty, he shall approve the certificate of incorporation and record it in an appropriate book or record in his office and shall also file the certificate of incorporation with the secretary of state. When such certificate is so filed, the corporation referred to therein shall come into existence and shall constitute a public body corporate and politic, vested with the rights and powers herein granted.

Section 4. The certificate of incorporation of the corporation incorporated under the provisions of this amendment may at any time and from time to time be amended in the manner provided in this section. The board shall first adopt a resolution adopting an amendment to the certificate of incorporation which shall be set forth in full in the said resolution and which amendment may include any matters which might have been included in the original certificate of incorporation.

After the adoption of the resolution proposing an amendment to the certificate of incorporation of the corporation by the board, the president and secretary of the board shall sign and file for record in the office of the judge of probate in Clarke county and in the office of the secretary of state a certificate in the name of and in behalf of the corporation under its seal, reciting the adoption of said resolution by the board. The judge of probate for Clarke county shall thereupon record such certificate in an appropriate book in his office. When such certificate has been so filed and recorded, such amendment shall become effective, and the certificate of incorporation shall thereupon be amended to the extent provided in the amendment.

Section 5. (a) The corporation shall have a board of directors in which all of the powers of the corporation shall be vested pursuant to its authority, and which shall consist of five members. The directors shall be appointed by the governing body of the city of Jackson; the places on the board shall be numbered from one through five as follows, and the terms of office of the directors shall be staggered, and, to that end, the initial terms of office of the initial directors shall be as follows: Two (2) years as to Place One; three (3) years as to Place Two; four (4) years as to Place Three; five (5) years as to Place Four; and six (6) years as to Place Five. After the initial terms as to each such place on the board, the terms of office as to that place shall be four (4) years. Only members of the city council of the city of Jackson, then serving as such, shall be eligible for appointment to and, except as hereinafter shown, may serve in Place Three on said board. If any director resigns or dies or becomes incapable of acting as a director or ceases to reside in the city of Jackson or is otherwise disqualified to act, the governing body of the city of Jackson shall appoint a successor to serve for the unexpired term. Directors shall be eligible for reappointment to succeed themselves in office, if they are otherwise qualified to serve. If at the expiration of any term of office of any director, or, if the director serving in Place Three ceases to be a member of the city council of the city of Jackson, and a successor to such director shall not have been appointed, then and in either such event such director shall nevertheless continue to hold such office until a qualified successor has been appointed.

(b) A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but any meeting of such board may be adjourned from time to time by a majority of the directors present or may be so adjourned by a single director if such director is the only director present at such meeting. No vacancy in the membership of the board shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the powers and duties of the authority. Any matter in which the board is authorized to act may be acted upon at a regular, special or called meeting. At the request of any director, the vote on any question before the board shall be taken by ayes and nays entered upon the record. All proceedings of the board shall be reduced to writing by the secretary of the board and recorded in a well-bound book which shall be open for inspection by each director and the public at all reasonable times. Copies of such proceedings when certified by the secretary of the corporation under its seal shall be received in all courts as evidence of the matters and things therein certified. The directors and officers of the corporation shall serve without compensation, except that they may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Any director may be impeached and removed from office in the manner and on the same grounds provided for in Section 175 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, and the general laws of the state for impeachment and removal

of officers mentioned in said Section 175.

(c) The corporation shall have a president, a vice president, a secretary and a treasurer and such other officers as the board shall deem necessary, but the office of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person. The president and vice president of the corporation shall be elected by the board from the membership thereof; the secretary, the treasurer, and any other officer of the corporation may, but need not, be a member of the board and shall also be elected by the board. The officers of the board shall be elected at a regular meeting of the board to be held in the month of January of each year, and once elected shall serve until their successor is chosen and elected. The president, vice president, secretary and treasurer of the corporation shall also be the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer of the board, respectively.

(d) The corporation shall make to the governing body of the city of Jackson an annual written report of its activities and of its plans for the future which report shall include a financial operating statement and balance sheet prepared by the examiner of public accounts for the state of Alabama or by a certified public accountant appointed by the corporation.

Section 6. A corporation organized and existing under the provisions of this amendment shall have the following powers, together with all powers incident thereto or necessary for the performance of those stated herein:

(a) To adopt and from time to time amend bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business;

(b) To adopt an official seal and alter the same at its pleasure;

(c) To maintain a principal office in the city of Jackson and sub-offices at such other places as its board may designate in Clarke county;

(d) To sue and be sued in its own name, excepting actions in tort against the corporation;

(e) To construct, own, operate, lease, build, install, acquire, maintain, equip, use and control marinas, ports, waterfront facilities, docks, wharves, piers, berths, quays, warehouses, loading and unloading facilities, boat and barge docking facilities, fishing facilities, pavilions, auditoriums, shops, stores, boat launching facilities, dry docks, canals, recreational facilities, campgrounds, parking facilities, office and other commercial buildings, water systems, electrical systems, gas and fuel oil pipelines and pumping stations, railroad lines and railway systems, helicopter and airline landing and loading facilities, industrial and manufacturing sites, buildings and facilities, coal and other solid fuel handling facilities, wood products manufacturing and handling facilities, agriculture and farm commodity handling, storage and processing facilities, drainage and sewage facilities, liquid and solid waste handling and disposal facilities, conveyor systems, jetties, mooring facilities, and all necessary or convenient approaches, easements, roads, streets and ways leading thereto or used in conjunction therewith; and specifically including herein bridge and road relocation, and the construction, maintenance and operation of bridges, tunnels, overpasses, underpasses, roads and sidewalks; and the construction, leasing, operation, equipping, owning, using, controlling and maintaining of public terminal and transfer facilities, flood control facilities, water and soil erosion facilities, railroad and highway bridge relocation and construction and maintenance of the same and all other types of waterway facilities pursuant to all state, county, local and federal laws and regulations relative to the operation and maintenance of the Tombigbee river.

(f) To own, acquire, maintain and control easements, rights of way, streets, approaches, roads, interests in land, including the fee simple title to real property, riparian rights, and mooring rights necessary, useful or convenient in gaining access, entry or approach to waterways, rivers, canals and streams, whether or not navigable and whether or not such easements, rights-of-way, streets, approaches, roads, interests in land, riparian rights and mooring rights lead to property owned or controlled by the corporation.

(g) To acquire, whether by purchase, construction, exchange, gift, lease or otherwise and to improve, equip and furnish and to own and maintain or lease one or more projects or parts thereof, including all real and personal properties and interests therein which its board may deem necessary in connection therewith, regardless of whether or not any such project or projects shall then be in existence;

- (h) To acquire, receive, take, hold, lease or operate, whether by purchase, gift, devise or otherwise, property of every description, whether real, personal or mixed, and to manage the same and to improve or develop any undeveloped property owned, leased or controlled by it;
- (i) To sell, convey, lease or grant options for such purposes, any or all of its projects or properties, whenever its board shall find that such action is in the furtherance of the purposes for which the corporation was organized;
- (j) To exchange or donate any or all of its projects or properties or parts thereof whenever its board shall find such action to be in furtherance of the purpose for which the corporation was organized;
- (k) To execute and deliver such contracts or instruments of writing and to take such action as may be necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes for which the corporation was organized or to exercise any power or authority granted herein;
- (l) To lease or let any project or any part thereof to such tenant or tenants for such term or terms at such compensation or rentals and subject to such provisions, limitations and conditions as its board may approve;
- (m) To furnish or supply upon any property owned, leased or controlled by the corporation to any persons, machines, automobiles, and watercraft thereon, for reward or compensation, any goods, commodities, safety and health care facilities, fire fighting and prevention facilities, and services convenient or useful to the owners, operators and users of any watercraft, machines, and automobiles, and to persons upon property owned, leased or controlled by the corporation, including, but not limited to, food, lodging [,] shelter, lawful drinks, confections, oil, gasoline, motors and watercraft, motor and watercraft parts and equipment, guard services, space in buildings, space for buildings and structures, communication facilities, telephone systems, and the services of mechanics, repairmen and technicians;
- (n) To charge fees for admission to any of its properties;
- (o) To borrow money on such terms as are acceptable to the corporation for any corporate purpose and to execute and deliver its promissory note or notes and such other agreements as may be reasonably necessary or required to consummate the loan and secure the payment of the indebtedness;
- (p) To sell, exchange and convey any of its properties that may have become obsolete or worn out or that may no longer be needed or useful, subject to the approval of the directors of the corporation;
- (q) To procure and agree to the procurement of insurance or guarantees from the United States of America or any agency or instrumentality thereof, or from any private insurance company, of the payment of any bonds issued by the corporation, and to pay premiums or fees for any such insurance or guarantees;
- (r) To enter into contracts with, to accept aid, loans and grants from, to cooperate with, and to do any and all things not specifically prohibited by this amendment, and other applicable laws of the state that may be necessary in order to avail itself of the aid and cooperation of the United States of America, the state, the county or any agency, instrumentality or political subdivision of either thereof in furtherance of the purposes of the corporation;
- (s) To appoint, employ, contract with and provide for compensation of such officers, employees and agents, including engineers, attorneys, planning consultants, fiscal advisors, architects, accountants, financial experts, fiscal agents, managers and such other advisors, consultants and agents as may in its judgment be necessary or desirable as the business of the corporation may require, including the power to fix working conditions by general rule or other conditions of employment and at its option to provide a system of disability pay, retirement compensation and pensions or any of them and to hire and fire servants, agents, employees and officers at will;
- (t) To fix, establish, collect and alter landing fees, docking fees, tolls, rents and other charges for the use of any facility or other property owned or controlled by the corporation;
- (u) To make and enforce rules and regulations governing the use of any property or facility or other property owned or controlled by the corporation;
- (v) To procure insurance against any loss in connection with its property and other assets in such amounts and from such insurers as its board may deem desirable;

(w) To enter into a management contract or contracts with any person, firm or corporation, whether public or private, for the management, supervision or operation of all or any part of its facilities as may in the judgment of the corporation be necessary or desirable in order to perform more efficiently or economically any function for which it may become responsible in the exercise of the powers conferred upon it by this amendment;

(x) To invest its monies [moneys] (including, without limitation, the monies held in any special fund created pursuant to any trust indenture or agreement or resolution securing any of its bonds or notes and proceeds from the sale of any of its bonds or notes) not required for immediate use in:

(1) Any debt securities that are direct, general obligations of the United States of America,

(2) Any debt securities, the payment of the principal or any interest on which is unconditionally guaranteed by the United States of America,

(3) Any time deposit with, or any certificate of deposit issued by, any bank which is organized under the laws of the United States of America or any state thereof and deposits in which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States of America that may succeed to the functions of such corporation, and

(4) Any debt obligation in which an insurance company organized under the laws of the state may legally invest its money at the time of investment by the corporation;

(y) To issue its bonds for the purpose of carrying out any of its powers and to apply proceeds from the sale of its bonds not only for payment of interest thereon prior to and during the construction and equipment of any buildings, structures, facilities or other improvements being financed thereby but also to pay bond discount, commissions or other financing charges, interest on the obligations issued in evidence of such borrowing for such period as its board shall deem advisable, fees and expenses of financial advisors and planning and management consultants, all legal, accounting, publishing, printing, recording and filing fees and expenses and such other expenses as shall be necessary or incident to such borrowing;

(z) To mortgage and pledge any or all of its projects or any part or parts thereof, as security for the payment of the principal, interest and premium, if any, on any bonds so issued and any agreements made in connection therewith, whether then owned or thereafter acquired, and to pledge the revenues and receipts therefrom or from any thereof;

(aa) To exercise the power of eminent domain in the manner provided in and subject to the provisions of Act No. 85-548, S. 287, 1985 Regular Session (Acts 1985, p. 802), as amended;

(bb) To expend funds for the purchase or lease of materials, equipment, supplies or other personal property without compliance with the provisions of the competitive bid laws then in effect in the state of Alabama that might otherwise be applicable.

(cc) To lend upon such terms and conditions as its board may deem advisable, all or any portion of the proceeds derived from the issuance of its bonds, notes or obligations to a user, whether pursuant to one or more loan agreements or in conjunction with the lease or sale of one or more facilities to such user or the purchase of any authorized purpose obligation relating to a facility or facilities operated by such user, for one or more or any combination of the following purposes:

(1) To enable such user to borrow an amount not substantially in excess of the equity (determined on any basis not resulting in a higher value for any facility in question than the estimated replacement cost or the appraised market value thereof, whichever may be greater) which such user may then have in any facility or facilities;

(2) To enable such user to refinance any outstanding indebtedness incurred or assumed in connection with the acquisition, improvement or operation of any existing facility or facilities;

(3) To enable such user to finance the costs of acquiring, by purchase, construction or otherwise, one or more facilities and/or the costs of expending or improving one or more facilities, regardless of whether any such facility has theretofore been owned or leased by such user or is to be acquired or leased by such user; and

(4) To enable such user to borrow working capital for use in the operation of one or more facilities,

(dd) To do any and all things necessary or convenient to carry out its purposes and to exercise its powers pursuant to the provisions of this amendment.

Section 7. (a) All bonds issued by the corporation shall be payable solely out of the revenues and receipts derived from the leasing or sale by the board of its projects or of any thereof as may be designated in the proceedings of the board under which the bonds shall be authorized to be issued.

(b) The principal of and interest on any bonds issued by the corporation shall be secured by a pledge of the revenues and receipts out of which the same may be payable and may be secured by a mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture conveying as security for such bonds all or any part of the property of the corporation from which the revenues or receipts so pledged may be derived. The resolution under which the bonds are authorized to be issued and any such mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture may contain any agreements and provisions respecting the operation, maintenance and insurance of the property covered by said mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture, the use of the revenues and receipts subject to such mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture, the creation and maintenance of special funds from such revenues and receipts, rights, duties and remedies of the parties to any such instrument and the parties for the benefit of whom such instrument is made and the rights and remedies available in the event of default as the board shall deem advisable and which are not in conflict with the provisions of this article. Each pledge, agreement, mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture made for the benefit or security of any of the bonds of the corporation shall continue effective until the principal of and interest on the bonds for the benefit of which the same were made shall have been fully paid. In the event of default in such payment or in any agreements of the corporation made as a part of the contract under which the bonds were issued, whether contained in the proceedings authorizing the bonds or in any mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture executed as security therefor, such default may be enforced by mandamus, the appointment of a receiver, or either of said remedies, and foreclosure of such mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture may, if provided for in said instrument, be had.

(c) All bonds issued by the corporation shall be signed by the president of its board and attested by its secretary, and the seal of the corporation shall be affixed thereto, and any interest coupons applicable to the bonds of the authority shall be signed by the chairman of its board; provided, that a facsimile of the signature of one, but not both, of said officers may be printed or otherwise reproduced on any such bonds in lieu of his manually signing the same, a facsimile of the seal of the authority may be printed or otherwise reproduced on any such bonds in lieu of being manually affixed thereof, and a facsimile of the signature of the president of the board may be printed or otherwise reproduced on any such interest coupons in lieu of his manually signing the same.

(d) Any such bonds may be executed and delivered by the corporation at any time and from time to time, shall be in such form and denominations and of such tenor and maturities, shall contain such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this article, and shall bear such rate or rates of interest, payable and evidenced in such manner, as may be provided by resolution of its board. Bonds of the corporation may be sold at either public or private sale in such manner and at such price or prices and at such time or times as may be determined by the board to be most advantageous. The corporation may pay all expenses, premiums and commissions in connection with any financing done by it. All bonds, except bonds registered as to principal or as to both principal and interest, and any interest coupons applicable thereto issued by the corporation shall be construed to be negotiable instruments although payable solely from a specified source.

(e) All obligations created or assumed and all bonds issued or assumed by the corporation shall be solely and exclusively an obligation of the corporation and shall not create an obligation or debt of the state or of any county or municipality; provided that the provisions of this sentence shall not be construed to release the original obligor from liability on any bond or other obligation assumed by the corporation. Any bonds issued by the corporation shall be limited or special obligations of the corporation payable solely out of the revenues and receipts of the corporation specified in the proceedings authorizing those bonds.

(f) Bonds of a corporation are hereby made legal investments for executors, administrators, trustees and other fiduciaries, unless otherwise directed by the court having jurisdiction of the fiduciary relation or by the document that is the source of the fiduciary's authority, and for savings banks and insurance companies organized under the laws of the state.

Section 8. All moneys derived from the sale of any bonds issued by the corporation shall be used solely for the purpose or purposes for which the same are authorized, including, but without limitation to, the use of bond proceeds to establish reserve funds as security for the payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on the bonds, and any costs and expenses incidental thereto. Such costs and expenses may include but shall not be limited to the fiscal, engineering, legal and other expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds, and except in the case of refunding bonds, interest to accrue on such bonds for a period ending not later than two years from their date.

Section 9. Any bonds issued by the corporation may from time to time be refunded by the issuance, by sale or exchange, of refunding bonds payable from the same or different sources for the purpose of paying all or any part of the principal of the bonds to be refunded, any redemption premium required to be paid as a condition to the redemption prior to maturity of any such bonds that are to be so redeemed in connection with such refunding, any accrued and unpaid interest on the bonds to be refunded, any interest to accrue on each bond to be refunded to the date on which it is to be paid, whether at maturity or by redemption prior to maturity, and the expenses incurred in connection with refunding; provided, that unless duly called for redemption pursuant to provisions contained therein, the holders of any such bonds then outstanding and proposed to be refunded shall not be compelled without their consent to surrender their outstanding bonds for such refunding. Any refunding bonds may be sold by the corporation at public or private sale at such price or prices as may be determined by its board to be most advantageous, or may be exchanged for the bonds or other obligations to be refunded. Any such refunding bonds may be executed and delivered by the corporation at any time and from time to time, shall be in such form and denominations and have such tenor and maturities, shall contain such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this article, and shall bear such rate or rates of interest, payable and evidenced in such manner, as may be provided by resolution of its board.

Any refunding bonds issued by the corporation shall be issued and may be secured in accordance with the provisions of section 7, hereof.

Section 10. Upon the adoption by the board of the corporation of any resolution providing for the issuance of bonds, the corporation may, in its discretion, cause to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks, in a newspaper published or having a general circulation in Clarke county, a notice in substantially the following form (the blanks being properly filled in) at the end of which shall be printed the name and title of either the president or secretary of such corporation. "... a public corporation under the laws of the state of Alabama, on the ... day of ..., authorized the issuance of \$... principal amount of bonds of the said public corporation for purposes authorized in the act of the legislature of Alabama under which the said public corporation was organized. Any action or proceeding questioning the validity of the said bonds, or the pledge and the mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture to secure the same, or the proceedings authorizing the same, must be commenced within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this notice."

Any action or proceeding in any court to set aside or question the proceedings for the issuance of the bonds referred to in said notice or to contest the validity of any such bonds, or the validity of any pledge and mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture made therefor, must be commenced within 30 days after the first publication of such notice. After the expiration of the said period no right of action or defense questioning or attacking the validity of the said proceedings or of the said bonds or the said pledge or mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture shall be asserted, nor shall the validity of the said proceedings, bonds, pledge, mortgage, and deed of trust or trust indenture be open to question in any court on any ground whatsoever except in an action commenced within such period.

Section 11. The corporation and all properties at any time owned by it and the income therefrom and all bonds issued by it and the income therefrom shall be exempt from all taxation in the state of Alabama, including, without limitation, ad valorem, sales, excise, license and privilege taxes; provided, however, this exemption shall not be construed to exempt concessionaires or lessees of the authority from the payment of any taxes, including licenses, privileges, or sales taxes levied by the state, county or any municipality. The certificate of incorporation of the corporation, the certificate of dissolution, all deeds or other documents whereby properties are conveyed to the corporation and all deeds, indentures or leases executed by the corporation may be filed for record in the office of the judge of probate of Clarke county and, if necessary, in the office of the secretary of state, without the payment of any tax or fees other than such fees as may be authorized by law for the recording of such instrument.

Section 12. The city of Jackson shall not in any event be liable for the payment of the principal of or interest on any bonds of the corporation or for the performance of any pledge, mortgage, obligation or agreement of any kind whatsoever which may be undertaken by the corporation, and none of the bonds of the corporation or any of its agreements or obligations shall be construed to constitute an indebtedness of the city of Jackson within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory provision whatsoever.

Section 13. The corporation shall be exempt from the laws of the state of Alabama governing usury or prescribing or limiting interest rates.

Section 14. The corporation shall be a nonprofit corporation and no part of its net earnings remaining after payment of its expenses shall inure to the benefit of any individual, firm or corporation, except that in the event a board shall determine that sufficient provision has been made for the full payment of the expenses, bonds and other obligations of the corporation, then any net earnings of the corporation thereafter accruing shall be paid to the city of Jackson.

Section 15. At any time when the corporation has no bonds or other obligations outstanding, its board may adopt a resolution, which shall be duly entered upon its minutes, declaring that the corporation shall be dissolved. Upon filing for record of a certified copy of the said resolution in the office of the judge of probate of Clarke county, the corporation shall thereupon stand dissolved and in the event it owned any property at the time of its dissolution, the title to all its properties shall thereupon pass to the city of Jackson.

Section 16. The existence of a corporation incorporated under the provisions of this amendment shall prevent the subsequent incorporation hereunder of another corporation pursuant to authority granted to such corporation.

Section 17. The contracts of the corporation shall be executed in the name of the corporation by the president of the corporation and attested by the secretary of the corporation. Except for bonds it is not required that the seal be impressed or printed on contracts. It is further provided hereby that, except for bonds, the corporation may provide by resolution for a different form for the execution of contracts and for the execution thereof by an officer or agent other than the president and secretary. But in no event shall a contract, irrespective of the form and of the person executing the same, be binding unless such contract was authorized or ratified by the corporation.

Section 18. Clarke county or any municipality within the county, is authorized, but not required, to lease, sell, donate or otherwise convey to the corporation, real or personal property, including park properties, without the necessity of authorization by election of the qualified voters of said county, the municipality, and the governing body of said county or any municipality within the county, and is hereby authorized to enter into any agreements which such corporation may deem necessary in order to effectuate such lease, sale, donation, or transfer. The governing body of Clarke county, or any municipality within the county, is further authorized to covenant with the corporation, which covenant shall likewise constitute a contract with the holders of any revenue bonds, notes or other obligations thereafter issued by the corporation, that it will not acquire, construct or operate or permit the acquisition, construction or operation within the municipality or county, of any facility in competition with the corporation so long as any of the bonds, notes or other obligations of the corporation shall remain outstanding.

Section 19. The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and become effective upon the ratification of this amendment by the people.

Amendment 466 ratified

Elmore County Local Service Districts.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, and financing of local districts within Elmore county as public corporations to provide any one or more of the following local services: (a) fighting and prevention of fires; (b) the operation of emergency medical services, including rescue and ambulance service; authorize such district to fix and collect rates, fees and charges for such services, and to provide penalties for nonpayment and liens upon the property within such district; authorize the borrowing of money and the issuance of bonds and other obligations by or on behalf of such district; provided that Elmore county shall not be responsible for any such bond or obligation and no such bond or obligation shall be chargeable against the limit on the debt of Elmore county.

Amendment 467 ratified

Annexation in Etowah County.

Any municipality that was not located wholly within the boundaries of Etowah county prior to January 1, 1986, shall not annex any territory within Etowah county without the approval of the electorate of said territory expressed in a vote on the issue of said annexation.

The provisions of this amendment shall not apply to any municipality incorporated in the future that lies entirely within the boundaries of Etowah county.

The provisions of this amendment shall not apply to any territory presently annexed within Etowah county by a municipality located outside of the county.

The legislature may pass local or general acts to supplement this amendment, so long as such acts do not contravene the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 468 ratified

Industrial Development in Marengo County.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama or amendments thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, the legislature by general or local law may authorize, provide for and regulate the formation and operation in Marengo county of public corporations authorized to engage in promoting the industrial development of Marengo county and the municipalities therein and particularly the development and commercial use of the inland waterways in such county. Any such law may prescribe the powers and authority of any corporation formed thereunder, which may include, but shall not be limited to the following: the authority to acquire, construct, operate, improve, and finance wharves, stocks, warehouses and other port and related facilities in Marengo county; to apply for permission to operate a foreign trade zone and to establish, operate and maintain such a zone; to exercise the power of eminent domain; to borrow money for any of its corporate purposes and issue interest-bearing revenue bonds and other securities, but such corporation shall not have authority to create a debt against the state, Marengo county or any municipality or other political subdivision of Marengo county. The act may authorize Marengo county or any municipality or other political subdivision, public corporation, agency or instrumentality of Marengo county to aid and cooperate with the corporation authorized in the act, and with or without consideration to transfer any port facilities or other property to any corporation organized under such act. Such law may exempt any corporation organized pursuant to it from some or all taxation by the state, Marengo county or any municipality in Marengo county; from tort liability; and from the payment of certain fees of public officers.

Amendment 469 ratified

Annexation in Marshall County.

Any municipality that was not located wholly or in part within the boundaries of Marshall county prior to January 1, 1986, shall not annex any territory within Marshall county without the approval of the electorate of Marshall county expressed in a vote on the issue of said annexation, or approved unanimously by the Marshall county commission after notice has been given.

The provisions of this amendment shall not apply to any municipality incorporated in the future that lies entirely within the boundaries of Marshall county.

The provisions of this amendment shall not apply to any territory presently annexed within Marshall county by a municipality located outside of the county.

The legislature may pass local or general acts to supplement this amendment, so long as such acts do not contravene the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 470 ratified

Washington County Port Authority.

Section 1. The governing body of Washington county, Alabama, is hereby authorized to declare by the adoption of appropriate resolution, the need for the formation of a public corporation to carry out the provisions of this act. Upon the adoption of such resolution the governing body of Washington county shall appoint five persons, each of whom must be a duly qualified elector and property owner in the said county, who shall form the board of directors of such corporation and shall proceed to organize such corporation.

Section 2. (a) The certificate of incorporation shall set forth:

- (1) The names and resident addresses of the persons forming the corporation, together with a recital that each of them is a duly qualified elector of and property owner in Washington county;
- (2) The name of the corporation;
- (3) A recital that the governing body of Washington county has declared by the adoption of an appropriate resolution the need for the formation of the corporation;
- (4) The location of the principal office of the corporation;
- (5) A statement that the corporation is organized for the purposes set forth in this amendment with all the powers and authorities specified in this amendment;
- (6) The period of the duration of the corporation; and
- (7) Any other matters which the persons forming the corporation may choose to insert therein which shall not be inconsistent with this amendment or with the laws of the state of Alabama.

(b) The name designated for the corporation in the certificate of incorporation shall be one indicating the purpose thereof, such as the "Washington County Port Authority" or some other name of similar import.

(c) The certificate of incorporation shall be subscribed and acknowledged by each of the persons forming the corporation before an officer or officers authorized by the laws of the state of Alabama to take acknowledgements to deeds, and the certificate of incorporation shall have attached thereto a certified copy of the resolution provided for in section 1, and a certificate by the secretary of state that the name proposed for the corporation is not identical with that of any other corporation in the state or so nearly similar thereto as to lead to confusion and uncertainty.

Section 3. The certificate of incorporation, when executed and acknowledged in conformity with section 2, shall be filed with the judge of probate of Washington county and with the secretary of state. The judge of probate shall thereupon examine the certificate of incorporation and, if he finds that the recitals contained therein are correct, that the requirements of section 2 have been complied with, and that the name is not identical with or so nearly similar to

that of another corporation already in existence in this state so as to lead to confusion and uncertainty, he shall approve the certificate of incorporation and record it in an appropriate book or record in his office and shall also file the certificate of incorporation with the secretary of state. When such certificate is so filed, the corporation referred to therein shall come into existence and shall constitute a public body corporate and politic, vested with the rights and powers herein granted.

Section 4. The certificate of incorporation of the corporation incorporated under the provisions of this amendment may at any time and from time to time be amended in the manner provided in this section. The board shall first adopt a resolution adopting an amendment to the certificate of incorporation which shall be set forth in full in the said resolution and which amendment may include any matters which might have been included in the original certificate of incorporation.

After the adoption of the resolution proposing an amendment to the certificate of incorporation of the corporation by the board, the president and secretary of the board shall sign and file for record in the office of the judge of probate in Washington county and in the office of the secretary of state a certificate in the name of and in behalf of the corporation under its seal, reciting the adoption of said resolution by the board. The judge of probate for Washington county shall thereupon record such certificate in an appropriate book in his office. When such certificate has been so filed and recorded, such amendment shall become effective, and the certificate of incorporation shall thereupon be amended to the extent provided in the amendment.

Section 5. (a) The corporation shall have a board of directors in which all of the powers of the corporation shall be vested pursuant to its authority, and which shall consist of five members. The directors shall be elected by the governing body of Washington county for staggered terms of office as follows: Two (2) years for the first appointee; three (3) years for the second appointee; four (4) years for the third appointee; five (5) years for the fourth appointee; six (6) years for the fifth appointee; and thereafter the term of office of each director shall be six (6) years. If any director resigns or dies or becomes incapable of acting as a director or ceases to reside in Washington county or is otherwise disqualified to act, the governing body of Washington county shall elect a successor to serve for the unexpired term. Directors shall be eligible for re-election to succeed themselves in office. If at the expiration of any term of office of any director, a successor thereto shall not have been elected, then the director whose term of office shall have expired shall continue to hold office until a successor shall be so elected. No director shall be an officer or member of the governing body of Washington county.

(b) A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but any meeting of such board may be adjourned from time to time by a majority of the directors present or may be so adjourned by a single director if such director is the only director present at such meeting. No vacancy in the membership of the board shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the powers and duties of the authority. Any matter in which the board is authorized to act may be acted upon at a regular, special or called meeting. At the request of any director, the vote on any question before the board shall be taken by ayes and nays entered upon the record. All proceedings of the board shall be reduced to writing by the secretary of the board and recorded in a well-bound book which shall be open for inspection by each director and the public at all reasonable times. Copies of such proceedings when certified by the secretary of the corporation under its seal shall be received in all courts as evidence of the matters and things therein certified. The directors and officers of the corporation shall serve without compensation, except that they may be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. Any director may be impeached and removed from office in the manner and on the same grounds provided for in Section 175 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, and the general laws of the state for impeachment and removal of officers mentioned in said Section 175.

(c) The corporation shall have a president, a vice president, a secretary and a treasurer and such other officers as the board shall deem necessary, but the office of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person. The president and vice president of the corporation shall be elected by the board from the membership thereof; the secretary, the treasurer, and any other officer of the corporation may, but need not, be a member of the board and shall also be

elected by the board. The officers of the board shall be elected at a regular meeting of the board to be held in the month of January of each year, and once elected shall serve until their successor is chosen and elected. The president, vice president, secretary and treasurer of the corporation shall also be the president, vice president, secretary and treasurer of the board, respectively.

(d) The corporation shall make to the governing body of Washington county an annual written report of its activities and of its plans for the future which report shall include a financial operating statement and balance sheet prepared by the examiner of public accounts for the state of Alabama or by a certified public accountant appointed by the corporation.

Section 6. A corporation organized and existing under the provisions of this amendment shall have the following powers, together with all powers incident thereto or necessary for the performance of those stated herein:

(a) To adopt and from time to time amend bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business;

(b) To adopt an official seal and alter the same at its pleasure;

(c) To maintain a principal office in Washington county and sub-offices at such other places as its board may designate in Washington county;

(d) To sue and be sued in its own name, excepting actions in tort against the corporation;

(e) To construct, own, operate, lease, build, install, acquire, maintain, equip, use and control marinas, ports, waterfront facilities, docks, wharves, piers, berths, quays, warehouses, loading and unloading facilities, boat and barge docking facilities, fishing facilities, pavilions, auditoriums, shops, stores, boat launching facilities, dry docks, canals, recreational facilities, campgrounds, parking facilities, office and other commercial buildings, water systems, electrical systems, gas and fuel oil pipelines and pumping stations, railroad lines and railway systems, helicopter and airline landing and loading facilities, industrial and manufacturing sites, buildings and facilities, coal and other solid fuel handling facilities, wood products manufacturing and handling facilities, agriculture and farm commodity handling, storage and processing facilities, drainage and sewage facilities, liquid and solid waste handling and disposal facilities, conveyor systems, jetties, mooring facilities, and all necessary or convenient approaches, easements, roads, streets and ways leading thereto or used in conjunction therewith; and specifically including herein bridge and road relocation, and the construction, maintenance and operation of bridges, tunnels, overpasses, underpasses, roads and sidewalks; and the construction, leasing, operation, equipping, owning, using, controlling and maintaining of public terminal and transfer facilities, flood control facilities, water and soil erosion facilities, railroad and highway bridge relocation and construction and maintenance of the same and all other types of waterway facilities pursuant to all state, county, local and federal laws and regulations relative to the operation and maintenance of the Tombigbee river.

(f) To own, acquire, maintain and control easements, rights-of-way, streets, approaches, roads, interests in land, including the fee simple title to real property, riparian rights, and mooring rights necessary, useful or convenient in gaining access, entry or approach to waterways, rivers, canals and streams, whether or not navigable and whether or not such easements, rights of way, streets, approaches, roads, interests in land, riparian rights and mooring rights lead to property owned or controlled by the corporation.

(g) To acquire, whether by purchase, construction, exchange, gift, lease or otherwise and to improve, equip and furnish and to own and maintain or lease one or more projects or parts thereof, including all real and personal properties and interests therein which its board may deem necessary in connection therewith, regardless of whether or not any such project or projects shall then be in existence;

(h) To acquire, receive, take, hold, lease or operate, whether by purchase, gift, devise or otherwise, property of every description, whether real, personal or mixed, and to manage the same and to improve or develop any undeveloped property owned, leased or controlled by it;

(i) To sell, convey, lease or grant options for such purposes, any or all of its projects or properties, whenever its board shall find that such action is in the furtherance of the purposes for which the corporation was organized;

- (j) To exchange or donate any or all of its projects or properties or parts thereof whenever its board shall find such action to be in furtherance of the purpose for which the corporation was organized;
- (k) To execute and deliver such contracts or instruments of writing and to take such action as may be necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes for which the corporation was organized or to exercise any power or authority granted herein;
- (l) To lease or let any project or any part thereof to such tenant or tenants for such term or terms at such compensation or rentals and subject to such provisions, limitations and conditions as its board may approve;
- (m) To furnish or supply upon any property owned, leased or controlled by the corporation to any persons, machines, automobiles, and watercraft thereon, for reward or compensation, any goods, commodities, safety and health care facilities, fire fighting and prevention facilities, and services convenient or useful to the owners, operators and users of any watercraft, machines, and automobiles, and to persons upon property owned, leased or controlled by the corporation, including, but not limited to, food, lodging, shelter, lawful drinks, confections, oil, gasoline, motors and watercraft, motor and watercraft parts and equipment, guard services, space in buildings, space for buildings and structures, communication facilities, telephone systems, and the services of mechanics, repairmen and technicians;
- (n) To charge fees for admission to any of its properties;
- (o) To borrow money on such terms as are acceptable to the corporation for any corporate purpose and to execute and deliver its promissory note or notes and such other agreements as may be reasonably necessary or required to consummate the loan and secure the payment of the indebtedness;
- (p) To sell, exchange and convey any of its properties that may have become obsolete or worn out or that may no longer be needed or useful, subject to the approval of the directors of the corporation;
- (q) To procure and agree to the procurement of insurance or guarantees from the United States of America or any agency or instrumentality thereof, or from any private insurance company, of the payment of any bonds issued by the corporation, and to pay premiums or fees for any such insurance or guarantees;
- (r) To enter into contracts with, to accept aid, loans and grants from, to cooperate with, and to do any and all things not specifically prohibited by this amendment, and other applicable laws of the state that may be necessary in order to avail itself of the aid and cooperation of the United States of America, the state, the county or any agency, instrumentality or political subdivision of either thereof in furtherance of the purposes of the corporation;
- (s) To appoint, employ, contract with and provide for compensation of such officers, employees and agents, including engineers, attorneys, planning consultants, fiscal advisors, architects, accountants, financial experts, fiscal agents, managers and such other advisors, consultants and agents as may in its judgment be necessary or desirable as the business of the corporation may require, including the power to fix working conditions by general rule or other conditions of employment and at its option to provide a system of disability pay, retirement compensation and pensions or any of them and to hire and fire servants, agents, employees and officers at will;
- (t) To fix, establish, collect and alter landing fees, docking fees, tolls, rents and other charges for the use of any facility or other property owned or controlled by the corporation;
- (u) To make and enforce rules and regulations governing the use of any property or facility or other property owned or controlled by the corporation;
- (v) To procure insurance against any loss in connection with its property and other assets in such amounts and from such insurers as its board may deem desirable;
- (w) To enter into a management contract or contracts with any person, firm or corporation, whether public or private, for the management, supervision or operation of all or any part of its facilities as may in the judgment of the corporation be necessary or desirable in order to perform more efficiently or economically any function for which it may become responsible in the exercise of the powers conferred upon it by this amendment;

(x) To invest its monies [moneys] (including, without limitation, the monies [moneys] held in any special fund created pursuant to any trust indenture or agreement or resolution securing any of its bonds or notes and proceeds from the sale of any of its bonds or notes) not required for immediate use in:

(1) Any debt securities that are direct, general obligations of the United States of America,

(2) Any debt securities, the payment of the principal or any interest on which is unconditionally guaranteed by the United States of America,

(3) Any time deposit with, or any certificate of deposit issued by, any bank which is organized under the laws of the United States of America or any state thereof and deposits in which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States of America that may succeed to the functions of such corporation, and

(4) Any debt obligation in which an insurance company organized under the laws of the state may legally invest its money at the time of investment by the corporation;

(y) To issue its bonds for the purpose of carrying out any of its powers and to apply proceeds from the sale of its bonds not only for payment of interest thereon prior to and during the construction and equipment of any buildings, structures, facilities or other improvements being financed thereby but also to pay bond discount, commissions or other financing charges, interest on the obligations issued in evidence of such borrowing for such period as its board shall deem advisable, fees and expenses of financial advisors and planning and management consultants, all legal, accounting, publishing, printing, recording and filing fees and expenses and such other expenses as shall be necessary or incident to such borrowing;

(z) To mortgage and pledge any or all of its projects or any part or parts thereof, as security for the payment of the principal, interest and premium, if any, on any bonds so issued and any agreements made in connection therewith, whether then owned or thereafter acquired, and to pledge the revenues and receipts therefrom or from any thereof;

(aa) To exercise the power of eminent domain in the manner provided in and subject to the provisions of Act No. 85-548, S. 287, 1985 Regular Session (Acts 1985, p. 802), as amended;

(bb) To expend funds for the purchase or lease of materials, equipment, supplies or other personal property without compliance with the provisions of the competitive bid laws then in effect in the state of Alabama that might otherwise be applicable;

(cc) To lend upon such terms and conditions as its board may deem advisable, all or any portion of the proceeds derived from the issuance of its bonds, notes or obligations to a user, whether pursuant to one or more loan agreements or in conjunction with the lease or sale of one or more facilities to such user or the purchase of any authorized purpose obligation relating to a facility or facilities operated by such user, for one or more or any combination of the following purposes:

(1) To enable such user to borrow an amount not substantially in excess of the equity (determined on any basis not resulting in a higher value for any facility in question than the estimated replacement cost or the appraised market value thereof, whichever may be greater) which such user may then have in any facility or facilities;

(2) To enable such user to refinance any outstanding indebtedness incurred or assumed in connection with the acquisition, improvement or operation of any existing facility or facilities;

(3) To enable such user to finance the costs of acquiring, by purchase, construction or otherwise, one or more facilities and/or the costs of expending or improving one or more facilities, regardless of whether any such facility has theretofore been owned or leased by such user or is to be acquired or leased by such user; and

(4) To enable such user to borrow working capital for use in the operation of one or more facilities;

(dd) To do any and all things necessary or convenient to carry out its purposes and to exercise its powers pursuant to the provisions of this amendment.

Section 7. (a) All bonds issued by the corporation shall be payable solely out of the revenues and receipts derived from the leasing or sale by the board of its projects or of any thereof as may be designated in the proceedings of the board under which the bonds shall be authorized to be issued.

(b) The principal of and interest on any bonds issued by the corporation shall be secured by a pledge of the revenues and receipts out of which the same may be payable and may be secured by a mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture conveying as security for such bonds all or any part of the property of the corporation from which the revenues or receipts so pledged may be derived. The resolution under which the bonds are authorized to be issued and any such mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture may contain any agreements and provisions respecting the operation, maintenance and insurance of the property covered by said mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture, the use of the revenues and receipts subject to such mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture, the creation and maintenance of special funds from such revenues and receipts, rights, duties and remedies of the parties to any such instrument and the parties for the benefit of whom such instrument is made and the rights and remedies available in the event of default as the board shall deem advisable and which are not in conflict with the provisions of this article. Each pledge, agreement, mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture made for the benefit or security of any of the bonds of the corporation shall continue effective until the principal of and interest on the bonds for the benefit of which the same were made shall have been fully paid. In the event of default in such payment or in any agreements of the corporation made as a part of the contract under which the bonds were issued, whether contained in the proceedings authorizing the bonds or in any mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture executed as security therefor, such default may be enforced by mandamus, the appointment of a receiver, or either of said remedies, and foreclosure of such mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture may, if provided for in said instrument, be had.

(c) All bonds issued by the corporation shall be signed by the president of its board and attested by its secretary, and the seal of the corporation shall be affixed thereto, and any interest coupons applicable to the bonds of the authority shall be signed by the chairman of its board; provided, that a facsimile of the signature of one, but not both, of said officers may be printed or otherwise reproduced on any such bonds in lieu of his manually signing the same, a facsimile of the seal of the authority may be printed or otherwise reproduced on any such bonds in lieu of being manually affixed thereof, and a facsimile of the signature of the president of the board may be printed or otherwise reproduced on any such interest coupons in lieu of his manually signing the same.

(d) Any such bonds may be executed and delivered by the corporation at any time and from time to time, shall be in such form and denominations and of such tenor and maturities, shall contain such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this article, and shall bear such rate or rates of interest, payable and evidenced in such manner, as may be provided by resolution of its board. Bonds of the corporation may be sold at either public or private sale in such manner and at such price or prices and at such time or times as may be determined by the board to be most advantageous. The corporation may pay all expenses, premiums and commissions in connection with any financing done by it. All bonds, except bonds registered as to principal or as to both principal and interest, and any interest coupons applicable thereto issued by the corporation shall be construed to be negotiable instruments although payable solely from a specified source.

(e) All obligations created or assumed and all bonds issued or assumed by the corporation shall be solely and exclusively an obligation of the corporation and shall not create an obligation or debt of the state or of any county or municipality; provided that the provisions of this sentence shall not be construed to release the original obligor from liability on any bond or other obligation assumed by the corporation. Any bonds issued by the corporation shall be limited or special obligations of the corporation payable solely out of the revenues and receipts of the corporation specified in the proceedings authorizing those bonds.

(f) Bonds of a corporation are hereby made legal investments for executors, administrators, trustees and other fiduciaries, unless otherwise directed by the court having jurisdiction of the fiduciary relation or by the document that is the source of the fiduciary's authority, and for savings banks and insurance companies organized under the laws of the state.

Section 8. All moneys derived from the sale of any bonds issued by the corporation shall be used solely for the purpose or purposes for which the same are authorized, including, but without limitation to, the use of bond proceeds to establish reserve funds as security for the payment of the principal of (and premium, if any) and interest on the bonds, and any costs and expenses incidental thereto. Such costs and expenses may include but shall not be limited to the fiscal, engineering, legal and other expenses incurred in connection with the issuance of the bonds, and except in the case of refunding bonds, interest to accrue on such bonds for a period ending not later than two years from their date.

Section 9. Any bonds issued by the corporation may from time to time be refunded by the issuance, by sale or exchange, of refunding bonds payable from the same or different sources for the purpose of paying all or any part of the principal of the bonds to be refunded, any redemption premium required to be paid as a condition to the redemption prior to maturity of any such bonds that are to be so redeemed in connection with such refunding, any accrued and unpaid interest on the bonds to be refunded, any interest to accrue on each bond to be refunded to the date on which it is to be paid, whether at maturity or by redemption prior to maturity, and the expenses incurred in connection with refunding; provided, that unless duly called for redemption pursuant to provisions contained therein, the holders of any such bonds then outstanding and proposed to be refunded shall not be compelled without their consent to surrender their outstanding bonds for such refunding. Any refunding bonds may be sold by the corporation at public or private sale at such price or prices as may be determined by its board to be most advantageous, or may be exchanged for the bonds or other obligations to be refunded. Any such refunding bonds may be executed and delivered by the corporation at any time and from time to time, shall be in such form and denominations and have such tenor and maturities, shall contain such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this article, and shall bear such rate or rates of interest, payable and evidenced in such manner, as may be provided by resolution of its board.

Any refunding bonds issued by the corporation shall be issued and may be secured in accordance with the provisions of Section 7, hereof.

Section 10. Upon the adoption by the board of the corporation of any resolution providing for the issuance of bonds, the corporation may, in its discretion, cause to be published once a week for two consecutive weeks, in a newspaper published or having a general circulation in Washington county, a notice in substantially the following form (the blanks being properly filled in) at the end of which shall be printed the name and title of either the president or secretary of such corporation. "... a public corporation under the laws of the state of Alabama, on the ... day of ..., authorized the issuance of \$... principal amount of bonds of the said public corporation for purposes authorized in the act of the legislature of Alabama under which the said public corporation was organized. Any action or proceeding questioning the validity of the said bonds, or the pledge and the mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture to secure the same, or the proceedings authorizing the same, must be commenced within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this notice".

Any action or proceeding in any court to set aside or question the proceedings for the issuance of the bonds referred to in said notice or to contest the validity of any such bonds, or the validity of any pledge and mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture made therefor, must be commenced within 30 days after the first publication of such notice. After the expiration of the said period no right of action or defense questioning or attacking the validity of the said proceedings or of the said bonds or the said pledge or mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture shall be asserted, nor shall the validity of the said proceedings, bonds, pledge, mortgage, and deed of trust or trust indenture be open to question in any court on any ground whatsoever except in an action commenced within such period.

Section 11. The corporation and all properties at any time owned by it and the income therefrom and all bonds issued by it and the income therefrom shall be exempt from all taxation in the state of Alabama, including, without limitation, ad valorem, sales, excise, license and privilege taxes; provided, however, this exemption shall not be construed to exempt concessionaires or lessees of the authority from the payment of any taxes, including licenses, privileges, or sales taxes levied by the state, county or any municipality. The certificate of incorporation of the

corporation, the certificate of dissolution, all deeds or other documents whereby properties are conveyed to the corporation and all deeds, indentures or leases executed by the corporation may be filed for record in the office of the judge of probate of Washington county and, if necessary, in the office of the secretary of state, without the payment of any tax or fees other than such fees as may be authorized by law for the recording of such instrument.

Section 12. Washington county shall not in any event be liable for the payment of the principal of or interest on any bonds of the corporation or for the performance of any pledge, mortgage, obligation or agreement of any kind whatsoever which may be undertaken by the corporation, and none of the bonds of the corporation or any of its agreements or obligations shall be construed to constitute an indebtedness of Washington county within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory provision whatsoever.

Section 13. The corporation shall be exempt from the laws of the state of Alabama governing usury or prescribing or limiting interest rates.

Section 14. The corporation shall be a nonprofit corporation and no part of its net earnings remaining after payment of its expenses shall inure to the benefit of any individual, firm or corporation, except that in the event a board shall determine that sufficient provision has been made for the full payment of the expenses, bonds and other obligations of the corporation, then any net earnings of the corporation thereafter accruing shall be paid to Washington county.

Section 15. At any time when the corporation has no bonds or other obligations outstanding, its board may adopt a resolution, which shall be duly entered upon its minutes, declaring that the corporation shall be dissolved. Upon filing for record of a certified copy of the said resolution in the office of the judge of probate of Washington county, the corporation shall thereupon stand dissolved and in the event it owned any property at the time of its dissolution, the title to all its properties shall thereupon pass to Washington county.

Section 16. The existence of a corporation incorporated under the provisions of this amendment shall prevent the subsequent incorporation hereunder of another corporation pursuant to authority granted to such corporation.

Section 17. The contracts of the corporation shall be executed in the name of the corporation by the president of the corporation and attested by the secretary of the corporation. Except for bonds it is not required that the seal be impressed or printed on contracts. It is further provided hereby that, except for bonds, the corporation may provide by resolution for a different form for the execution of contracts and for the execution thereof by an officer or agent other than the president and secretary. But in no event shall a contract, irrespective of the form and of the person executing the same, be binding unless such contract was authorized or ratified by the corporation.

Section 18. Washington county or any municipality within the county, is authorized, but not required, to lease, sell, donate or otherwise convey to the corporation, real or personal property, including park properties, without the necessity of authorization by election of the qualified voters of said county, the municipality, and the governing body of said county or any municipality within the county, and is hereby authorized to enter into any agreements which such corporation may deem necessary in order to effectuate such lease, sale, donation, or transfer. The governing body of Washington county, or any municipality within the county, is further authorized to covenant with the corporation, which covenant shall likewise constitute a contract with the holders of any revenue bonds, notes or other obligations thereafter issued by the corporation, that it will not acquire, construct or operate or permit the acquisition, construction or operation within the municipality or county, of any facility in competition with the corporation so long as any of the bonds, notes or other obligation of the corporation shall remain outstanding.

Section 19. The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and become effective upon the ratification of this amendment by the people.

Amendment 471 ratified

Special District Tax for Public Hospital Purposes in Baldwin County.

The special district tax now levied and collected for public hospital purposes in election precincts numbered one through seven of Baldwin county, Alabama, and authorized by law shall be continued upon approval of this constitutional amendment and by simultaneous approval of a majority of the qualified electors in election precincts one through seven of Baldwin county voting thereon in the constitutional election submitting this proposed amendment to the county electorate.

Upon such approval, the governing body of Baldwin county shall levy and cause to be collected annually, beginning October 1, 1987, for a period of 20 years, in addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, a special district tax of two mills on each one dollar (\$1.00) assessed valuation of taxable property in election precincts numbered one through seven of Baldwin county, Alabama, to be used exclusively for public hospital purposes (as the term "public hospital purposes" is defined in amendment LXXVI [76] to the Alabama Constitution of 1901 proposed by Acts of 1949, page 897, submitted December 13, 1949, and proclaimed ratified December 21, 1949) within said election precincts numbered one through seven.

Whenever such tax shall have been authorized by vote of such qualified electors, and levied by the governing body of Baldwin county, such governing body may anticipate the proceeds therefrom for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, by issuing, without further election, interest bearing tax anticipation bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said county payable solely from and secured by a pledge of a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax received by the county.

The governing body of Baldwin county shall have power to designate as the agency of the county, to construct, acquire, equip, operate and maintain public hospital facilities for said election precincts numbered one through seven any public corporation heretofore or hereafter organized for hospital purposes in the county. When a public corporation shall have been so designated, the proceeds of said tax thereafter collected shall be paid to it and shall be used by it for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted; provided, that payments of the proceeds of said tax to said public corporation shall be made only to such extent as will not result in the impairment of the obligation of any contract theretofore made with respect to said tax. Said public corporation may anticipate the proceeds from said tax so required to be paid to it by issuing, for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, the bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said corporation, and may pledge for the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax so paid to it.

No securities issued or contracts made by Baldwin county under the authority of this amendment, which are payable solely out of the proceeds of said tax, and no securities issued or contracts made by any such public corporation, whether or not issued or made under the authority of this amendment, shall be construed to be bonds of Baldwin county or of a political subdivision thereof within the meaning of section 222 of the Constitution, or construed to create or constitute an indebtedness of the county within the meaning of section 224 of the Constitution. Said securities shall be construed to be negotiable instruments notwithstanding the fact that they may be payable solely from a limited source. All pledges of said tax and all contracts made with respect thereto pursuant to the provisions of this amendment shall take precedence in the order in which they are made and shall create a charge on the proceeds of said tax prior to the expenses of operating and maintaining any public hospital facilities.

As used in this act, the term "election precincts" means the election precincts or beats of the county as they existed on July 27, 1965.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 472 ratified

Use of Assets of State Retirement Systems.

All of the assets, proceeds or income of the teachers', employees', state police, public and judicial retirement systems of Alabama, or any successor systems thereto, and all contributions and payments made to such systems to provide for retirement and related benefits thereunder, shall be held, invested as authorized by law, or disbursed as in trust for the exclusive purpose of providing for such benefits, refunds and administrative expenses under the management of the boards of control of the aforementioned retirement systems; and, none of such assets, proceeds, income, contributions or payments shall be used, loaned, encumbered or diverted to or for any other purpose whatsoever.

Amendment 473 ratified

Amendment of Section 232. SECTION 232

Foreign corporations doing business in state.

No foreign corporation shall do business in this state without having at least one known place of business and an authorized agent or agents therein, and without filing with the secretary of state a certified copy of its articles of incorporation or association. Any foreign corporation, whether or not such corporation has qualified to do business in this state by filing with the secretary of state a certified copy of its articles of incorporation or association, may be sued only in those counties where such suit would be allowed if the said foreign corporation were a domestic corporation. The legislature shall, by general law, provide for the payment to the state of Alabama of a franchise tax by such corporation, but such franchise tax shall be based on the actual amount of capital employed in this state. Strictly benevolent, educational, or religious corporations shall not be required to pay such a tax.

Amendment 474 ratified

Effectiveness of Laws Providing for Expenditure of County Funds.

No law, whether general, special or local, whose purpose or effect is to provide for a new or increased expenditure of county funds held or disbursed by the county governing body shall become effective as to any county of this state until the first day of the fiscal year next following the passage of such law. The foregoing notwithstanding, a law, whether general, special or local, whose purpose or effect is to provide for a new or increased expenditure of county funds held or disbursed by the county governing body, shall become effective according to its own terms as any other law if: (1) such law is approved by a resolution duly adopted by and spread upon the minutes of the county governing body of the county affected thereby; or (2) such law (or other law or laws which specifically refer to such law) provides the respective county governing bodies with new or additional revenues sufficient to fund such new or increased expenditures.

Amendment 475 ratified

Tax Increment Districts in Counties and Municipalities.

Any other provision of the Constitution heretofore adopted to the contrary notwithstanding, the legislature is hereby authorized to enact legislation permitting municipalities and counties to establish tax increment districts, as may be defined in such legislation; to authorize the payment to any such municipality or county of the increase in ad valorem taxes resulting from the redevelopment or revitalization of any such district except to the extent that any such payment would jeopardize the payment of any bonded indebtedness secured by any tax applicable in the proposed district; and subject to the mutual agreement of the municipality and county affected thereby to provide that all such increases in ad valorem taxes shall be payable to such municipality or county until the indebtedness or costs incurred for any project have been paid in full; to provide that public moneys, including the proceeds of obligations issued by the municipality or county for such purposes, may be expended for the acquisition of property and the

redevelopment, rehabilitation or conservation thereof which may be disposed of to or for the benefit of private interest for compensation established by the governing body of county or municipality, as the case may be which established such district, but for not less than the fair market value thereof determined by one or more independent appraisals of such property; and to provide that any such obligations shall not be chargeable against the constitutional debt limit of the issuer unless such obligations shall be general obligations of the issuer in addition to being payable from such increases in property taxes. Any legislation passed at the same session of the legislature at which this amendment is proposed, which shall be in furtherance of or in implementation of the authority hereby granted is hereby validated and confirmed.

Amendment 476 ratified

Chambers County Fire and Rescue Fund.

The Chambers county commission shall establish a Chambers county fire and rescue fund. The circuit clerk of Chambers county shall assess an additional court charge against all persons convicted in Chambers county of violating state criminal law regarding driving under the influence of alcohol or the state criminal law regarding controlled substances. First time offenders of said criminal law shall pay a court charge of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). Second time offenders of said criminal law shall pay a court charge of fifty dollars (\$50.00). Third time offenders and all other offenders of said criminal law shall pay a court charge of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). Said court charge shall be in addition to all other charges prescribed by law. Said court charges shall be paid into the Chambers county fire and rescue fund and shall be distributed by the county commission on January 31 of each year. Said money shall be equally distributed to all chartered volunteer fire departments and chartered volunteer rescue squads established in Chambers county. The Chambers county commission shall be authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this amendment. The legislature shall be authorized to enact general, local or special laws to provide further for the operation of said fund, the allocation of the moneys placed in said fund and the amount of court charges levied.

Amendment 477 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 465. City of Jackson Port Authority.

Section 1. The following amendment to section 6 of constitutional Amendment 465 is hereby proposed:

Section 6. A corporation organized and existing under the provisions of this amendment shall have the following powers, together with all powers incident thereto or necessary for the performance of those stated herein:

- (a) To adopt and from time to time amend bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and the conduct of its business;
- (b) To adopt an official seal and alter the same at its pleasure;
- (c) To maintain a principal office in the city of Jackson;
- (d) To sue and be sued in its own name, excepting actions in tort against the corporation;
- (e) To construct, own, operate, lease, build, install, acquire, maintain, equip, use and control marinas, ports, waterfront facilities, docks, wharves, piers, berths, quays, warehouses, loading and unloading facilities, boat and barge docking facilities, fishing facilities, pavilions, auditoriums, shops, stores, boat launching facilities, dry docks, canals, recreational facilities, campgrounds, parking facilities, office and other commercial buildings, water systems, electrical systems, gas and fuel oil pipelines and pumping stations, railroad lines and railway systems, helicopter and airline landing and loading facilities, industrial and manufacturing sites, buildings and facilities, coal and other solid fuel handling facilities, wood products manufacturing and handling facilities, agriculture and farm commodity handling, storage and processing facilities, drainage and sewage facilities, liquid and solid waste handling and disposal facilities, conveyor systems, jetties, mooring facilities, and all necessary or convenient approaches, easements, roads, streets and ways leading thereto or used in conjunction therewith; and specifically including herein bridge and road relocation, and the construction, maintenance and operation of bridges, tunnels, overpasses,

underpasses, roads and sidewalks; and the construction, leasing, operation, equipping, owning, using, controlling and maintaining of public terminal and transfer facilities, flood control facilities, water and soil erosion facilities, railroad and highway bridge relocation and construction and maintenance of the same and all other types of waterway facilities pursuant to all state, county, local and federal laws and regulations relative to the operation and maintenance of the Tombigbee river;

(f) To own, acquire, maintain and control easements, rights of way, streets, approaches, roads, interests in land, including the fee simple title to real property, riparian rights, and mooring rights necessary, useful or convenient in gaining access, entry or approach to waterways, rivers, canals and streams, whether or not navigable and whether or not such easements, rights of way, streets, approaches, roads, interests in land, riparian rights and mooring rights lead to property owned or controlled by the corporation;

(g) To acquire, whether by purchase, construction, exchange, gift, lease or otherwise and to improve, equip and furnish and to own and maintain or lease one or more projects or parts thereof, including all real and personal properties and interests therein which its board may deem necessary in connection therewith, regardless of whether or not any such project or projects shall then be in existence;

(h) To acquire, receive, take, hold, lease or operate, whether by purchase, gift, devise or otherwise, property of every description, whether real, personal or mixed, and to manage the same and to improve or develop any undeveloped property owned, leased or controlled by it;

(i) To sell, convey, lease or grant options for such purposes, any or all of its projects or properties, whenever its board shall find that such action is in the furtherance of the purposes for which the corporation was organized;

(j) To exchange or donate any or all of its projects or properties or parts thereof whenever its board shall find such action to be in furtherance of the purpose for which the corporation was organized;

(k) To execute and deliver such contracts or instruments of writing and to take such action as may be necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes for which the corporation was organized or to exercise any power or authority granted herein;

(l) To lease or let any project or any part thereof to such tenant or tenants for such term or terms at such compensation or rentals and subject to such provisions;

(m) To furnish or supply upon any property owned, leased or controlled by the corporation to any persons, machines, automobiles, and watercraft thereon, for reward or compensation, any goods, commodities, safety and health care facilities, fire-fighting and prevention facilities, and services convenient or useful to the owners, operators and users of any watercraft, machines, and automobiles, and to persons upon property owned, leased or controlled by the corporation, including, but not limited to, food, lodging, shelter, lawful drinks, confections, oil, gasoline, motors and watercraft, motor and watercraft parts and equipment, guard services, space in buildings, space for buildings and structures, communication facilities, telephone systems, and the services of mechanics, repairmen and technicians;

(n) To charge fees for admission to any of its properties;

(o) To borrow money on such terms as are acceptable to the corporation for any corporate purpose and to execute and deliver its promissory note or notes and such other agreements as may be reasonably necessary or required to consummate the loan and secure the payment of the indebtedness;

(p) To sell, exchange and convey any of its properties that may have become obsolete or worn out or that may no longer be needed or useful, subject to the approval of the directors of the corporation;

(q) To procure and agree to the procurement of insurance or guarantees from the United States of America or any agency or instrumentality thereof, or from any private insurance company, of the payment of any bonds issued by the corporation, and to pay premiums or fees for any such insurance or guarantees;

(r) To enter into contracts with, to accept aid, loans and grants from, to cooperate with, and to do any and all things not specifically prohibited by this amendment, and other applicable laws of the state that may be necessary in order to avail itself of the aid and cooperation of the United States of America, the state, the county or any agency,

instrumentality or political subdivision of either thereof in furtherance of the purposes of the corporation;

(s) To appoint, employ, contract with and provide for compensation of such officers, employees and agents, including engineers, attorneys, planning consultants, fiscal advisors, architects, accountants, financial experts, fiscal agents, managers and such other advisors, consultants and agents as may in its judgment be necessary or desirable as the business of the corporation may require, including the power to fix working conditions by general rule or other conditions of employment and at its option to provide a system of disability pay, retirement compensation and pensions or any of them and to hire and fire servants, agents, employees and officers at will;

(t) To fix, establish, collect and alter landing fees, docking fees, tolls, rents and other charges for the use of any facility or other property owned or controlled by the corporation;

(u) To make and enforce rules and regulations governing the use of any property or facility or other property owned or controlled by the corporation;

(v) To procure insurance against any loss in connection with its property and other assets in such amounts and from such insurers as its board may deem desirable;

(w) To enter into a management contract or contracts with any person, firm or corporation, whether public or private, for the management, supervision or operation of all or any part of its facilities as may in the judgment of the corporation be necessary or desirable in order to perform more efficiently or economically any function for which it may become responsible in the exercise of the powers conferred upon it by this amendment;

(x) To invest its monies (including, without limitation, the monies held in any special fund created pursuant to any trust indenture or agreement or resolution securing any of its bonds or notes and proceeds from the sale of any of its bonds or notes) not required for immediate use in:

(1) any debt securities that are direct, general obligations of the United States of America,

(2) any debt securities, the payment of the principal or any interest on which is unconditionally guaranteed by the United States of America,

(3) any time deposit with, or any certificate of deposit issued by, any bank which is organized under the laws of the United States of America or any state thereof and deposits in which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States of America that may succeed to the functions of such corporation, and

(4) any debt obligation in which an insurance company organized under the laws of the state may legally invest its money at the time of investment by the corporation;

(y) To issue its bonds for the purpose of carrying out any of its powers and to apply proceeds from the sale of its bonds not only for payment of interest thereon prior to and during the construction and equipment of any buildings, structures, facilities or other improvements being financed thereby but also to pay bond discount, commissions or other financing charges, interest on the obligations issued in evidence of such borrowing for such period as its board shall deem advisable, fees and expenses of financial advisors and planning and management consultants, all legal, accounting, publishing, printing, recording and filing fees and expenses and such other expenses as shall be necessary or incident to such borrowing;

(z) To mortgage and pledge any or all of its projects or any part or parts thereof, as security for the payment of the principal, interest and premium, if any, on any bonds so issued and any agreements made in connection therewith, whether then owned or thereafter acquired, and to pledge the revenues and receipts therefrom or from any thereof;

(aa) To exercise the power of eminent domain in the manner provided in and subject to the provisions of Act No. 85-548, S. 287, 1985 Regular Session (Acts 1985, p. 802), as amended;

(bb) To expend funds for the purchase or lease of materials, equipment, supplies or other personal property without compliance with the provisions of the competitive bid laws then in effect in the state of Alabama that might otherwise be applicable;

(cc) To lend upon such terms and conditions as its board may deem advisable, all or any portion of the proceeds derived from the issuance of its bonds, notes or obligations to a user, whether pursuant to one or more loan agreements or in conjunction with the lease or sale of one or more facilities to such user or the purchase of any authorized purpose obligation relating to a facility or facilities operated by such user, for one or more or any combination of the following purposes:

(1) To enable such user to borrow an amount not substantially in excess of the equity (determined on any basis not resulting in a higher value for any facility in question than the estimated replacement cost or the appraised market value thereof, whichever may be greater) which such user may then have in any facility or facilities;

(2) To enable such user to refinance any outstanding indebtedness incurred or assumed in connection with the acquisition, improvement or operation of any existing facility or facilities;

(3) To enable such user to finance the costs of acquiring, by purchase, construction or otherwise, one or more facilities and/or the costs of expending or improving one or more facilities, regardless of whether any such facility has theretofore been owned or leased by such user or is to be acquired or leased by such user; and

(4) To enable such user to borrow working capital for use in the operation of one or more facilities,

(dd) To do any and all things necessary or convenient to carry out its purposes and to exercise its powers pursuant to the provisions of this amendment.

Provided however, the powers specified in subsections (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), (j), (l), (m), (n), (t), (u), and (aa) of this section shall be granted and enforceable only within the city of Jackson and the police jurisdiction of the city of Jackson as said police jurisdiction exists on the date this constitutional amendment is ratified.

Section 2. It is further proposed to amend constitutional Amendment 465 by deleting section 16 from said constitutional amendment in its entirety. Said deletion shall constitute the repeal of said section 16 and the section shall be null and void. Said deletion shall have no effect on all remaining sections of the constitutional amendment.

Amendment 478 ratified

Compensation of Clarke County Probate Judge.

The legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws applicable to or operative in Clarke county, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts and fees, commissions, allowances, and salaries, including the method and basis of compensation, to be charged or received by the judge of probate of Clarke county; and may place the judge of probate on a salary and provide for the fees, commissions, allowances, and percentages collectible by such officer to be paid into the treasury from which his salary is paid.

Amendment 479 ratified

Compensation of Covington County Officers.

The legislature may hereafter, from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances or salaries to be charged or received by the judge of probate and other county officers of Covington county, and may put such officers on a salary basis and provide for the operation of their offices on such basis.

Amendment 480 ratified

Compensation of Greene County Probate Judge.

Effective the beginning of the next term of office after ratification of this amendment, the judge of probate of Greene county shall be compensated on a salary basis. He shall receive in equal monthly installments from the general fund of Greene county such salary as provided by general law, unless provided otherwise by local law. Such salary shall be the entire compensation received by such judge for his services in any official or ex officio capacity. Such salary shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges previously paid to the judge of probate of Greene county.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the judge of probate of Greene county shall continue to be collected but shall be paid into the general fund of Greene county.

The county commission of Greene county shall provide the judge of probate with such office personnel, equipment and supplies as such county commission may consider necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of his office. Compensation of any personnel so provided shall be fixed by the county commission and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund of Greene county.

Amendment 481 ratified

Compensation of Hale County Probate Judge.

The judge of probate of Hale county shall be compensated on a salary basis. He shall receive in equal monthly installments from the general fund of Hale county such salary as provided by general law. Such salary shall be the entire compensation received by such judge for his services in any official or ex officio capacity. Such salary shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges heretofore paid to the judge of probate of Hale county.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the judge of probate of Hale county shall hereafter continue to be collected but shall be paid into the general fund of Hale county.

The governing body of Hale county shall provide the judge of probate with such office personnel, clerks, deputies and such quarters, books, stationery, furniture, equipment and other such conveniences and supplies as such governing body may consider necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of his office. Compensation of any personnel so provided shall be fixed by the county governing body and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund of Hale county.

The legislature may hereafter, from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances, compensation or salaries to be charged or received by the judge of probate of Hale county, and may provide for the operation of his office. The legislature may hereafter, from time to time, by general, special or local laws further provide for the distribution of the fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges herein provided for.

This constitutional amendment after its adoption shall not become effective until the beginning of the next term of office of the probate judge.

Amendment 482 ratified

Limestone County Commission Authority.

The Limestone county commission is hereby authorized with or without charge to provide for the disposal of dead farm animals, and the excavating of human graves.

Amendment 483 ratified

Compensation of Lowndes County Probate Judge.

Effective the beginning of the next term of office after ratification of this amendment, the judge of probate of Lowndes county shall be compensated on a salary basis. He shall receive in equal monthly installments from the general fund of Lowndes county such salary as provided by general law, unless provided otherwise by local law. Such salary shall be the entire compensation received by such judge for his services in any official or ex officio capacity. Such salary shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges previously paid to the judge of probate of Lowndes county.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the judge of probate of Lowndes county shall continue to be collected but shall be paid into the general fund of Lowndes county.

The county commission of Lowndes county shall provide the judge of probate with such office personnel, equipment and supplies as such county commission may consider necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of his office. Compensation of any personnel so provided shall be fixed by the county commission and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund of Lowndes county.

Amendment 483 ratified

Compensation of Lowndes County Probate Judge.

Effective the beginning of the next term of office after ratification of this amendment, the judge of probate of Lowndes county shall be compensated on a salary basis. He shall receive in equal monthly installments from the general fund of Lowndes county such salary as provided by general law, unless provided otherwise by local law. Such salary shall be the entire compensation received by such judge for his services in any official or ex officio capacity. Such salary shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges previously paid to the judge of probate of Lowndes county.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the judge of probate of Lowndes county shall continue to be collected but shall be paid into the general fund of Lowndes county.

The county commission of Lowndes county shall provide the judge of probate with such office personnel, equipment and supplies as such county commission may consider necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of his office. Compensation of any personnel so provided shall be fixed by the county commission and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund of Lowndes county.

Amendment 485 ratified

Compensation of Perry County Probate Judge.

The judge of probate of Perry county shall be compensated on a salary basis. He shall receive in equal monthly installments from the general fund of Perry county such salary as provided by general law. Such salary shall be the entire compensation received by such judge for his services in any official or ex officio capacity. Such salary shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges heretofore paid to the judge of probate of Perry county.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the judge of probate of Perry county shall hereafter continue to be collected but shall be paid into the general fund of Perry county.

The governing body of Perry county shall provide the judge of probate with such office personnel, clerks, deputies and such quarters, books, stationery, furniture, equipment and other such conveniences and supplies as such governing body may consider necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of his office. Compensation of any personnel so provided shall be fixed by the county governing body and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund of Perry county.

The legislature may hereafter, from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances, compensation or salaries to be charged or received by the judge of probate of Perry county, and may provide for the operation of his office. The legislature may hereafter, from time to time, by general, special or local laws further provide for the distribution of the fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges herein provided for.

This constitutional amendment after its adoption shall not become effective until the beginning of the next term of office of the probate judge.

Amendment 486 ratified

Compensation of Sumter County Probate Judge.

Effective the beginning of the next term of office after ratification of this amendment, the judge of probate of Sumter county shall be compensated on a salary basis. He shall receive in equal monthly installments from the general fund of Sumter county such salary as provided by general law, unless provided otherwise by local law. Such salary shall be the entire compensation received by such judge for his services in any official or ex officio capacity. Such salary shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges previously paid to the judge of probate of Sumter county.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the judge of probate of Sumter county shall continue to be collected but shall be paid into the general fund of Sumter county.

The county commission of Sumter county shall provide the judge of probate with such office personnel, equipment and supplies as such county commission may consider necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of his office. Compensation of any personnel so provided shall be fixed by the county commission and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund of Sumter county.

Amendment 487 ratified

Compensation of Wilcox County Probate Judge.

Effective the beginning of the next term of office after ratification of this amendment, the judge of probate of Wilcox county shall be compensated on a salary basis. He shall receive in equal monthly installments from the general fund of Wilcox county such salary as provided by general law, unless provided otherwise by local law. Such salary shall be the entire compensation received by such judge for his services in any official or ex officio capacity. Such salary shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges previously paid to the judge of probate of Wilcox county.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the judge of probate of Wilcox county shall continue to be collected but shall be paid into the general fund of Wilcox county.

The county commission of Wilcox county shall provide the judge of probate with such office personnel, equipment and supplies as such county commission may consider necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of his office. Compensation of any personnel so provided shall be fixed by the county commission and shall be paid in equal

monthly installments out of the general fund of Wilcox county.

Amendment 488 ratified

Investment of Capital and Income from Alabama Heritage Trust Fund or Alabama Trust Fund.

Any other provision of this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding, trust capital and trust income held in either the Alabama heritage trust fund or the Alabama trust fund may be invested in such kinds of investments and in accordance with such conditions as shall from time to time be authorized by law for the investment of any of the trust funds of either the teachers' retirement system of Alabama or the employees' retirement system of Alabama; provided, however, that if any restrictive conditions at any time made applicable by law to either the teachers' retirement system of Alabama or the employees' retirement system of Alabama should prohibit investments that would otherwise be permitted for the Alabama trust fund by Amendment No. 450 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, then, notwithstanding the restrictive conditions applicable to said retirement systems, the investments permitted by said Amendment No. 450 shall be permitted for trust capital and trust income held in either the Alabama heritage trust fund or the Alabama trust fund; and provided further, that for purposes of implementing the preceding proviso with respect to the investment of funds held in the Alabama heritage trust fund, any provision of said Amendment No. 450 which refers to the whole or any percentage of the trust capital of the Alabama trust fund in connection with the investment thereof shall be deemed to refer to the trust capital of the Alabama heritage trust fund.

Any provision of this Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding, any capital gains realized from the sale of any investments forming a part of either the Alabama heritage trust fund or the Alabama trust fund shall become a part of the trust capital of the fund in which such investments were held and shall be subject to all restrictions applicable to the preservation of such trust capital.

Amendment 489 ratified

Alabama Music Hall of Fame Authority.

I

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to the contrary notwithstanding, the Alabama music hall of fame authority (hereinafter described) is fully authorized and empowered to sell and issue its interest bearing bonds, which shall be and constitute general obligations of the state, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$2,500,000. The expenses incurred in the sale and issuance of said bonds shall be paid by the authority out of the proceeds derived from the sale thereof. The proceeds of said bonds remaining after payment of said expenses shall be turned over to the state treasurer, shall be carried in a special account of the state treasury to the credit of the authority, and shall be subject to be drawn on solely by the authority for the purposes authorized in this amendment.

As used in this amendment, the following words and phrases shall have the following respective meanings:

"Authority" means the Alabama music hall of fame authority created and established by this amendment.

"Board" means (i) the Alabama music hall of fame board created and established by sections 41-9-680, et seq., of the Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, or (ii) such other agency of the state which performs substantially the same functions as said board and which is declared by the legislature to be a successor thereto or a replacement thereof.

"State" means the state of Alabama.

The authority is hereby fully authorized and empowered, except as herein specified or limited, to determine the terms and conditions of said bonds and to provide for the sale and issuance thereof. Upon issuance of said bonds by the authority, the state is authorized to and shall become indebted, in addition to all other indebtedness of the state, in the aggregate principal amount of such bonds issued pursuant to this amendment. The full faith and credit of the state are hereby irrevocably pledged for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of said bonds and the interest and

premium (if any) thereon.

The proceeds of said bonds remaining after payment of the expenses of selling and issuing the same, together with the investment income derived from said proceeds, shall be used for the purpose of providing funds for the acquisition, construction, installation and equipping of buildings and other facilities consisting of any one or more of the following to be located in Colbert county, Alabama: (i) a music hall of fame and exhibition facility for the display of busts, statutes, plaques, books, papers, pictures, computerized figures, memorabilia, records, films, audio tapes, video tapes, compact disks, recordings, pictures and other exhibits relating to music and musicians, (ii) a library, research and educational center for the collection and documentation of music and for music education and enrichment programs, (iii) an audio visual auditorium/theatre, (iv) a recording studio, or (v) other facilities necessary or useful in connection with the use of any of the aforesaid facilities, including the acquisition of sites and equipment for any of the aforesaid facilities. Said proceeds may also be used to pay any costs and expenses incidental to the aforesaid purposes for which the bonds are authorized, which may include but shall not be limited to interest on such bonds prior to and during construction of the aforesaid facilities to be constructed with said proceeds and for not exceeding one year after completion of construction. The authority is hereby fully authorized and empowered, except as herein specified or limited, to determine which of the aforesaid facilities shall be acquired, constructed, installed or equipped by the authority using the aforesaid proceeds. The plans and specifications for any building or other facility acquired, constructed, installed or equipped with proceeds of said bonds shall be approved solely by the authority.

The authority is also authorized and empowered to sell and issue one or more series of its bonds, which shall be and constitute general obligations of the state, to refund all or any of the bonds authorized by this amendment in such principal amount or amounts (which may exceed the principal amount of the bonds being refunded) and in such manner as may be provided by resolution duly adopted by the authority. The authority is also hereby fully authorized and empowered, except as herein specified or limited, to determine the terms and conditions of such refunding bonds and to provide for the sale and issuance thereof. Upon issuance of said bonds by the authority, the state is authorized to and shall become indebted, in addition to all other indebtedness of the state, in the aggregate principal amount of such refunding bonds issued pursuant to this amendment. The full faith and credit of the state are hereby irrevocably pledged for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal of said refunding bonds and the interest and premium (if any) thereon.

All of said bonds issued by the authority (including refunding bonds) may be sold only at public sale, with competitive bidding, to such person or persons, at such price or prices and upon such terms as the authority shall determine to be in the best interest of the authority and the state. Neither a public hearing nor consent of the state (including any officer, official, department or other agency of the state) shall be a prerequisite to issuance of any bonds by the authority.

Nothing in this amendment or in any other provision of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, shall prevent the authority from selling and issuing one or more additional series of its bonds which shall be solely revenue obligations of the authority and which shall not create general obligations or debts of the state.

II

There is hereby created and established a state agency to be known as the Alabama music hall of fame authority which shall be a public body corporate with all the powers and privileges of a corporation, for the purpose of providing for and participating in the management and control of the aforesaid facilities.

The members of the board, and their respective successors as members thereof shall constitute ex officio all the members of the authority. The chairman, vice chairman, secretary and treasurer of the board shall constitute ex officio the chairman, vice chairman, secretary and treasurer respectively of the authority. The authority, at its option, may appoint an assistant secretary who need not be a member of the authority. The members of the authority shall constitute the governing body of the authority. The presence of any four members of the authority shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. No vacancy in the membership of the authority or the voluntary

disqualification or abstention of any member thereof shall impair the right of a quorum of the authority to act. Should any member of the authority cease to be a member or officer of the board by reason of death, resignation, expiration of his term of office, or for any other reason, then his successor as a member or officer of the board shall take his place as a member or officer, as the case may be, of the authority.

The authority may adopt such rules, regulations and bylaws as it may determine to be necessary or desirable for the conduct of its duties, powers or functions. The authority is authorized and empowered to use the moneys, services, facilities and employees of the board in carrying out its functions or in furthering the objects or purposes of this amendment. Reasonable compensation and expense allowances for members or officers of the authority may from time to time be altered or provided for by legislative act. No member, officer or employee of the authority or the board shall be personally liable for any debt, obligation or liability of the authority, the board or the state.

III

The authority shall be authorized:

- a. To investigate and select an available site for its operations and housing the exhibits, including the surrounding grounds, in cooperation with the community, taking into consideration all pertinent factors affecting the suitability of such site;
- b. To acquire by rent or lease agreement or otherwise the necessary housing facilities and to establish, improve and enlarge any available facility, including providing it with necessary equipment, furnishings, landscaping and related facilities, including parking areas and ramps, roadways, sewers, curbs and gutters;
- c. To enter into such contracts and cooperative agreements with the local, state and federal governments, with agencies of such governments, including the Tennessee valley authority, with private individuals, corporations, associations and other organizations as it may deem necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this amendment, such contracts and agreements to include leases to private industry;
- d. To borrow money from private sources or such other source as may be acceptable to the authority under such terms and conditions as may be provided by resolution duly adopted by the authority and, in order to provide security for the repayment of any such private loans, to pledge such future revenues from admissions and any other sources as may, from time to time, be necessary or desirable;
- e. To issue and sell at any time, and from time to time, its revenue bonds for the purpose of providing funds to acquire, enlarge, improve, equip and maintain any facility and for the payment of obligations incurred for such purposes. The principal and interest on any such revenue bonds shall be payable out of the revenues derived from such facility and as otherwise herein provided;
- f. To make such contracts in the issuance of its bonds as may seem necessary or desirable to assure their marketability and to provide for their retirement by a pledge of all or any revenue which may come to the authority from the investment of the proceeds of the sale of such bonds or from any other source whatsoever;
- g. To accept public or private gifts, grants and donations;
- h. To acquire property by purchase, lease, gift or license;
- i. To allocate and expend funds from all donations, income and revenue from any source whatsoever coming into its treasury for the fulfillment and accomplishment of its duties and responsibilities in such manner as may be necessary and appropriate for the perfection of the purposes of this amendment, or to transfer funds from the board to the authority or from the authority to the board;
- j. To sell, convey, transfer, lease or donate any property, franchise, grant, easement, license or lease or interest therein which it may own and to transfer, assign, sell, convey or donate any right, title or interest which it may have in any lease, contract, agreement, license or property;
- k. To perform such other acts necessary or incidental to the accomplishment of the purposes of this amendment, whether or not specifically authorized in this amendment, and not otherwise prohibited by law.

IV

In view of the unique character and complexity of the duties and responsibilities imposed on the authority by this amendment, it is hereby specifically provided that the authority shall have, in addition to the power and the authority enumerated in part III of this amendment, the right, power and authority to:

- a. Develop and institute a program of promotion and advertising of the exhibits and facilities provided for by this amendment, said program of promotion and advertising to be conducted by the authority both within and without the state in such manner and to such extent as may be deemed economically advisable and appropriate by it;
- b. Purchase and acquire items of tangible or intangible personal property;
- c. Operate itself or, in its discretion enter into lease agreement with a person or agency of its choosing to operate, all concessions located in or on the grounds and facilities operated by the authority, any such lease agreement to be designated so as to provide maximum services and convenience to the patrons of the exhibit center and to provide reasonable revenue return to the authority.

V

The authority and the board, the property and the income of the authority and the board, all bonds issued by the authority, the income from such bonds, conveyances by or to the authority or the board, and leases, mortgages and deeds of trust or trust indentures by or to the authority or the board shall be exempt from all taxation in the state of Alabama. The authority and the board shall be exempt from all taxes levied by any county, incorporated city or town, or other political subdivision of the state, including, but without limitation to, license and excise taxes imposed in respect of the privilege of engaging in any of the activities in which the authority or the board may engage. The authority and the board shall not be obligated to pay or allow any fee, taxes or costs to the judge of probate of any county of the state in respect of the recording of any document.

The authority and the board are arms of the state, existing to carry forth important functions of the state government, and as such they constitute part of the state for purposes of Article I, Section 14 of the Constitution of 1901, as amended, and the members and officers of the authority and the board are state officers for purposes of said Section 14 of the Constitution whose duties and functions are discretionary in nature. No proceeding, notice or approval shall be required for the issuance of any bonds, the execution of any mortgage and deed of trust or trust indenture, or the exercise of any other of its powers by the authority.

VI

Any bonds of the authority may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the authority at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the authority in the resolution or resolutions whereunder the bonds are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature in annual installments in such amounts as shall be specified in the resolution or resolutions of the said board under which they are issued, the first of which installments shall mature not later than three years after the date of the bonds of such series and the last of which installments shall mature not later than 30 years after the date of the bonds of the same series.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the authority by its chairman and the great seal of the state of Alabama, or a facsimile thereof, shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the secretary of the authority; provided that facsimile signatures of said officers may be reproduced on such bonds in lieu of their manually signing the same.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and no further authorization from the legislature shall be a prerequisite to the validity of any bonds issued hereunder, although the legislature may enact appropriate implementing laws, whether before or after the effective date of this amendment, which are not in conflict herewith.

Act No. 87-613, Acts of Alabama 1987, is such an implementing law and shall become effective upon the ratification of this amendment by the qualified electors of this state.

VII

The state is authorized to pay from any of its revenues of whatsoever nature and make available to the authority at any time and from time to time such sums as the authority determines are necessary for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal, the interest and premium (if any) on the bonds of e authority in the event the authority determines that appropriations by the legislature and other revenues of the authority (including bond proceeds) remaining after the payment of operating and other expenses are insufficient for the payment of said principal, interest and premium.

VIII

The provisions of this amendment shall be construed liberally, it being the purpose to provide in this state appropriate housing facilities for displaying to the general public exhibits of the authority and the board and for the management and control of displays by such means as may be determined to be feasible and agreed upon by the authority and the board.

Amendment 490 ratified

Marion County Public Water Authority.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority and financing of a Marion county public water authority in all or in portions of Marion county as a public corporation to provide any one or more of the following local public services: Obtaining, treating, and furnishing water for residential, commercial or industrial purposes and for any other local service permitted by such general or local law; authorize such authority to fix and collect rates, fees and charges for such services, and to provide penalties for nonpayment and liens upon the property within such public water authority; grant or vest the privilege of eminent domain to such public water authority for the purpose of taking property for public use in accordance with Article XII, Section 235, of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901; authorize the borrowing of money and the issuance of bonds and other obligations by or on behalf of such public water authority, provided that Marion county shall not be responsible for any such bond or obligation and no such bond or obligation shall be chargeable against the limit on the debt of Marion county; extend the service area into one or more other counties; and provide for fire protection facilities or services. Any law enacted at the 1988 Regular Session of the legislature to authorize the creation of such public water authority in Marion county and to implement this amendment to the Constitution (whether with or without published notice of intention) shall become effective upon the ratification of this amendment.

Amendment 491 ratified

Effectiveness of Laws Providing for Expenditure of Municipal Funds.

No law, whether general, special or local, whose purpose or effect is to provide for a new or increased expenditure of municipal funds held or disbursed by the municipal governing body shall become effective as to any municipality of this state until the first day of the fiscal year next following the passage of such law. The foregoing notwithstanding, a law, whether general, special or local, whose purpose or effect is to provide for a new or increased expenditure of municipal funds held or disbursed by the municipal governing body, shall become effective according to its own terms as any other law if: (1) Such law is approved by a resolution duly adopted by and spread upon the minutes of the municipal governing body of the municipality affected thereby; or (2) Such law (or other law or laws which specifically refer to such law) provides the respective municipal governing bodies with new or additional revenues sufficient to fund such new or increased expenditures.

Amendment 492 ratified

Promotion of Catfish Industry.

The legislature may hereafter, by general law, provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, improvement, marketing, use and sale of catfish. The legislature may provide for the promotion of catfish and catfish products by research, education, advertising and other methods, and the legislature is further authorized to provide means and methods for the financing of any such promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby producers of catfish by referendum among such producers levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the purchase of catfish feed for the financing of any such promotional program or activity in cooperation with buyers, processors, dealers, distributors of catfish feed and handlers of catfish. The legislature may make provisions for the nonpayment of assessments by catfish producers and shall make provisions for the refund of assessments to any purchaser of catfish feed who does not desire to participate in an assessment program.

The legislature shall provide for the collection, disbursement, distribution or expenditure of assessments or charges authorized hereunder and to provide penalties for failure to make collection and distribution of assessments. The legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization for the promotion and betterment of catfish and catfish products to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among producers of catfish. The legislature may provide the manner by which such referendum is held, including the procedure for application for approval to conduct the referendum, the appropriate action to be taken by the state board of agriculture and industries on such application, the requirements and eligibility of the association or organization which will conduct such referendum, the procedures for voting and eligibility to vote in such referendum, the details of the conduct of such referendum. The legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities as authorized herein by the department of agriculture and industries and the state board of agriculture and industries. The legislature shall further provide a procedure whereby said association or organization is bonded, for the examination and auditing of said association or organization, and for reasonably necessary rules and regulations to be adopted by the state board of agriculture and industries to effectively carry out the intent and purposes herein enumerated. Assessments, fees or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this constitution or any provision thereof. Any uniformity requirements of this constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon catfish.

Amendment 493 ratified

Compensation of Probate Judge of Autauga County.

Commencing at the next term of office, the probate judge of Autauga county shall be entitled to receive compensation in the form of an annual salary. Such annual salary shall be the amount of the minimum salary prescribed by general law and shall continue for the first three years of such term of office. Thereafter, the minimum annual salary of the probate judge of Autauga county shall be 90 percent of the annual compensation and allowance paid the presiding circuit judge of the 19th judicial circuit or the minimum salary prescribed by general law, whichever is higher. Such salary shall be paid in lieu of all other fees, allowances, and percentages heretofore provided by law, and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund in the county treasury.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the judge of probate of Autauga county shall hereafter continue to be collected but shall be paid into the county general fund.

Amendment 494 ratified

Appropriation by City of Anniston in Calhoun County for East Alabama United Cerebral Palsy Center.

The governing body of the city of Anniston in Calhoun county is hereby authorized to appropriate the sum of \$35,000.00 from public funds on a one-time basis only to the East Alabama United Cerebral Palsy Center for the cost of its complex at the Jaycee park.

Amendment 495 ratified

Compensation of Choctaw County Probate Judge.

Effective the beginning of the next term of office after ratification of this amendment, the judge of probate of Choctaw county shall be compensated on a salary basis. He shall receive in equal monthly installments from the general fund of Choctaw county such salary as provided by local law. Such salary shall be the entire compensation received by such judge for his services in any official or ex officio capacity. Such salary shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges previously paid to the judge of probate of Choctaw county.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the judge of probate of Choctaw county shall continue to be collected but shall be paid into the general fund of Choctaw county.

The county commission of Choctaw county shall provide the judge of probate with such office personnel, equipment and supplies as such county commission may consider necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of his office. Compensation of any personnel so provided shall be fixed by the county commission and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund of Choctaw county.

Amendment 495 ratified

Compensation of Choctaw County Probate Judge.

Effective the beginning of the next term of office after ratification of this amendment, the judge of probate of Choctaw county shall be compensated on a salary basis. He shall receive in equal monthly installments from the general fund of Choctaw county such salary as provided by local law. Such salary shall be the entire compensation received by such judge for his services in any official or ex officio capacity. Such salary shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions, allowances, percentages and other charges previously paid to the judge of probate of Choctaw county.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the judge of probate of Choctaw county shall continue to be collected but shall be paid into the general fund of Choctaw county.

The county commission of Choctaw county shall provide the judge of probate with such office personnel, equipment and supplies as such county commission may consider necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of his office. Compensation of any personnel so provided shall be fixed by the county commission and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund of Choctaw county.

Amendment 497 ratified

Prohibition of Overgrowth of Weeds and Storage and Accumulation of Certain Junk, Motor Vehicles and Litter in Jefferson County.

The legislature may from time to time by local act authorize or require the Jefferson county commission to:

- (a) Prohibit the overgrowth of weeds and the storage and accumulation of junk, inoperable motor vehicles and other litter;
- (b) Implement, administer and enforce said prohibition and;
- (c) Assess criminal penalties for violations thereof. All existing local acts pertaining to Jefferson county relating to the subject of this constitutional amendment enacted prior to the adoption and ratification of this constitutional

amendment are hereby validated.

Amendment 498 ratified

Levy and Collection of Financial Charges or Assessments in Fire Fighting Districts of Lee County.

The governing body of Lee county shall be and is hereby authorized to levy and to collect financial charges or assessments upon and with respect to any or all property (which financial charges or assessments, regardless of whether considered to be property taxes, need not be assessed in exact proportion to the value of property subject to such financial charges or assessments) within the boundaries of any one or more fire fighting districts in Lee county established by said governing body pursuant to the provisions of that certain amendment to the Constitution proposed by Act No. 80-313, enacted at the 1980 Regular Session of the legislature, and known as Amendment No. 392. Any such financial charge or assessment shall, subject to succeeding provisions of this amendment, be so levied and collected at such rate or rates, for such period or periods of time, on such basis (whether ad valorem, or otherwise) and otherwise on such terms and conditions as shall from time to time be specified, provided or limited by the legislature by general, special or local law, and as said governing body may, consistently with then applicable provisions of such general, special or local law, determine; provided however, that no such financial charge or assessment shall be so levied or collected in any such district unless a majority of the qualified electors residing in such district and voting at an election called for such purpose approve the levy and collection of such financial charge or assessment within such district, at such rate (not to exceed the maximum rate then permitted by law) and for such period of time (not to exceed the maximum period of time then permitted by law) as shall be briefly described or summarized on the ballot used in such election. Thereafter no increase in the rate of such financial charge or assessment above the rate or maximum rate (as the case may be) so approved by the electorate of such district, and no extension of the period of time or maximum period of time (as the case may be) for which such financial charge or assessment shall have been authorized to be levied and collected within such district, shall be effective except upon approval by a majority of the qualified electors residing in such district and voting at an election called for such purpose. Any provision of the Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding (including specifically, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Section 190, as amended), the legislature may, by general, special or local law, provide for and otherwise regulate elections held under or pursuant to the provisions of this amendment.

The proceeds of any financial charge or assessment levied and collected pursuant to the provisions of this amendment shall be expended solely for payment of expenses of (i) providing fire protection services and facilities within the district in which such financial charge or assessment is so levied and collected (either directly or indirectly, as the legislature may specify), but otherwise in accordance with the provisions of the aforesaid Amendment No. 392, and (ii) levying and collecting such financial charge or assessment. Any such financial charge or assessment may, any provision of the Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding, be levied upon and with respect to any property within the boundaries of the district in question regardless of whether such property is otherwise exempt from property taxation (on an ad valorem basis or otherwise).

The legislature shall, any provision of the Constitution to the contrary notwithstanding (including specifically, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, Section 105), have the power, by general, special or local law, to provide for the implementation of the provisions of this amendment and otherwise to enact laws in furtherance of the purposes hereof and of the aforesaid Amendment No. 392. Any such law enacted at the session of the legislature at which this amendment is proposed shall be and hereby is ratified, approved, validated and confirmed in all respects notwithstanding that notice of intention to apply therefor was not published as specified in Section 106 of the Constitution, as amended, provided that (1) notice of intention to apply therefor and stating the substance thereof shall have been published one time in a newspaper published in Lee county, and (2) such law by its terms becomes effective only upon the ratification of this amendment. Furthermore, the aforesaid Amendment No. 392 shall be and hereby is ratified, approved, validated and confirmed in all respects.

The provisions of this amendment shall not, except to the extent expressly provided herein, be construed as self-executing, it being understood that no financial charge or assessment shall be levied hereunder and no election with respect thereto shall be held hereunder unless and until the legislature, by general, special or local law, shall have (a) specified the rate or rates (or maximum rate) at which, and the period or periods (or maximum period) for which, any such financial charge or assessment may be levied, as well as the basis for any such financial charge or assessment, and (b) provided for elections to be held under or pursuant to the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 499 ratified

Municipality Police Jurisdiction in Limestone County.

In Limestone county, no police jurisdiction of a municipality located wholly or partially within Limestone county shall extend beyond the corporate limits of the municipality.

Amendment 500 ratified

Investment of Municipal Funds and County Funds by Mobile County.

The terms "municipal funds" and "county funds" as used in this amendment shall include all general, special, permanent, trust and other funds, regardless of source or purpose, held or administered by Mobile county, any city or town in Mobile county, or by any officer or agency thereof.

In addition to any investments or obligations provided for by general law, any municipal or county funds not needed for other purposes may be invested in the procurement of secured repurchase agreements, secured commercial paper and secured banker's acceptance, invested overnight and invested in higher yield rates of return for more flexible maturities.

Article Sources and Contributors

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Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 501-600

Amendment 501 ratified

Fire Protection Districts and Taxes in Monroe County.

The Monroe county commission is hereby authorized in its discretion to establish fire districts within the geographical boundaries of Monroe county. The boundaries of such fire districts may be rearranged at the discretion of the county commission as it deems necessary, from time to time, to maximize fire protection services in the county. The county commission may use the corporate limits of the various towns and municipalities in the county as boundaries for fire districts. In such situations, such town or municipal fire district shall have its own volunteer fire department functioning within its boundaries. Each fire district established in an area located outside of the corporate limits of a town or municipality shall likewise have its own volunteer fire department functioning strictly within its district boundaries.

The county commission is further authorized to enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within such county for fire protection and services.

Commencing with the levy for the tax year for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 1989, there is hereby levied, in addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, a fire protection tax of three mills. The fire protection tax levied herein shall be based upon the value of real and personal property assessed by affected property owners, as shown on the records of the tax assessor of Monroe county, Alabama, and shall be assessed and collected as are all ad valorem taxes in the county. The amount collected each year from assessment of this fire protection tax shall be paid into the county general fund and used in furtherance of fire protection and for rescue squads within the affected area. Prior to the levy of the fire protection tax in said county, there shall be submitted to the electors of said county, at a special election called for that purpose in said county, the question of whether the said tax shall be levied, and the said tax shall be authorized at such election by a majority of the qualified electors within the said county who vote at such election.

Elections on the question of the levy of a fire protection tax in said county may be held at any time and from time to time, provided, that if any such election held after the ratification of this amendment the proposal to levy the tax so submitted should be defeated then the proposal may not be submitted at another election held in said county within two years from the last election held under this amendment.

Amendment 502 ratified

Morgan County Sheriff's Posse.

The county commission of Morgan county is hereby authorized to grant moneys to the Morgan county sheriff's posse. Any purchases with said moneys by the Morgan county sheriff's posse shall be the property of the Morgan county sheriff's office.

Amendment 503 ratified

Pike County Government Modernization.

Any provision of the Constitution or laws of the state of Alabama or local laws to the contrary notwithstanding, in order to modernize the operation of government in Pike county, the legislature may, during the current session of the legislature, provide by local act all of the following:

1. The county unit system in Pike county, for the construction, operation and maintenance of its roads and bridges, with the removal of road districts, effective January 1, 1989; and

2. The abolition of the offices of tax assessor and tax collector of Pike county and the creation of the office of revenue commissioner, and transfer of all duties, authority, records, assets and funds of both offices; and
3. The separation of the offices of judge of probate and chairman of the county commission of Pike county, effective 1994, and setting the compensation for such judge, and providing for the salary for office of chairman of county commission serving full time.

In the event this amendment is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of Pike county who vote thereon in favor of the adoption of all three of the provisions of this amendment when it is submitted, then any law theretofore or thereafter passed, which implements this amendment, may become effective without any other election having been held thereon; in the event this amendment fails and a majority of the qualified voters in Pike county voting thereon vote against its approval, such acts or act shall become null and void, and no one provision of this amendment shall become law unless all provisions are approved, or unless the acts are separately resubmitted to the qualified electorate of Pike county for approval thereof. All three proposals in one act shall not be deemed to contravene Section 45 of the Constitution of 1901.

The ballot on the approval of this amendment shall be substantially as follows:

"Do you approve the Pike County Government Modernization Amendment? Yes No"

The provisions of this amendment are self-executing as herein provided.

Amendment 504 ratified

Financing Jail in Talladega County.

In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized, and notwithstanding any other provision of the Constitution, including without limitation Sections 96, 104 and 105 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, there shall be a \$10.00 fee assessed on all civil and criminal cases filed in the circuit court, district court or any municipal court in Talladega county. All funds generated from such fee shall be paid into the general fund of Talladega county and shall be used exclusively for the design and construction of a county jail, including the payment of principal and interest on any obligations issued by or on behalf of Talladega county (a) to finance such design and construction and the expenses of issuance thereof, or (b) to refund any such objections and pay the costs of refunding. When the jail is paid for or when all such obligations are paid in full, whichever last occurs, the additional fee levied by this amendment shall be removed from all cases except criminal cases, upon which the said additional fee shall continue to be levied, to be used for operation, upkeep and maintenance of the county jail. This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 505 ratified

Washington County Fire Districts.

The Washington county commission is hereby authorized in its discretion to establish fire districts within the geographical boundaries of Washington county. The boundaries of such fire districts may be rearranged at the discretion of the county commission as it deems necessary from time to time, to maximize fire protection services in the county. The county commission may use the corporate limits of the various towns and municipalities in the county as boundaries for fire districts. In such situations, such town or municipal fire district shall have its own volunteer fire department functioning within its boundaries. Each fire district established in an area located outside of the corporate limits of a town or municipality shall likewise have its own volunteer fire department functioning strictly within its district boundaries.

The county commission is further authorized to enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within such county for fire protection and services.

There is hereby levied commencing October 1, 1989, in addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, a fire protection tax of two mills. The fire protection tax levied herein shall be based upon the value of real and personal property assessed by affected property owners, as shown on the records of the tax assessor of Washington county, Alabama, and shall be assessed and collected as are all ad valorem taxes in the county. The amount collected each year from assessment of this fire protection tax shall be paid into the county general fund and used in furtherance of fire protection within the affected area.

Amendment 506 ratified

Bingo Games in Etowah County.

The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by certain nonprofit organizations for charitable or educational purposes shall be legal in Etowah county, subject to the provisions of any resolution by the county commission. The county commission shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the issuance of permits or licenses and for operation of bingo games; provided, however, the county commission must insure compliance pursuant to said law and the following provisions:

- (a) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian; nor shall any person under the age of 19 be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo;
- (b) No bingo permit or license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless such organization shall have been in existence for at least 5 years immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license except the tax-exempt Etowah county council on aging is exempt from the time requirement;
- (c) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises is leased, the rate or rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games;
- (d) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association or corporation to have said individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization, nor shall said nonprofit organization pay consulting fees nor any compensation nor salary to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game;
- (e) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by any other person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which said nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating said bingo game;
- (f) Prizes given by any qualified nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value, set by the legislature, during any bingo session. The legislature shall set a maximum amount for any calendar week.
- (g) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition thereof, shall take any expenses for the operation of a bingo game except as permitted by law.

The provisions of this constitutional amendment shall be self-executing, but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the general purposes and objectives herein set forth.

Amendment 507 ratified

Filing and Service Fees in Russell County for Financing New County Jail.

In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized to be collected, the county commission of Russell county is authorized to assess a fee not to exceed thirty dollars (\$30.00) upon the privilege of filing any initial complaint in all civil and criminal cases filed in any court, in the county, as well as a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5.00) for the service of all pleadings and other documents in connection with any such action. All such fees shall be paid into the general fund and shall be applied exclusively for payment of the cost of the planning, construction and equipping of a new county jail, or for the payment of the principal of and interest on any bonds, warrants or other obligations issued by or on behalf of the county to finance the costs of a new jail, as well as the expenses of issuance of any such bonds, warrants or other obligations. When the aforesaid costs of planning, constructing and equipping a new county jail shall be fully paid or when all such bonds, warrants or other obligations have been retired, whichever last occurs, the additional fee authorized by this amendment to be collected shall no longer be collected. Provided, however, no additional fee provided herein shall be collected until thirty (30) days after the county commission has signed a contract and or contracts for the construction of a new jail and construction has actually begun.

Amendment 508 ratified

Bingo Games in Calhoun County.

The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by certain nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in Calhoun county, subject to the provisions of any resolution or ordinance by the county governing body or the governing bodies of the respective cities and towns, within their respective jurisdictions as provided by law regulating such operation. The said governing bodies shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the issuance of permits or licenses and for operation of bingo games, within their respective jurisdictions; provided, however, that said governing bodies must ensure compliance pursuant to said law and the following provisions:

- (a) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian; nor shall any person under the age of 19 be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo;
- (b) No bingo permit or license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless such organization shall have been in existence for at least 12 months immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license;
- (c) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises is leased, the rate or rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games;
- (d) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association or corporation to have said individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization, nor shall said nonprofit organization pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game;
- (e) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by any other person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which said nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating said bingo game;
- (f) Prizes given by any qualified nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value, set by the legislature, during any bingo session. The legislature shall set a maximum amount for any calendar week;

(g) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition thereof, shall take any expenses for the operation of a bingo game except as permitted by law.

The provisions of this constitutional amendment shall be self-executing, but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the general purposes and objectives herein set forth.

Amendment 509 ratified

English as Official Language of State.

English is the official language of the state of Alabama. The legislature shall enforce this amendment by appropriate legislation. The legislature and officials of the state of Alabama shall take all steps necessary to insure that the role of English as the common language of the state of Alabama is preserved and enhanced. The legislature shall make no law which diminishes or ignores the role of English as the common language of the state of Alabama.

Any person who is a resident of or doing business in the state of Alabama shall have standing to sue the state of Alabama to enforce this amendment, and the courts of record of the state of Alabama shall have jurisdiction to hear cases brought to enforce this provision. The legislature may provide reasonable and appropriate limitations on the time and manner of suits brought under this amendment.

Amendment 510 ratified

Deepening, Widening and Extending of Federal Channel at Bayou La Batre and Acquisition, Development, etc., of Cargo Handling Facilities of State Docks at Port of Mobile.

The legislature may by appropriate laws authorize the state to pay a portion of the capital costs of public facilities and works of internal improvement consisting of (a) fulfilling a portion of the requirements of local contribution, participation and cooperation now or hereafter established by the United States in connection with the deepening, widening and extending of the existing federal channel at Bayou La Batre, Alabama and (b) the acquisition, development, construction, improvement, expansion, and modernization (or any of them) of general cargo handling facilities of the state docks at the Port of Mobile.

The legislature may by appropriate laws authorize the state to become indebted and, in evidence of such indebtedness, to sell and issue its interest-bearing bonds, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$20,000,000, for the purpose of enabling the state to discharge obligations at any time authorized by the legislature to be undertaken in connection with the channel deepening project and the state docks projects. The expenses incurred in connection with the sale and issuance of the bonds may also be paid from the proceeds thereof. The bonds may be sold by the bond commission authorized herein at public or private sale, with or without competitive bidding, at such price or prices and on such terms and conditions as the bond commission shall determine to be in the best interest of the state. Bonds evidencing the herein provided for indebtedness may be issued as direct general obligations of the state, and the state may pledge its full faith and credit to the prompt payment of the principal of the bonds and the interest and redemption premium (if any) thereon. The said bonds may be additionally secured by any special pledges that may be provided for by the legislature. The herein provided for indebtedness shall not be construed to prohibit or limit appropriations from the general fund of the state which from time to time may be made for the purpose of enabling the state to discharge obligations at any time authorized by the legislature to be undertaken in connection with the channel deepening project and the state docks projects.

The legislature may by appropriate laws establish a bond commission and may confer upon it, in addition to all other necessary powers, full power to determine the terms and conditions of the bonds and to provide for the sale and issuance thereof. The legislature may authorize the herein provided for general obligation bonds of the state to be sold from time to time under the supervision of such bond commission. All monies received as proceeds of the sale of the state's bonds, shall be expended, except for reasonable issuance costs and administrative expenses, in

discharging obligations that the state is permitted under the foregoing provisions of this amendment to undertake in connection with the channel deepening project and the state docks projects. The legislature shall enact appropriate enabling legislation to carry out the intent and purpose of this amendment.

Amendment 511 ratified

Finance Charge, Fee or Assessment on Forest Land for Forestry Services and Forest Fire Protection.

(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Constitution, the legislature may hereafter levy a finance charge, fee or assessment on forest land in this state at a rate of a maximum of twenty (20) cents per acre on a per acre basis of forest land owned and as established by general act of the legislature. The legislature is authorized to provide that the proceeds generated in each county shall be earmarked for use in the respective county where raised to provide for forestry services and forest fire protection within the county. The legislature may provide that this charge, fee, or assessment shall be levied on forest land as is defined by the legislature, and that said charge, fee, or assessment will be assessed and collected as ad valorem taxes in this state.

The legislature may further provide that all revenues or monies collected from said forest land shall be distributed by the office of the county tax collector, or similar office, to the Alabama forestry commission, state of Alabama. The legislature shall provide that the forestry and fire prevention program set forth herein shall be administered by the Alabama forestry commission and that any funds collected but not spent in a particular fiscal year shall be carried into the next fiscal year for the same purposes in that county. The legislature may provide that local laws heretofore enacted relating to forest fire protection, and assessing a local acreage assessment, use tax, finance charge or other fee, tax, charge or assessment, in support thereof, which conflict with the provisions of that act shall be repealed; replaced or superceded by that act at a time to be designated by the legislature.

(B) The legislature may from time to time pass such legislation as may be necessary to further define terms herein or to otherwise implement this amendment or the levying, collecting, distributing or administering of fees, charges or assessments provided for herein. The legislature may provide for and is authorized to provide the procedure whereby owners of forest land may, by referendum held among such owners in this state, levy upon themselves fees, charges and assessments, based upon the amount of acreage of forest land owned. The legislature is authorized to make provisions for nonpayment of such fees, charges or assessments authorized hereunder and to provide penalties for failure to pay same. The legislature may further provide for the withdrawal, disbursement and expenditure by the Alabama forestry commission of any funds received. Assessments, fees, or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this Constitution or any provision thereof. The legislature may further provide for or allow reasonable rules and regulations to be adopted by the Alabama forestry commission to effectively carry out the intent and purposes herein enumerated. Any uniformity requirements of this Constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program to forest fire protection and similar forestry services.

Amendment 512 ratified

"Penny Trust Fund" Established for Promotion of Public Health and Public Schools.

(a) There shall be established and maintained the "penny trust fund" within the state treasury to promote the public health and the public schools. Citizens may make voluntary donations to the penny trust fund. All donations and funds received shall be held in perpetual trust and shall not be subject to legislative appropriation or otherwise expended.

(b) Earnings, including accrued interest and dividends, shall be retained in the penny trust fund, not subject to appropriation until the state treasurer certifies that sufficient moneys exist in the Fund or until the fiscal year which begins in 2000, whichever comes first; then and afterward, only 90 percent of the prior fiscal year's earnings to be subject to appropriation. Capital gains taken on the sale of any securities shall revert to the principal of the penny trust fund.

(c) Funds in the penny trust fund are to be managed and invested by the state treasurer who may receive funds from any source not prohibited by law.

(d) Fifty percent of the earnings subject to appropriation shall be dedicated to the programs and projects which promote the public health, and 50 percent dedicated to the public schools.

(e) The legislature shall have power to implement this amendment by appropriate legislation.

Amendment 513 ratified

Amendment of Section 98.

Section 98. The legislature shall not retire any officer on pay, or part pay, or make any grant to such retiring officer; however, the legislature shall have the authority to provide that superintendents of education shall be eligible to participate in the Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama as the legislature may see fit.

Amendment 514 ratified

Appropriations to Certain Nonprofit Organizations by City of Huntsville.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, the governing body of the city of Huntsville in Madison county is hereby authorized to make a one-time appropriation of money, up to a maximum total appropriation of \$2,000,000.00, to one or more bona fide nonprofit organizations, each of which at the time of any such appropriation must have been organized for the purpose of and actively engaged in fostering and coordinating volunteer citizen activity in the field of the literary, visual, and performing arts within the city of Huntsville for a period of more than five years, which said appropriation or appropriations are to be used exclusively for construction of one or more buildings located within said city, to be owned by such organization. The total maximum appropriation herein authorized may, however, at the discretion of the governing body, be made to only one such organization, provided, however, that any such appropriation may be made only upon proof that an amount equal to \$1.00 for each \$1.00 appropriated has first been raised from nonpublic funds and placed on deposit with a bank or trust company under an agreement, restricting the use of said funds to expenditures for the construction of one or more buildings to be occupied exclusively by one or more organizations engaged in fostering and coordinating volunteer citizen activity in the field of the literary, visual, and performing arts within the city of Huntsville. The city of Huntsville is further authorized to appropriate up to \$100,000.00 annually for the general operations of any such organization, or for maintenance of any building which is occupied by any such organization.

No payment may be made by the city of Huntsville under the authority of this amendment except upon the affirmative vote of the qualified electors of the city of Huntsville, in the election called for the ratification of this amendment, or at a subsequent election called for such purpose as hereinafter provided. Provided, however, that if this amendment is ratified, and a majority of the electors of the city of Huntsville do not vote in favor of such

amendment, subsequent elections for the purpose of authorizing the governing body to make such appropriations to qualified organizations may be called by the governing body in the same manner and at the same time as any other general or special municipal election, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of 12 consecutive months.

The provisions of this constitutional amendment shall be self-executing, but the legislature shall have the right and power by general, special or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the general purpose and objectives herein set forth.

Amendment 515 ratified

Winston County Water Coordinating and Fire Prevention Authority.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority and financing of a Winston county water coordinating and fire prevention authority in all or in portions of Winston county as a public corporation to provide any one or more of the following local public services: Obtain, treat, and furnish water for residential, commercial or industrial purposes and for any other local service permitted by such general or local law; authorize such authority to fix and collect rates, fees and charges for such services, and to provide penalties for nonpayment and liens upon the property within such public water authority; grant or vest the privilege of eminent domain to such public water authority for the purpose of taking property for public use in accordance with Article XII, Section 235, of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901; authorize the borrowing of money and the issuance of bonds and other obligations by or on behalf of such public water authority, provided that Winston county shall not be responsible for any such bond or obligation and no such bond or obligation shall be chargeable against the limit on the debt of Winston county; extend the service area into one or more other counties; and provide for fire protection facilities or services. Any law enacted at the 1988 special session of the legislature to authorize the creation of such authority in Winston county and to implement this amendment to the Constitution (whether with or without published notice of intention) shall become effective upon the ratification of this amendment.

Amendment 516 ratified

Lamar County Water Coordinating and Fire Prevention Authority.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority and financing of a Lamar county water coordinating and fire prevention authority in all or in portions of Lamar county as a public corporation to provide any one or more of the following local public services: Obtain, treat, and furnish water for residential, commercial or industrial purposes and for any other local service permitted by such general or local law; authorize such authority to fix and collect rates, fees and charges for such services, and to provide penalties for nonpayment and liens upon the property within such public water authority; grant or vest the privilege of eminent domain to such public water authority for the purpose of taking property for public use in accordance with Article XII, Section 235, of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901; authorize the borrowing of money and the issuance of bonds and other obligations by or on behalf of such public water authority, provided that Lamar county shall not be responsible for any such bond or obligation and no such bond or obligation shall be chargeable against the limit on the debt of Lamar county; extend the service area into one or more other counties; and provide for fire protection facilities or services. Any law enacted at the 1988 special session of the legislature to authorize the creation of such authority in Lamar county and to implement this amendment to the Constitution (whether with or without published notice of intention) shall become effective upon the ratification of this amendment.

Amendment 517 ratified

Fayette County Water Coordinating and Fire Prevention Authority.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority and financing of a Fayette county water coordinating and fire prevention authority in all or in portions of Fayette county as a public corporation to provide any one or more of the following local public services: Obtain, treat, and furnish water for residential, commercial or industrial purposes and for any other local service permitted by such general or local law; authorize such authority to fix and collect rates, fees and charges for such services, and to provide penalties for nonpayment and liens upon the property within such public water authority; grant or vest the privilege of eminent domain to such public water authority for the purpose of taking property for public use in accordance with Article XII, Section 235, of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901; authorize the borrowing of money and the issuance of bonds and other obligations by or on behalf of such public water authority, provided that Fayette county shall not be responsible for any such bond or obligation and no such bond or obligation shall be chargeable against the limit on the debt of Fayette county; extend the service area into one or more other counties; and provide for fire protection facilities or services. Any law enacted at the 1988 special session of the legislature to authorize the creation of such authority in Fayette county and to implement this amendment to the Constitution (whether with or without published notice of intention) shall become effective upon the ratification of this amendment.

Amendment 518 ratified

Franklin County Water Coordinating and Fire Prevention Authority.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority and financing of a Franklin county water coordinating and fire prevention authority in all or in portions of Franklin county as a public corporation to provide any one or more of the following local public services: Obtain, treat, and furnish water for residential, commercial or industrial purposes and for any other local service permitted by such general or local law; authorize such authority to fix and collect rates, fees and charges for such services, and to provide penalties for nonpayment and liens upon the property within such public water authority; grant or vest the privilege of eminent domain to such public water authority for the purpose of taking property for public use in accordance with Article XII, Section 235, of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901; authorize the borrowing of money and the issuance of bonds and other obligations by or on behalf of such public water authority, provided that Franklin county shall not be responsible for any such bond or obligation and no such bond or obligation shall be chargeable against the limit on the debt of Franklin county; extend the service area into one or more other counties; and provide for fire protection facilities or services. Any law enacted at the 1988 special session of the legislature to authorize the creation of such authority in Franklin county and to implement this amendment to the Constitution (whether with or without published notice of intention) shall become effective upon the ratification of this amendment.

Amendment 518 ratified

Franklin County Water Coordinating and Fire Prevention Authority.

The legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority and financing of a Franklin county water coordinating and fire prevention authority in all or in portions of Franklin county as a public corporation to provide any one or more of the following local public services: Obtain, treat, and furnish water for residential, commercial or industrial purposes and for any other local service permitted by such general or local law; authorize such authority to fix and collect rates, fees and charges for such services, and to provide penalties for nonpayment and liens upon the property within such public water authority; grant or vest the privilege of eminent domain to such public water authority for the purpose of taking

property for public use in accordance with Article XII, Section 235, of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901; authorize the borrowing of money and the issuance of bonds and other obligations by or on behalf of such public water authority, provided that Franklin county shall not be responsible for any such bond or obligation and no such bond or obligation shall be chargeable against the limit on the debt of Franklin county; extend the service area into one or more other counties; and provide for fire protection facilities or services. Any law enacted at the 1988 special session of the legislature to authorize the creation of such authority in Franklin county and to implement this amendment to the Constitution (whether with or without published notice of intention) shall become effective upon the ratification of this amendment.

Amendment 520 ratified

Excavating Human Graves in Madison County.

The Madison county commission is hereby authorized with or without charge to provide for the excavating of human graves.

Amendment 521 ratified

Fees for Disposal of Solid Waste in Pickens County.

The Pickens county governing body shall levy and impose a fee of not less than sixty dollars per ton on solid waste, as defined by general law, disposed of at any commercial disposal site in the county. Said governing body is hereby authorized to implement such rules and regulations as it deems necessary to impose and collect such disposal fees and the proceeds of such fees shall be deposited in the county treasury to be expended for the general operations of the county.

Amendment 522 ratified

Taxation of Costs in Pickens County.

In Pickens county, in addition to all other fees, there shall be taxed as costs the sum of \$10.00 in each civil or quasi-civil action at law, suit in equity, criminal case, quasi-criminal case, proceedings on a forfeited bail bond or proceedings on a forfeited bond given in connection with an appeal from a judgment or conviction in the circuit court of Pickens county, or the district court of Pickens county, filed in or arising in the circuit court of Pickens county, or the district court of Pickens county, or brought by appeal, certiorari or otherwise to the circuit court of Pickens county, or the district court of Pickens county, which costs shall be collected as other costs in such cases are collected by the clerk, or ex officio clerk, of said courts or the register of the circuit court of Pickens county, as the case may be. Such fees, when collected by the clerks or other collection officers of such court, shall be paid into the county fund to be administered jointly by the sheriff and county commission for salaries, equipment and other expenses of the sheriff's department.

The provisions of this constitutional amendment shall be retroactive to April 19, 1982, and any fees or costs collected up to and including the amount of \$10.00 per action filed and the revenues therefrom expended pursuant to Act No. 82-291 of the 1982 regular session and Act No. 83-542 of the 1983 regular session of the Alabama legislature are hereby ratified, and no further enabling legislation shall be necessary for the execution of this amendment.

Amendment 523 ratified

Fee on Disposal of Out-of-State Solid Waste in St. Clair County.

The St. Clair county governing body shall levy and impose a fee of not less than sixty dollars per ton on out-of-state solid waste, as defined by general law, disposed of at any commercial disposal site in the county. Said governing body is hereby authorized to implement such rules and regulations as it deems necessary to impose and collect such disposal fees and the proceeds of such fees shall be deposited in the county treasury to be expended for the general operations of the county.

Amendment 524 ratified

Validation of Court Charges in Tuscaloosa County.

All general laws, local laws, population based laws and other laws heretofore enacted by the legislature and which are in effect on November 1, 1989, pertaining to or applicable to Tuscaloosa county; including but not limited to Act 80-618 of the 1980 Regular Session (Acts of 1980, p. 1054), as amended by Act 87-399 of the 1987 Regular Session (Acts of 1987, p. 570), Act 80-780 of the 1980 Regular Session (Acts of 1980, p. 1615), as amended by Act 81-1052 of the 1981 2nd Special Session (Acts of 1981 Special Sessions, p. 298), Act 79-751 of the 1979 Regular Session (Acts of 1979, p. 1336), as now codified in the Code of Alabama 1975, Sections 11-25-1 through 11-25-12, and Act 65 of the 1936 Special Session (Acts of 1936 Special Session, p. 34), as amended by Act 1086 of the 1969 Regular Session (Acts of 1969, p. 2021); which in whole or in part regulate costs and charges of courts are hereby in all things ratified, approved, validated and confirmed as of the date of their enactment any provision or provisions of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 to the contrary notwithstanding. Any actions taken or payments made in accordance with the provisions of said laws are hereby ratified, approved, validated and confirmed. This amendment shall not be construed as prohibiting the legislature from properly enacting a law to amend or repeal said laws. This amendment shall not be construed to permit the operation of Act 79-751 of the 1979 Regular Session, as now codified in the Code of Alabama 1975 and Act 65 of the 1936 Special Session as amended at the same time unless said joint operation is otherwise authorized by law.

Amendment 525 ratified

Ratification of Public School Taxes.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama 1901, as amended, to the contrary notwithstanding, all ad valorem taxes for public school or education purposes in the state of Alabama which have been approved by a majority vote of the appropriate electorate prior to March 1, 1990, and the levy and collection thereof from the date of the initial levy thereof, are hereby authorized, ratified and confirmed regardless of any statutory or constitutional defects, mistakes, errors or ambiguities in the authorization or levy thereof or the election thereon, or in any act of the legislature with respect thereto; provided, however, that the authorization, ratification and confirmation effected by this amendment shall not be applicable to any tax the validity of which is being challenged in appropriate judicial proceedings in any proper court on the date the act proposing this amendment is adopted.

Amendment 526 ratified

Court Costs in Cherokee County.

In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized, and notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution, including without limitation sections 96, 104 and 105 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, there shall be an additional \$20.00 fee assessed and taxed as costs on each civil and criminal case hereafter filed in the circuit court, district court, probate court or any municipal court in Cherokee county. The aforementioned \$20.00 fee/assessment in no way can be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines and/or

charges associated with said case are waived. Such fees, when collected by the clerks or other collection officers of such courts, shall be paid into the general fund of Cherokee county to be used for the planning, designing, construction, financing and operation of a new county jail. This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 527 ratified

Fire Protection Tax in Choctaw County.

In Choctaw county there is hereby levied, commencing on October 1 following ratification of this amendment, in addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, a fire protection tax of one mill. The fire protection tax levied herein shall be based upon the value of real and personal property assessed by affected property owners, as shown on the records of the tax assessor of Choctaw county, Alabama, and shall be assessed and collected as are all ad valorem taxes in the county. The amount collected each year from assessment of this fire protection tax shall be set aside in a special fund to be distributed by the county commission to volunteer fire departments in the county and the Choctaw County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. The revenues generated from this tax will be distributed to all volunteer fire departments meeting the minimum standards and the Choctaw County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments, Inc. in equal shares on a semi-annual basis on February 1st and August 1st of each year. Prior to any distribution of funds, there must be prepared and filed with the Choctaw County Commission a map setting out the various volunteer fire departments and every portion of Choctaw county must be assigned or designated to one of the respective volunteer fire departments so that every citizen in Choctaw county has fire protection from a designated volunteer fire department. No funds shall be disbursed to any volunteer fire department until the county has full and complete coverage for all citizens. The funds shall be audited annually by the examiners of public accounts or a qualified licensed and registered certified public accountant as to the fire protection taxes received by the county commission, as to the funds appropriated by it and as to how the funds are expended in each volunteer fire department and to be certain that all taxes received are disbursed on an equal basis to the district and countywide organization and to further audit how the funds are expended by each department and the countywide association.

The county commission is further authorized to enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within such county for fire protection and services.

Amendment 528 ratified

Fire Districts and Fire Protection Tax in Conecuh County.

The Conecuh County Commission and the Conecuh County Fire Control Association are hereby authorized in their discretion to establish fire districts within the geographical boundaries of Conecuh county. The boundaries of such fire districts may be rearranged at the discretion of the county commission and the Conecuh County Fire Control Association as they deem necessary, from time to time, to maximize fire protection services in the county. The county commission and the Conecuh County Fire Control Association may use the corporate limits of the various towns and municipalities in the county as boundaries for fire districts. In such situations, such town or municipal fire district shall have its own volunteer fire department functioning within its boundaries. Each fire district established in an area located outside of the corporate limits of a town or municipality shall likewise have its own volunteer fire department functioning strictly within its district boundaries.

The county commission and the Conecuh County Fire Control Association are further authorized to enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within such county for fire protection and services.

Commencing with the levy for the tax year for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 1991, there is hereby levied, in addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, a fire protection tax of three mills. The fire protection tax levied herein shall be based upon the

value of real and personal property assessed by affected property owners, as shown on the records of the tax assessor of Conecuh county, Alabama, and shall be assessed and collected as are all ad valorem taxes in the county. The amount collected each year from assessment of this fire protection tax shall be paid into the county general fund and used in furtherance of fire protection and for rescue squads within the affected area. Prior to the levy of the fire protection tax in said county, there shall be submitted to the electors of said county, at a special election called for that purpose in said county, the question of whether the said tax shall be levied, and the said tax shall be authorized at such election by a majority of the qualified electors within the said county who vote at such election.

Elections on the question of the levy of a fire protection tax in said county may be held at any time and from time to time, provided, that if any such election held after the ratification of this amendment the proposal to levy the tax so submitted should be defeated then the proposal may not be submitted at another election held in said county within two years from the last election held under this amendment.

Amendment 529 ratified

Validation of Court Charges in Lee County.

All general laws, local laws, population based laws and other laws heretofore enacted by the legislature and which are in effect on January 1, 1990, pertaining to or applicable to Lee county, which in whole or in part regulate costs and charges of courts are hereby in all things ratified, approved, validated and confirmed as of the date of their enactment any provision or provisions of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 to the contrary notwithstanding. Any actions taken or payments made in accordance with the provisions of said laws are hereby ratified, approved, validated and confirmed. This amendment shall not be construed as prohibiting the legislature from properly enacting a law to amend or repeal said laws.

Amendment 530 ratified

Court Costs in Macon County.

In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized to be collected, the county commission of Macon county is authorized to assess a fee not to exceed \$30.00 upon the privilege of filing any initial complaint in all civil and criminal cases filed in any court, in the county, as well as a fee not to exceed \$5.00 for the service of all pleadings and other documents in connection with any such action. All such fees shall be paid into the general fund and shall be applied exclusively for payment of the cost of the planning, construction and equipping of a new county jail, or for the payment of the principal of and interest on any bonds, warrants or other obligations issued by or on behalf of the county to finance the costs of a new jail, as well as the expenses of issuance of any such bonds, warrants or other obligations. When the aforesaid costs of planning, constructing and equipping a new county jail shall be fully paid or when all such bonds, warrants or other obligations have been retired, whichever last occurs, the additional fee authorized by this amendment to be collected shall no longer be collected. Provided, however, no additional fee provided herein shall be collected until 30 days after the county commission has signed a contract and or contracts for the construction of a new jail and construction has actually begun.

Amendment 531 ratified

Municipal Jurisdiction in Madison County.

In Madison county, no police jurisdiction nor any planning or zoning regulation of a municipality located wholly or partially within Madison county shall extend beyond the corporate limits of the municipality.

Amendment 532 ratified

Fire Fighting Districts and Services in Mobile County.

The county commission of Mobile county is hereby authorized to establish and maintain fire fighting districts within Mobile county. The county commission is further authorized to enter into agreements with volunteer fire departments within the county for fire protection and services. The county commission is hereby empowered to set fees for fire protection and to prescribe the manner of collection and distribution of such fees. The fire fighting districts herein authorized shall not include any corporate municipality of Mobile county unless such municipality requests through resolution of its governing body to be included in such fire fighting program. Any act heretofore enacted regarding said Mobile county fire fighting districts is hereby ratified and confirmed.

Amendment 533 ratified

Talladega County Budget.

The Talladega County Commission shall prepare and adopt an estimate of the income of the county for the fiscal year beginning on October 1 of the current calendar year for all public funds under its supervision and control, and to estimate for the same fiscal year the expense of operations and to appropriate for the various purposes the respective amounts that are to be used for each of such purposes; provided that the appropriations so made shall not exceed the estimated total income of the county available for appropriations. The county commission shall restrict allotments to prevent an overdraft or deficit in any fiscal year for which appropriations are made by prorating without discrimination against any county program, the available revenues among the various county programs. Such appropriations shall be payable in such proportion as the total sum of all appropriations bears to the total revenues estimates as available in each of the fiscal years.

A refusal to perform any requirement of this amendment or an improper or illegal performance of any requirement of this amendment shall subject the offender to a penalty of \$250.00 to be recovered in an action instituted in the circuit court of Talladega county and shall subject such offender to impeachment.

Amendment 534 ratified

Construction, Repair, etc., of Public Roads, Bridges, etc., in Talladega County.

The legislature shall, by general or local law, provide for the construction, maintenance and repair of public roads, highways, bridges and ferries in Talladega county on the basis of the county as a unit, without regard to any district or beat lines.

Amendment 535 ratified

Election of Board of Education of City of Tallassee.

This legislature may by local act provide for the election of the members of the board of education of the City of Tallassee in Elmore and Tallapoosa Counties.

Amendment 536 ratified

Distribution of Oil and Gas Revenues by Escambia County Commission.

The Escambia County commission shall distribute oil and gas revenues as provided in this amendment.

1. The Escambia County Oil and Gas Severance Trust, established by Act No. 84-576, H. 664 of the 1984 Regular Session (Acts 1984, p. 1198), its corpus and income shall be continued as provided by Sections 1 and 2 of that act.
2. The members of the Escambia County commission, or their successors in office, shall constitute the trustees of the trust. Provided, however, the members of the Escambia County commission, or their successors in office, may in their discretion, appoint one or more trustees or escrow agents for the trust which trustees or escrow agents shall be trust companies or national or state banks having powers of a trust company within or without the State of Alabama. The trustees shall invest the corpus of the trust only in direct general obligations of, or obligations the payment of the principal of and interest on which are conditionally and irrevocably guaranteed by the United States of America. Provided, however, that, notwithstanding any legal limitation that might otherwise be applicable, the trustees shall further have the authority in their discretion to invest such trust fund in certificates of deposit of any savings and loan associations or banks whether federally or state chartered whose principal office is located in the state, provided that such funds so invested are fully secured by pledge of eligible United States treasury securities.

Amendment 537 ratified

Election of Board of Education of City of Attalla.

The legislature may by local act provide for the election of the members of the board of education of the City of Attalla in Etowah County.

Amendment 538 ratified

Incorporation of Tom Bevell Reservoir Management Area Authority.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama or amendments thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, the legislature by general or local law may provide for and authorize in Fayette County the incorporation of a public corporation as a political subdivision of the state to be named The Tom Bevell Reservoir Management Area Authority, for the development of that portion of North River in Fayette County and within the boundaries of The Tom Bevell Reservoir Management Area, its tributaries and watershed area, for the purposes of water conservation and supply, dam construction and reservoir development, for industrial development, flood control, navigation, irrigation, public recreation and related purposes. Any such law may provide for the composition of the board of directors of the authority and specify the powers and duties of the authority and its board of directors, may authorize the authority to investigate the resources of The Tom Bevell Reservoir Management Area, and to determine and implement the requirements for its full development and control, and to carry out a unified comprehensive program of resource development, together with other powers to effectuate the foregoing objective, may authorize the authority to acquire land and interests in land by purchase, construction, lease, condemnation or otherwise, and to hold, manage and sell such land and interests therein, may make provisions respecting the establishment and revision of rates, fees and charges for services rendered by the authority, may provide for the issuance by the authority for any of its corporate purposes of interest-bearing revenue bonds and notes payable solely out of the revenues of the authority or out of the revenues of any particular facilities and other property of the authority, without regard to the specific facilities and other property with respect to which such bonds and notes may have been issued, may provide further for certain taxes, may provide that such bonds and notes shall constitute negotiable instruments, may provide that such bonds and notes may be secured by a pledge of the revenues from which they are payable, by contracts binding the authority for the proper application of its revenues and the proceeds of such bonds and notes and by a nonforeclosable mortgage or deed of trust or statutory mortgage lien on the facilities and other property out of the revenues from which such bonds and notes are payable, and may provide that bonds and notes of the authority may

be issued under a trust indenture, may provide for constructive notice of any such statutory mortgage lien, may authorize and make provisions respecting the assumption by the authority of obligations respecting facilities and other property acquired by the authority, may provide for the use of the proceeds of bonds and notes issued by the authority and provide for the refunding by the issuance of bonds and notes of the authority of bonds and notes theretofore issued or obligations theretofore assumed by it, may provide that bonds and notes issued and contracts entered into by the authority pursuant to the act shall not constitute or create a debt of the state or of any county, municipality or other political subdivision of the state, may authorize the Fayette County commission and the municipalities located within Fayette County to contribute money to the authority, without the necessity of an election and with or without consideration therefor, may exempt from all taxation in this state, the authority, its property, corporate activities, income, revenues, bonds and notes, the income from its bonds and notes, and conveyances, leases and mortgages and deeds of trust to which the authority is a party, and exempt the authority from payment of certain charges to judges of probate, it grants to the authority the power to levy and collect within the boundaries of the management area certain excise taxes, sales taxes, and ad valorem taxes, may provide that the authority shall have zoning power within the boundaries of the management area, may provide that the authority shall be exempted from regulation and supervision by the public service commission and the state department of finance, may provide for the use of public roads in the state by the authority, and may provide for certain annual reports by the authority.

Amendment 539 ratified

Business License Taxes in Jefferson County.

In order to allow for the orderly and efficient collection of municipal business license taxes in Jefferson County with respect to corporations, firms, brokers, agents and others in the business of buying, selling, leasing or representing others in the purchase, sale or lease of real property in Jefferson County, the legislature may, by local law, provide for the imposition and collection of such taxes as follows:

- a. Any city or town within Jefferson County may fix and collect licenses pursuant to Sections 11-51-90 and 11-51-91 of the Code of Alabama 1975, as amended, for any business, trade or profession relating to the buying, selling or renting of real estate on commission in Jefferson County if such licensee maintains its principal place of business in the corporate limits or police jurisdiction of that municipality.
- b. Effective January 1, following the ratification of this amendment and each year thereafter, in addition to the taxes, if any, imposed under a. above, every corporation, firm, broker, agent or other person or entity engaged in the business of buying, selling, managing, leasing or renting of real estate on commission in Jefferson County shall pay an annual business license tax at a rate to be set by the legislature for the privilege of engaging in such business in every other city or town in Jefferson County. Such tax shall be collected by the Revenue Director of Jefferson County and shall be distributed by the Revenue Director of Jefferson County to each city or town within Jefferson County on a pro rata basis based on population. The Revenue Director of Jefferson County shall be entitled to an administrative fee for administering this tax at a rate to be set by the legislature; such fee to be added to the license tax collected hereunder.
- c. Effective January 1, following the ratification of this amendment and each year thereafter, except for the licenses permitted or mandated under a. and b. above, no other privilege license tax shall be imposed under Sections 11-51-90 and 11-51-91 of the Code of Alabama 1975, by any city or town within Jefferson County on corporations, firms, brokers, agents or other persons or entities engaged in the business of buying, selling, managing, leasing or renting of real estate on commission in Jefferson County.

Amendment 540 ratified

Fees, Commissions, Allowances and Salaries of Macon County Officers.

The legislature may hereafter, from time to time, by general, special or local laws, fix, regulate and alter the fees, commissions, allowances or salaries to be charged or received by the judge of probate and other county officers of Macon County, and may put such officers on a salary basis and provide for the operation of their offices on such basis.

Amendment 541 ratified

Investments of Assets of Class 2 Municipality Police and Fire Fighters Pension Plans.

The capital and income from any Policemen's and Fire Fighters' Pension Fund for a Class 2 municipality, may be invested in such kinds of investments and in accordance with such conditions as shall, from time to time, be authorized by law for the investment of the Alabama Heritage Trust Fund and the Alabama Trust Fund or any of the trust funds of either the Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama or the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama.

Amendment 542 ratified

Bingo Games in St. Clair County.

The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by certain nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in St. Clair County, subject to the provisions of any resolution or ordinance by the county governing body or the governing bodies of the respective cities and towns within their respective jurisdictions as provided by law regulating such operation. The said governing bodies shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the issuance of permits or licenses and for operation of bingo games within their respective jurisdictions; provided, however, that said governing bodies must insure compliance pursuant to said law and the following provisions:

- (1) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo unless accompanied by a parent or guardian; nor shall any person under the age of 19 be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo;
 - (2) No bingo permit or license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization unless such organization shall have been in existence for at least 24 months immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license;
 - (3) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises is leased, the rate or rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games;
 - (4) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association or corporation to have said individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization, nor shall said nonprofit organization pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game;
 - (5) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by any other person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which said nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating said bingo game;
 - (6) Prizes given by any qualified nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value, set by the legislature, during any bingo session. The legislature shall set a maximum amount for any calendar week;
 - (7) By whatever name or composition thereof, no person or organization shall take any expenses for the operation of a bingo game except as permitted by law.
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(8) A fee of \$.10 (ten cents) shall be levied upon each bingo card sold pursuant to the provisions of this amendment or pursuant to any local law. Said fee shall be collected by the nonprofit organization who sold the bingo card and paid to the tax collector or revenue commissioner of St. Clair County on a weekly basis. The tax collector or revenue commissioner shall place the proceeds collected into the treasury of St. Clair County in a special fund. All funds collected shall be expended by the county commission in the following manner:

40% (forty percent) of said funds shall be allocated to volunteer fire departments located in St. Clair County;

30% (thirty percent) of said funds shall be allocated to senior citizens' programs and facilities;

20% (twenty percent) of said funds shall be allocated to youth recreation programs and facilities;

10% (ten percent) of said funds shall be allocated to the St. Clair County sheriff's department.

The tax collector or revenue commissioner of St. Clair County shall have authority to promulgate necessary rules and regulations to implement the procedure for the collection of the fee prescribed herein. The legislature, from time to time, may by local law alter the fee levied herein and alter the method of allocating the proceeds of said fee.

Amendment 543 ratified

Acquisition, Maintenance and Protection of Unique Lands and Water Areas.

Section 1. Declaration of Purpose.

The Legislature of Alabama finds that Alabama is endowed with a rich diversity of natural areas having unique ecological systems, plant and animal life, geological formations, wildlife habitats, recreational values and scenic beauty. As a part of the continuing growth of the population and the economic development of the state, it is necessary and desirable that certain lands and waters be set aside, managed and preserved for use as state parks, nature preserves, recreation areas, and wildlife management areas. In order to meet the State's outdoor recreation needs and to protect the natural heritage of Alabama for the benefit of present and future generations, it is the policy of the state to:

- (a) Protect, manage, and enhance certain lands and waters of Alabama with full recognition that this generation is a trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
- (b) Protect, to the fullest extent practicable, recreational lands and areas of unique ecological, biological and geological importance; and
- (c) Promote a proper balance among population growth, economic development, environmental protection, and ecological diversity. Accordingly, there is hereby established the Alabama Forever Wild Land Trust for the purpose of identifying, acquiring, managing, protecting and preserving natural lands and waters that are of environmental or recreational importance.

Section 2. Definitions.

- (1) "Alabama Trust Fund" means the irrevocable, permanent trust fund created by Amendment 450 to this Alabama Constitution of 1901.
 - (2) "Alabama Trust Fund Board" means the board of trustees of the Alabama Trust Fund as established by Amendment 450 to this Alabama Constitution of 1901.
 - (3) "Appraised Value" means that price estimated in terms of money at which the property would change hands between a willing and financially able buyer and a willing seller, neither being under any compulsion to buy or sell.
 - (4) "Board" means the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Forever Wild Land Trust, as established by Section 4 of this Amendment.
 - (5) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources or any other officer of the state who, by law, shall succeed to his responsibilities.
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(6) "Conservation Easement" means a right, whether or not stated in the form of restriction, easement, covenant or condition, in any deed, will, or other instrument executed by or on behalf of the owner of land providing for the retention of properties predominantly in their natural, scenic, open or wooded condition, or as suitable habitat for fish and wildlife, or as recreational lands.

(7) "Dedication" means the transfer to the state of an estate, interest, or right in a natural area to fulfill the purposes of this Amendment.

(8) "Department" means the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources or any other department or agency of the state that, by law, shall succeed to its functions and responsibilities.

(9) "Final Approval Committee" means a Committee, as established by Section 6 of this Amendment, to be composed of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(10) "Forever Wild Land Trust" means the Alabama Forever Wild Land Trust created by this Amendment.

(11) "Instrument of Dedication" means any written document by which an estate, interest, or right in a natural area is formally dedicated as a natural area preserve.

(12) "Land" or "lands" means real property and any interests therein, including, but not limited to, fee simple titles, ownership interests less than fee simple, leases, easements, licenses, restrictions and use agreements. Such property and interests therein shall also include wetlands, estuarine areas and submerged lands and the waters thereon.

(13) "Natural Area" means any property, whether publicly or privately owned, (a) that retains or has generally reestablished its natural character, though it need not be completely natural and undisturbed, or (b) which is important in preserving rare or vanishing flora and fauna, native ecological systems, fish and wildlife habitats, geological, natural, scenic or similar features of scientific, recreational, or educational value benefitting the citizens of the state.

(14) "Natural Area Preserve" means a natural area that has been dedicated pursuant to Section 12 of this Amendment.

(15) "State" means the State of Alabama.

(16) "Stewardship" means the maintenance, protection, operation, enhancement, and management of lands acquired for the Forever Wild Land Trust.

(17) "Trustee" means a member of the Board of Trustees of the Forever Wild Land Trust.

(18) "Trust income" means the net income received by the state from the investment and reinvestment of all assets of the Alabama Trust Fund, determined in accordance with the provisions of Amendment Number 450 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

(19) In dividing the State into geographical regions:

(a) "Central District" means the following counties of the state: Autauga, Bibb, Chambers, Chilton, Clay, Coosa, Elmore, Greene, Hale, Jefferson, Lee, Perry, Pickens, Randolph, Shelby, Sumter, Talladega, Tallapoosa, and Tuscaloosa.

(b) "Northern District" means those counties in the geographical region of the state north of the Central District, as defined above.

(c) "Southern District" means those counties in the geographical region of the state south of the Central District, as defined above.

(20) "Person" means any individual, firm, corporation, trust, partnership, or association.

Section 3. Establishment of Forever Wild Land Trust, Lead Management Agency, and Categories of Lands to be Acquired.

(a) For the purposes set forth in this Amendment, there is hereby established the Alabama Forever Wild Land Trust, which shall be a permanent trust to be funded and administered in accordance with the provisions of this

Amendment. Title to all properties acquired for the Forever Wild Land Trust shall be vested in the Alabama Trust Fund for the State of Alabama. The Department shall serve as the lead management agency with respect to all lands acquired and shall have the responsibility of providing to the Board administrative support as necessary.

(b) In order to protect the natural heritage and diversity of Alabama for future generations, the state, acting through the Forever Wild Land Trust, will acquire lands, the title of which shall be held in the Alabama Trust Fund, to ensure their protection and use for conservational, educational, recreational or aesthetic purposes. These lands may include, but shall not be limited to, the following: Wetlands, river corridors, lakes and streams, and the banks and shores thereof, springs, riverine, montane, plain, coastal, and other kinds of terrain, geological systems, areas supporting threatened or endangered species, sensitive and ecologically important lands, unusual habitat types, forests and woodlands, fish and wildlife habitats, wilderness areas, unusual assemblages of wildflowers, natural lands, waters or wetlands that will provide public hunting and fishing, lands having other distinctive natural or recreational characteristics, and lands that will constitute suitable additions to the state's system of parks and fish and wildlife management areas.

(c) Property purchased with Forever Wild Land Trust moneys or which become part of the trust property through dedication or by some other means shall be subject to the condemnation of easements, rights-of-way and other necessary rights and estates in property by or on behalf of corporations that construct, own or operate railroads, pipelines for the transportation of oil, gas, fuel or water, hydroelectric or other electric generating facilities and electric lines, telephone transmission lines and other communication facilities, or any other public utility or method of transportation which serves, or is intended to serve, the public convenience and necessity to the same extent and under the same conditions that such lands, if owned by private persons, would be subject to condemnation by such corporations under federal or state law now in effect or hereafter enacted. No use of any such lands as determined by the Board shall constitute a use thereof for public purposes that will require proof of actual necessity by any corporation seeking to condemn such lands.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Amendment, no property shall be acquired for the Alabama Trust Fund or with moneys from the Forever Wild Land Trust through condemnation or the use of eminent domain.

(e) No funds or assets of the Forever Wild Land Trust derived from any source shall be expended or used to construct or improve buildings, structures or facilities used for human lodging, feeding or entertainment, including, without limitation thereto, hotels and other lodging facilities, restaurants, convention centers and meeting halls, golf courses, dancing or meeting pavilions, tennis courts, recreational dams, exhibition halls, and similar facilities that have a principal purpose not related to the stewardship of properties of the Forever Wild Land Trust, the title of which is held in the Alabama Trust Fund, in their natural state; provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit the expenditure of funds allocated to the Stewardship Account for the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, culverts, drainage facilities, hiking trails, boat launching ramps and other improvements located on Trust Lands to provide reasonable public access thereto, for the construction and maintenance of visitors' centers and facilities, interpretive displays and other facilities for the guidance and education of visitors, for the construction and maintenance of facilities and the acquisition of equipment necessary or appropriate in connection with the performance of stewardship responsibilities (including housing for custodial personnel), or for any other purpose reasonably related to the stewardship responsibilities of the Board.

Section 4. Establishment of Board of Trustees of the Alabama Forever Wild Land Trust.

(a) There is hereby established the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Forever Wild Land Trust, which shall consist of fifteen voting members as follows:

(1) One member shall be the Commissioner of the Department who shall also serve as Chairman of the Board.

(2) One member shall be the State Forester.

(3) Three members which shall be appointed by the Alabama Commission on Higher Education from Departments of Biology, Zoology, Environmental Sciences and Wildlife Science from eligible four-year institutions of higher

education in Alabama. An eligible institution shall consist of a public or private four-year college or university, offering a degree in biology or one of its divisions, and having an enrollment of at least 1500 undergraduate students. There shall be one professional biologist appointed to the Board from eligible institutions in the Northern District of the state, one from such institutions in the Central District of the state, and one from such institutions in the Southern District of the state, as said districts are defined in Section 2 hereof. Each eligible institution in the appropriate geographical region shall be entitled to submit one nomination to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education for the professional biologist trustee from that region on the Board.

(4) One member shall be the Executive Director of the Marine Environmental Sciences Consortium.

(5) There shall be three members from each of the three geographical regions of the state as defined in Section 2 of this Amendment, as follows. Provided, however, at least one appointee by the Governor, at least one appointee by the Lieutenant Governor and at least one appointee by the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be black. If none of the recommending groups recommend a black to the appointing authority, said appointing authority shall appoint a black on his or her own initiative.

(A) One member from the Northern District shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of names presented by Group A and shall serve an initial term of six years. One member from the Northern District shall be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor from a list of names presented by Group B and shall serve an initial term of four years. One member from the Northern District shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives from a list of names presented by Group C and shall serve an initial term of two years.

(B) One member from the Central District shall be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor from a list of names presented by Group C and shall serve an initial term of six years. One member from the Central District shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives from a list of names presented by Group A and shall serve an initial term of four years. One member from the Central District shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of names presented by Group B and shall serve an initial term of two years.

(C) One member from the Southern District shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives from a list of names presented by Group B and shall serve an initial term of six years. One member from the Southern District shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of names presented by Group C and shall serve an initial term of four years. One member from the Southern District shall be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor from a list of names presented by Group A and shall serve an initial term of two years.

(D) Any successor appointments and appointments to vacancies shall be made in the same manner as described in subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C) above, and members appointed after the initial term of that office has expired shall serve for six-year terms, except that no member shall serve consecutive six-year terms.

(E) It is the intent of this Amendment that the eastern and western areas of the three geographical regions of the state shall be represented on the Board of Trustees.

(6) Each person appointed to the Board shall be and remain an Alabama resident and shall have a demonstrated knowledge of and commitment to land acquisition for the purposes of conservation and recreation. Organizations making recommendations to the appointing officials shall be Alabama organizations or the Alabama chapter of national organizations in order to ensure that the decisions affecting Alabama's future are made by Alabama residents.

The recommending groups are composed as follows:

(A) "Group A" shall consist of non-profit organizations, each having its principal programs extending generally throughout the State, whose demonstrated primary concerns are environmental protection for the state and its citizens and non-consumptive use and preservation of natural areas, and whose membership exceeds 750 individual residents of Alabama, including, but not limited to, The Nature Conservancy of Alabama, the Alabama Audubon Council (comprising the chapters in Alabama of the National Audubon Society), The Alabama Conservancy, the Alabama Chapter of the Sierra Club, and their respective successor organizations.

(B) "Group B" shall consist of business, industry, trade associations and professional organizations, each having its principal programs extending generally throughout the state, and having a demonstrated concern for balancing economic growth with protection for the environment and increased recreational opportunities, including, but not limited to, the Business Council of Alabama, the Alabama Forestry Association, Alabama Forest Resources Center, the Alabama Farmers Federation, the Petroleum Council of Alabama, the Association of County Commissions of Alabama, and their respective successor organizations.

(C) "Group C" shall consist of non-profit organizations, each having its principal programs extending generally throughout the state, whose demonstrated primary purposes are to promote hunting, fishing, camping or other compatible recreational activities or conservation for such purposes, and whose membership exceeds 750 individual residents of Alabama, including, but not limited to, the Alabama Wildlife Federation, the Alabama State Advisory Council of Ducks Unlimited, Bowhunters of Alabama Inc., the Coastal Land Trust, Inc., the Gulf Coast Conservation Association, the Tennessee Valley Waterfowl Association, the Alabama Rifle and Pistol Association, the Alabama Chapter of the Safari Club International (whether or not those named organizations meet the membership requirement), and their respective successor organizations.

(D) In order to qualify as a recommending organization, each organization not specifically listed in this section must file with the Secretary of State and with the named organizations within the same "group", by January 1 preceding the date of expiration of term of office of Trustees hereunder, a written statement of intent to nominate persons to serve on the Board. This statement must include a request for designation of the "group" within which the organization plans to nominate Trustees and information demonstrating that the organization qualifies to make such nominations. It shall also include a copy of the organization's charter, stating its purpose. Should the Secretary of State or any of the named organizations within the same group oppose in writing the eligibility of the new organization to nominate members of the Board or the designation of the "group" within which it proposes to nominate members, then the Secretary of State shall determine the eligibility of the applying organization to submit nominations for membership on the Board and, if determined eligible, the "group" within which it shall submit nominations. In making this decision, the Secretary of State shall give due consideration to the views submitted to him by the organizations in the "group" within which the new organization proposes to submit nominations. An organization, together with its affiliates, cannot recommend names to the appointing officials as a member of more than one "group".

Each organization submitting nominations may submit, to the appropriate appointing official for that position on the Board, the names of not more than two of its members who have the qualifications to serve in the position for which they are being nominated. In the event that no organization within a group recommends names to the appointing official, then that official may appoint a Trustee from that group solely of his own choice.

(E) Terms of office of the initial Trustees shall begin on the January 1 following ratification of this Amendment, or on the first day of the third month following said ratification, whichever shall first occur. Terms of office of successor Trustees shall begin and end on anniversaries of that date. In the case of the initial appointments of Trustees, nominations shall be made to the appropriate appointing officials not later than one month after ratification of this Amendment, and appointments by said officials shall be made by the date of beginning of the initial Trustees' terms of office. Nominations of successor Trustees shall be made to the appropriate appointing officials not later than two months prior to the expiration of the Trustees' terms of office, and said officials shall appoint new Trustees within 30 calendar days after the expiration of said terms. In the event a Trustee resigns or dies, or otherwise vacates his office, the Commissioner or the Secretary of State shall promptly notify the appropriate nominating organizations and shall publish notice of such vacancy once a week for three successive weeks in three newspapers of regional circulation in this state with a request for new nominations from any group that may qualify to do so under the provisions of this Amendment. Nominations for a replacement Trustee shall be made to the appointing official during the 30 calendar days following such death, resignation or other vacation of office, and the appointing official shall appoint a replacement Trustee not later than the end of the next succeeding 30 calendar days thereafter. In the

event the appropriate appointing official fails to make an initial appointment or an appointment within said 30-day periods for appointment after expiration of term of office or after death, resignation or other vacation of office, the right to make an appointment to fill that vacancy shall fall to the next appointing official in line of rotation of the Governor to the Lieutenant Governor to the Speaker of the House (with the Governor then to follow the Speaker); and, if that successor appointing official fails to make such appointment within 30 days, then the right to make the appointment shall fall to the next succeeding appointing official, all to the end that there will, as nearly as possible, always be a full complement of Trustees on the Board. Trustees appointed to fill a vacancy other than by reason of expiration of term of office shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term of the Trustee being replaced.

Section 5. Rights, Powers, and Duties of the Board.

(a) The Board is to meet at least quarterly each year for the transaction of its business and to review the progress of the Forever Wild Land Trust. It shall review written requests from state agencies, private organizations, and private citizens proposing that certain properties or interests therein be acquired. For purposes of establishing a quorum, there must be present at least three-fifths (3/5) of the members of the Board then in office at any Board meeting in order to conduct business; provided, however, that in absence of a quorum, the members present, by majority vote, may adjourn the meeting from time to time until a quorum shall attend. Any Board action or recommendation must be approved by at least three-fifths (3/5) of the members of the entire Board then in office, unless specified otherwise in this Amendment. Using its own knowledge and expertise, as well as the knowledge and expertise of the scientific community and state and federal agencies, the Board shall adopt a priority list of properties to be considered for acquisition. Recognizing that real estate transactions must involve willing sellers and may involve complicated procedures that could affect the availability of property, the Department shall, to the extent practicable, follow the directions of the Board in acquiring lands or waters. Provided, however, the Forever Wild Land Trust may only purchase or acquire an interest in property from the priority list of properties adopted by the Board.

(b) In addition to the site-specific management and allowable use guidelines referred to in Section 9, the Board may recommend to the Department rules, regulations and management criteria, which the Board feels would be beneficial to carrying out the goals and purposes of this Amendment.

(c) The Board shall assist the Department in developing and maintaining an inventory of areas and sites which through acquisition become state natural and/or recreational areas and shall make public as desirable information regarding their location, management, regulation, and permissible public uses.

(d) The Board shall prepare and submit to the Governor and the state Legislature, on or before February 1 of each year, a report which shall describe and account for all expenditures and acquisitions by the Forever Wild Land Trust for the preceding fiscal year, as well as plans for the current fiscal year. The Board shall present this annual report to the public at a public meeting to be held within ten days after February 1 of each year. The public meeting shall be an informal process to present information on the Forever Wild Land Trust to the public and give the public an opportunity to have a dialogue with the Board regarding its future plans and operations.

(e) Before purchasing or acquiring any interest in lands with moneys from the Forever Wild Land Trust, the Board, acting through the Commissioner, or the Commissioner on his own initiative, shall obtain at least two appraisals from certified real estate appraisers. In no event shall the Board expend more than the "appraised value", as defined in Section 2 of this Amendment, in purchasing such lands; provided, however, that by affirmative vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the members of the Board, the Board may expend up to 125 percent of the appraised value for such purchase where such action is necessary to accomplish the purposes and goals of this Amendment.

(f) The Board may assume indebtedness on behalf of the Forever Wild Land Trust that may be owed with respect to real or personal property given, donated, contributed or devised to the Forever Wild Land Trust, or that may be secured by a mortgage, deed of trust or security interest covering such property, and to agree to pay such indebtedness from current assets or future revenues of the Forever Wild Land Trust; provided that the present value of all installments of principal and of interest on such indebtedness at the time of the assumption thereof, determined in accordance with accepted principles and using a discount rate equal to the rate of interest payable on such

indebtedness, shall be less than 80% of the fair market value of such property as determined by an active public market for such property or an appraisal performed by an independent, professionally qualified appraiser.

(g) The Board may contract for the purchase of tracts or parcels of land in which the purchase price shall be payable in future installments, together with such rate of interest on the unpaid balance of such purchase price as the Board shall determine to be reasonable, and to secure the payment of such installments, together with the interest thereon, by purchase money mortgages on the land so acquired and by a pledge of future revenues committed to the Forever Wild Land Trust, including, without limitation thereto, any portion of the trust income allocated to said trust by Section 7 of this Amendment; provided that such installments shall in no event exceed 80% of the fair market value of such property determined as set forth in the preceding subsection and provided further that the total cumulative indebtedness assumed each year under the preceding sub-section (f) together with the total cumulative indebtedness incurred each year by purchase money mortgages as provided in this sub-section (g) shall be limited to no more than 25% of the trust income allocated to said trust for the preceding year.

(h) The Board may enter into contracts with any person, nonprofit organization, corporation, governmental entity or other entity concerning tracts or parcels of land that constitute desirable acquisitions for the Forever Wild Land Trust pursuant to which such person, nonprofit organization, corporation, governmental entity or other entity will agree to acquire and hold such land, or to hold such land if theretofore acquired by such person, nonprofit organization, corporation, governmental entity or other entity and to sell or donate such land to the Forever Wild Land Trust at some future date, in the interim preserving and managing such land in its natural state subject to such conditions, including the reimbursement of expenses, as the Board shall deem advantageous for the ultimate acquisition and preservation of such land.

(i) The Board may sell, lease or exchange specific properties or interests therein acquired or held by the Alabama Trust Fund for the Forever Wild Land Trust. Any such sale or exchange shall be made at not less than the "appraised value", as defined in Section 2 of this Amendment; provided, however, that by affirmative vote of at least three-fourths (3/4) of the members of the Board, the Board may authorize and direct the Commissioner to sell or exchange property of said trust for not less than 85 percent of the appraised value where such action is necessary to accomplish the purposes and goals of the Amendment. All moneys received from any such sale or lease shall be paid into the Forever Wild Land Trust.

(j) The Board shall establish a technical advisory committee, consisting of the State Forester, the President of the Alabama Chapter of the Wildlife Society, the State Geologist, and any other person whom the Board may desire to appoint, for the purpose of obtaining advice and assistance in performing the Board's functions and duties under this Amendment.

(k) In addition, the Board is authorized at its discretion:

(1) to establish procedures relating to the confidentiality of information where necessary to accomplish the purposes and goals of this Amendment;

(2) to cooperate or contract with any federal, state or local government agency, private organization, or individual to accomplish any of the purposes and goals of this Amendment, paying any reasonable fees or expenses in connection with such cooperation or contracts from moneys held under or within the Forever Wild Land Trust;

(3) to recommend that moneys paid into the Forever Wild Land Trust be allowed to accumulate, with only the income thereon being spent, or that the corpus or principal of the Forever Wild Land Trust be expended in whole or in part;

(4) to do any and all things necessary to take advantage of federal, state, or local government or private funds donated or obtainable through the use of the Forever Wild Land Trust; and

(5) to adopt, alter and repeal bylaws, regulations and rules in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act for the regulation and conduct of its affairs and business in accordance with the provisions of the Alabama Administrative Procedures Act.

(l) Members of the Board and the technical advisory committee shall be entitled to receive the per diem allowance and travel expenses provided by law to state employees. These expense payments shall be for the sole purpose of travel to and from their places of residence to meetings and for travel involving official business of the Forever Wild Land Trust. Those members who are state officials or employees shall serve without compensation or expense allowances other than that to which they are otherwise entitled in the positions they hold.

(m) The Commissioner and the Department are hereby specifically authorized and empowered to carry out all directions and recommendations of the Board made hereunder to accomplish the purposes of the Forever Wild Land Trust and this Amendment.

Section 6. Final Approval Committee.

There is hereby established a Final Approval Committee to be composed of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Before purchasing or leasing any property, or acquiring any interest therein, with any funds from the Forever Wild Land Trust or selling any properties previously purchased from the Forever Wild Land Trust, the Board shall submit to the Final Approval Committee a written proposal of the purchase, lease, sale or acquisition of any other interest in property. Said proposal shall include a legal description of the property to be purchased, leased or sold; the proposed purchase, lease or sale price; and any additional terms of the sale, purchase, lease or other interest therein. The Final Approval Committee shall approve or disapprove the proposal by a majority vote of the full membership of said Committee within 30 days after the date of submission of the proposal. Failure of the Committee to act within 30 days of submission shall constitute approval of said proposal.

Section 7. Source of Funds.

(a) Beginning with the state's 1992-1993 fiscal year, there shall be allocated and paid into the Forever Wild Land Trust the percentage of trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund that would have been reinvested in the Alabama Trust Fund under Section 4(c) of Amendment Number 450 to this Alabama Constitution of 1901. Notwithstanding Section 4(c) of Amendment Number 450 to the Alabama Constitution of 1901, the percentage of trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund shall be allocated to the Forever Wild Land Trust as follows:

- (1) For the 1992-1993 fiscal year, four percent (4%) of the trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund.
- (2) For the 1993-1994 fiscal year, five percent (5%) of the trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund.
- (3) For the 1994-1995 fiscal year, six percent (6%) of the trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund.
- (4) For the 1995-1996 fiscal year, seven percent (7%) of the trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund.
- (5) For the 1996-1997 fiscal year, eight percent (8%) of the trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund.
- (6) For the 1997-1998 fiscal year, nine percent (9%) of the trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund.
- (7) Thereafter, ten percent (10%) of the trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund; provided, however, that in no event shall such trust income paid to the Forever Wild Land Trust exceed \$15 million in any one fiscal year.

(b) The Alabama Trust Fund Board shall provide the Board of Trustees of the Forever Wild Land Trust with advice and assistance in the investment of funds in the Forever Wild Land Trust.

(c) Title to the property acquired from funds in the Forever Wild Land Trust shall be held in the Alabama Trust Fund for the State of Alabama. Provided, however, the Alabama Trust Fund Board shall not have any responsibility for nor any control over the approving or disapproving of the acquisition, disposition or use of any such property. Nothing in this Amendment or Amendment 450 to this Alabama Constitution of 1901 shall be construed so as to require the Alabama Trust Fund Board to have a fiduciary responsibility for the investment of Forever Wild Land Trust funds or the production of income from property acquired by the Board of Trustees of the Forever Wild Land Trust.

(d) The amounts allocated to the Forever Wild Land Trust shall be included in determining whether the trust income received by the state from the Alabama Trust Fund equals or exceeds \$60,000,000 for the purposes of the County

Government Capital Improvement Act (codified at Sections 11-29-1 through 11-29-7 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended) and the Municipal Government Capital Improvement Act (codified at Sections 11-66-1 through 11-66-7 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended). In no event shall any provision hereof serve to decrease the amount of income from the Alabama Trust Fund which is to be appropriated to the Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund and the County Government Capital Improvement Fund under the above-referenced acts.

Section 8. Donations of Property.

Any person making a donation of any property or any interest therein, to the state for the purposes of this Amendment, shall receive, irrespective of any other provisions of the income tax laws of the state, twice the ordinary deduction for state income tax purposes for the taxable year in which the property or interest is donated. Provided, however, the value of any such property or interest therein, subject to this double deduction, shall be limited to the actual value of the property, or any interest therein, donated to the state which shall not include any indebtedness, encumbrances or liens assumed by the Forever Wild Land Trust or the value of any interests or rights retained by the donor.

For the purposes of this section, the "actual value" of property shall be the appraised value for ad valorem taxation purposes, averaged over the preceding five years.

Section 9. Stewardship Account.

The Alabama Trust Fund Board shall establish a separate account within the Alabama Trust Fund to be known as the Forever Wild Land Trust Stewardship Account. When the Forever Wild Land Trust acquires property or an interest in property pursuant to this Amendment, the Board of Trustees of the Forever Wild Land Trust shall set aside an amount from the Forever Wild Land Trust equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the appraised value of the land acquired, or the land affected if less than a fee interest was acquired. The Alabama Trust Fund Board shall provide for the investment of the Stewardship Account. The Board of Trustees of the Alabama Forever Wild Land Trust may authorize the Department to expend any interest income generated from the investment of funds within the Stewardship Account by the Alabama Trust Fund Board. Provided, however, the Commissioner shall notify the Board of Trustees in writing if he determines that the interest income projected to be generated from the Forever Wild Land Trust Stewardship Account for the next fiscal year will be insufficient to properly manage property acquired by the Forever Wild Land Trust. The Board may authorize by a three-fifths (3/5) vote that funds within the corpus of the Forever Wild Land Trust Stewardship Account be expended by the Department for management purposes for the next fiscal year, provided that funds from the Stewardship Account may not be expended to purchase additional property or interests therein. Within one year after the Forever Wild Land Trust acquires any properties pursuant to this Amendment, the Board of Trustees of the Forever Wild Land Trust shall develop management and allowable use guidelines which shall be followed by the Department in the administration and stewardship of that piece of property. The Lands Division of the Department shall, in accordance with such general directions as may be given by the Board of Trustees, coordinate management of properties acquired pursuant to this Amendment and expenditures from the Stewardship Account. All lands will be managed under the multiple-use management principle; to insure that all resource values including recreation, hunting, fishing, boating, hiking, aesthetics, soil, water, forest management and minerals are protected or enhanced. No use will be allowed that is not compatible with the primary purpose for acquiring the land. In coordinating such management within the Department, the Game and Fish Division of the Department shall manage wildlife and fisheries programs; the State Parks Division of the Department shall manage parks programs; the Lands Division of the Department shall manage natural areas programs through its Natural Heritage Program; and the Lands Division of the Department shall manage other activities and programs relating to Forever Wild Land Trust properties. The Forestry Commission shall serve as consultant to the Department for the purpose of managing the forest and forestry resources programs. Any income that may be generated from the property or from any use of said property acquired through the Forever Wild Land Trust shall be treated as interest income of the Alabama Trust Fund and shall accrue to the credit of the general fund of the State of Alabama.

The right of the public to hunt and fish on the lands and easements acquired under the provisions of this act shall not be abridged or restricted, subject to such rules, regulations, seasons and limits as are established by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Section 10. Enforceability of Conservation Restrictions; Recordation; Acquisition and Disposal of Interests.

(a) No conservation restriction or easement as defined in Section 2 of this Amendment held by any governmental body shall be unenforceable on account of lack of privity of estate or contract or lack of benefit to particular land or on account of the benefit being assignable to or being assigned to any other governmental body with like purposes. All such restrictions and easements shall be duly recorded and indexed in the manner of other conveyances of interests in land, and shall describe the land subject to the restrictions or easements by adequate legal description or by reference to a recorded plat showing its boundaries.

Such conservation restrictions are interests in land and may be acquired by any governmental body which has power to acquire interests in land, in the same manner as it may acquire other interests in land. Such a restriction or easement may be enforced by injunction or proceeding in equity, and shall entitle the holder of it to enter the land in a reasonable manner and at reasonable times to assure compliance. Such a restriction or easement may be released in whole or in part, by the holder for such consideration, if any, as the holder may determine, in the same manner as the holder may dispose of land or other interest in land, subject to such conditions as may have been imposed at the time of creation of the restriction.

This section shall not be construed to imply that any restriction, easement, covenant or condition which does not have the benefit of this section shall, on account of any provision hereof, be unenforceable. Nothing in this Amendment shall diminish the powers granted by any law to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain or otherwise as restricting the use of an existing or future easement, express or implied, in favor of any utility or other holder of an easement for public purpose. The existence of conservation easements or restrictions shall not of itself be proof of value as a measure of damages in any eminent domain proceedings.

(b) When a conservation restriction or easement is held by public body under the program established by this Amendment, the real property subject thereto shall be assessed for taxation purposes on the basis of the true cash value of the property or as otherwise provided by law, less such reduction in value as may result from the granting of the conservation restriction or easement. The value of the interest held by the public body shall be exempt from property taxation to the same extent as other public property.

Section 11. Alabama Natural Heritage Program.

(a) The Alabama Natural Heritage Program is hereby established as a part of the Lands Division of the Department, or its duly designated successor, and shall be funded from the Forever Wild Land Trust or the Forever Wild Land Trust Stewardship Account as provided by the Board, and from private donations.

(b) For purposes of this program, the Department, subject to approval by the Board, shall:

- (1) Produce an inventory of Alabama's natural heritage resources, including their location and ecological status.
- (2) Maintain a natural heritage data bank of inventory data and other relevant information for ecologically significant sites supporting natural heritage resources. Information from this data bank may be made available to public agencies and to private institutions or individuals for environmental assessment and land management purposes.
- (3) Develop a Natural Heritage Plan which suggests priorities for the protection, acquisition and management of dedicated natural area preserves.
- (4) Establish procedures relating to the confidentiality of data and inquiries for information in order to protect natural resources and encourage use by public agencies and private organizations and individuals in planning or conducting their activities.

Section 12. Dedication of Natural Area Preserves.

(a) The Department shall, in the name of the State and upon the recommendation of the Board, accept the dedication of natural areas on lands deemed by the Board and the Commissioner to qualify as natural area preserves under the provisions of this Amendment. Natural area preserves may be offered for dedication by voluntary act of the owner. The owner of a qualified natural area may transfer fee simple title or other interest in land to the State. Natural area preserves may be acquired by gift, grant or purchase.

(b) Dedication of a natural area preserve shall become effective only upon acceptance of the instrument of dedication by the Board and the Commissioner.

(c) The instrument of dedication may:

(1) Contain restrictions and other provisions relating to management, use, development, transfer, and public access, and may contain any other restrictions and provisions as may be necessary or advisable to further the purposes of this Amendment;

(2) Define, consistent with the purposes of this Amendment, the respective rights and duties of the owner and of the state and provide procedures to be followed in case of violations of the restrictions;

(3) Recognize and create reversionary rights, transfers upon condition or with limitations, and gifts over; and

(4) Vary in provisions from one natural area preserve to another in accordance with differences in the characteristics and conditions of the several areas.

(d) Public departments, commissions, boards, counties, municipalities, corporations, colleges, universities and all other agencies and instrumentalities of the state and its political subdivisions may dedicate suitable areas within their jurisdiction as natural area preserves in accordance with the powers and authorities granted to such organizations by existing state legislation.

(e) The Board may enter into amendments to the instrument of dedication upon finding that such amendments will not permit an impairment, disturbance, use, or development of the area inconsistent with the provisions of this Amendment. If the fee simple estate in the natural area preserve is not held by the state under this article, no amendment may be made without the written consent of the owner of the other interests therein.

Section 13. Sunset Provision.

Beginning with the state's 2012-2013 fiscal year and each succeeding fiscal year, all moneys to be paid into the Forever Wild Land Trust shall be paid to the Alabama Trust Fund in the event the Legislature has not provided for the continuation of payments into the Forever Wild Land Trust Fund as provided for in this section, provided that 2.5% of the trust income earned from the investment of funds in the Alabama Trust Fund shall continue to be paid to the Forever Wild Stewardship Account established in Section 9 of this Amendment until such time as the Legislature, by legislative act, determines that interest income earned from the investment of funds within the corpus of the Stewardship Account is sufficient for the proper administration and stewardship of properties acquired from the Forever Wild Land Trust. And provided further, that the Legislature, by legislative act, or by the enactment of a constitutional amendment may continue payment of the revenues provided in Section 7 hereof, or at any time provide for the payment of other revenues, into the Forever Wild Land Trust. At such time as the payment of trust income into the Forever Wild Land Trust shall cease, the percentage of trust income accruing to said trust fund shall be paid into the Alabama Trust Fund each year to become a part of the corpus of the Alabama Trust Fund.

Section 14. Amendment Self-Executing.

This Amendment shall be self-executing, but the Legislature shall have the right and power to enact laws supplemental hereto and in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereof, provided that such laws are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Amendment.

Section 15. Severability.

If any provision of this Amendment, or the application of any provision to any entity, person, or circumstance is for any reason adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the remainder of this Amendment and its

application shall not be affected.

Amendment 544 ratified

Election of Board of Education for City of Pell City.

This legislature may by local act provide for the election of the members of the board of education of the City of Pell City in St. Clair County.

Amendment 545 ratified

Industrial Development Board of Lawrence County.

The Legislature may provide by local law, from time to time, for the consolidation of the power and authority granted to Lawrence County pursuant to Amendment No. 190 of the Constitution of 1901, or to any public authority or corporation created by Lawrence County pursuant to Amendment No. 190 into the Industrial Development Board of Lawrence County George C. Wallace Airpark Authority, which shall have all of the power and authority and assume all of the obligations of Lawrence County pursuant to Amendment No. 190, or any public authority or corporation created by Lawrence County pursuant to Amendment No. 190. The Legislature may in addition provide by local law for the organization and membership of the board of directors of the public authority or corporation. Any taxes currently levied pursuant to Amendment No. 190 shall remain in full force and effect. Any action currently required to be approved by a vote of electors shall be approved by a vote of the electors of the county.

Amendment 546 ratified

Sales and Use Tax in Limestone County.

Section 1. There is hereby levied, in addition to all other taxes of every kind now imposed by law, and shall be collected as herein provided, a privilege or license tax against the person on account of the business activities and in the amount to be determined by the application of rates against gross sales, or gross receipts, as the case may be, as follows:

(a) Upon every person, firm, or corporation, (including the State of Alabama, the University of Alabama, Auburn University and all other institutions of higher learning in the state, whether such institutions be denominational, state, county or municipal institution, and any association or other agency or instrumentality of such institutions) engaged, or continuing within Limestone County in the business of selling at retail any tangible personal property whatsoever, including merchandise and commodities of every kind and character, (not including, however, bonds or other evidences of debts or stocks, nor sale or sales of material and supplies to any person for use in fulfilling a contract for the painting, repair or reconditioning of vessels, barges, ships and other watercraft and commercial fishing vessels of over five (5) tons load displacement as registered with the U.S. Coast Guard and licensed by the State of Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources), an amount equal to one percent (1%) of the gross proceeds of sales of the business except where a different amount is expressly provided herein. Provided, however, that any person engaging or continuing in business as a retailer and wholesaler or jobber shall pay the tax required on the gross proceeds of retail sales of such business at the rates specified, when his books are kept so as to show separately the gross proceeds of sales of each business, and when his books are not so kept he shall pay the tax as retailer on the gross sales of the business.

(b) Upon every person, firm or corporation engaged, or continuing within Limestone County, the business of conducting, or operating, places of amusement or entertainment, billiard and pool rooms, bowling alleys, amusement devices, musical devices, theaters, opera houses, moving picture shows, vaudeville, amusement parks, athletic contests, including wrestling matches, prize fights, boxing and wrestling exhibitions, football and baseball games, (including athletic contests conducted by or under the auspices of any educational institution within Limestone County, or any athletic association thereof or other association whether such institution or association be a

denominational, a state, or county, or a municipal institution or association or a state, county, or city school, or other institution, association or school), skating rinks, race tracks, golf courses, or any other place at which any exhibition, display, amusement or entertainment is offered to the public or place or places where an admission fee is charged, including public bathing places, public dance halls of every kind and description with Limestone County, an amount equal to one percent (1%) of the gross receipts of any such business. Provided, however, notwithstanding any language to the contrary in the prior portion of this subsection, the tax provisions so specified shall not apply to any athletic event conducted by a public primary or secondary school. The tax amount which would have been collected pursuant to this subsection shall continue to be collected by said public primary or secondary school but shall be retained by the school which collected it and shall be used by said school for school purposes.

(c) Upon every person, firm or corporation engaged or continuing within Limestone County in the business of selling at retail machines used in mining, quarrying, compounding, processing and manufacturing of tangible personal property, an amount equal to one-half percent (1/2 %) of the gross proceeds of the sale of such machines; provided, that the term "machines," as herein used, shall include machinery which is used for mining, quarrying, compounding, processing, or manufacturing tangible personal property, and the parts of such machines, attachments and replacements therefore which are made or manufactured for use on or in the operation of such machines and which are necessary to the operation of such machines and are customarily so used.

(d) Upon every person, firm or corporation engaged or continuing within Limestone County in the business of selling at retail any automotive vehicle or truck trailer, semi-trailer, house trailer or mobile home set-up materials and supplies including but not limited to steps, blocks, anchoring, cable pipes and any other materials pertaining thereto an amount equal to one-half percent (1/2 %) of the gross proceeds of sale of said automotive vehicle, truck trailer, semi-trailer, house trailer or mobile home set-up materials and supplies, provided, however, where a person subject to the tax provided for in this subsection withdraws from his stock in trade any automotive vehicle or truck trailer, semi-trailer or house trailer for use by him or by his employee or agent in the operation of such business, there shall be paid, in lieu of the tax levied herein, a fee of \$0.00 per year or part thereof during which such automotive vehicle, truck trailer, semi-trailer, or house trailer shall remain the property of such person. Each such year or part thereof shall begin with the day or anniversary date, as the case may be, of such withdrawal and shall run for the twelve succeeding months or part thereof during which such automotive vehicle, truck trailer, or house trailer shall remain the property of such person.

Where any used automobile vehicle or truck trailer, semi-trailer or house trailer is taken in trade or in a series of trades, as a credit or part payment on the sale of a new or used vehicle, the tax levied herein shall be paid on the net difference, that is, the price of the new or used vehicle sold less the credit for the used vehicle taken in trade.

(e) Upon every person, firm or corporation engaged or continuing within Limestone County in the business of selling at retail any machine, machinery or equipment which is used in planting, cultivating and harvesting farm products, or used in connection with the production of agricultural produce or products, livestock or poultry on farms, and the parts of such machines, machinery or equipment, attachments and replacements therefore which are made or manufactured for use on or in the operation of such machine, machinery, or equipment, and which are necessary to and customarily used in the operation of such machine, machinery or equipment, an amount equal to one-half percent (1/2 %) of the gross proceeds of the sale thereof. Provided, however, the one-half percent (1/2 %) rate herein prescribed with respect to parts, attachments, and replacements shall not apply to any automotive vehicle or trailer designed primarily for public highway use, except farm trailers used primarily in the production and harvesting of agricultural commodities.

Where any used machine, machinery or equipment which is used in planting, cultivating, and harvesting farm products, or used in connection with the production of agricultural produce or products, livestock and poultry on farms is taken in trade or in a series of trades as a credit or part payment on a sale of a new or used machine, machinery or equipment, the tax levied herein shall be paid on the net difference, that is, the price of the new or used machine, machinery or equipment sold, less the credit for the used machine, machinery or equipment taken in trade.

(f) Upon every person, firm or corporation engaged or continuing within Limestone County in the business of selling through coin-operated dispensing machines, food and food products for human consumption, not including beverages other than coffee, milk, milk products and substitutes therefore, there is hereby levied a tax equal to one percent (1%) of the cost of such food, food products and beverages sold through such machines, which cost for the purpose of this subsection shall be the gross proceeds of sales of such business.

Section 2. (a) An excise tax is hereby imposed on the storage, use or other consumption in Limestone County of tangible personal property (not including materials and supplies bought for use in fulfilling a contract for the painting, repairing, or reconditioning of vessels, barges, ships and other watercraft and commercial fishing vessels of over five (5) tons load displacement as registered with the U.S. Coast Guard and licensed by the State of Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources) purchased at retail on or after the effective date of this amendment for storage, use or other consumption in Limestone County, except as provided in subsections (b), (c), and (d), at the rate of one percent (1%) of the sales price of such property.

(b) An excise tax is hereby imposed on the storage, use or other consumption in Limestone County of any machines used in mining, quarrying, compounding, processing, and manufacturing of tangible personal property purchased at retail on or after the effective date of this amendment at the rate of one half percent (1/2 %) of the sales price of any such machine; provided, that the term "machine" as herein used, shall include machinery which is used for mining, quarrying, compounding, processing, or manufacturing tangible personal property, and the parts of such machines, attachments and replacements therefore, which are made or manufactured for used on or in the operation of such machines and which are necessary to the operation of such machines and are customarily so used.

(c) An excise tax is hereby imposed on the storage, use or other consumption in Limestone County of any automotive vehicle or truck trailer, semi-trailer, house trailer or mobile home set-up materials and supplies including but not limited to steps, blocks, anchoring, cable pipes and any other materials pertaining thereto purchased at retail on or after the effective date of this amendment for storage, use or other consumption in Limestone County at the rate of one half percent (1/2 %) of the sales price of such automotive vehicle, truck trailer, semi-trailer, house trailer or mobile home set-up materials and supplies. Where any used automotive vehicle, truck trailer, semi-trailer or house trailer is taken in trade, or in a series of trades, as a credit or part payment on the sale of a new or used vehicle, the tax levied herein shall be paid on the net difference, that is, the price of the new or used vehicle sold less the credit for the used vehicle taken in trade.

(d) An excise tax is hereby levied and imposed on the storage, use or other consumption in Limestone County of any machine, machinery, or equipment which is used in planting, cultivating, and harvesting farm products, or used in connection with the production of agricultural produce or products, livestock, or poultry on farms, and the parts of such machines, machinery, or equipment, attachments and replacements therefore which are made or manufactured for use on or in the operation of such machine, machinery, or equipment, and which are necessary to and customarily used in the operation of such machine, machinery, or equipment, which is purchased at retail after the effective date of this amendment, for the storage, use or other consumption in Limestone County at the rate of one half percent (1/2 %) of the sales price of such property; regardless of whether the retailer is or is not engaged in the business in this County. Provided, however, the one half percent (1/2 %) rate herein prescribed with respect to parts, attachments, and replacements shall not apply to any automotive vehicle or trailer designed primarily for public highway use, except farm trailers used primarily in the production and harvesting of agricultural commodities. Where any used machine, machinery or equipment which is used in planting, cultivating, and harvesting farm products or used in connection with the production of agricultural produce or products, livestock, and poultry on farms is taken in trade or in a series of trades as a credit or part payment on a sale of a new or used machine, machinery, or equipment, the tax levied herein shall be paid on the net difference, that is, the price of the new or used machine, machinery, or equipment sold, less the credit for the used machine, machinery, or equipment taken in trade.

Section 3. The tax shall be collected by the State Department of Revenue at the same time and in the same manner as state sales and use taxes are collected. On or prior to the date the tax is due, each person subject to the tax shall file

with the department a report in the form prescribed by the department. The report shall set forth, with respect to all sales and business transactions that are required to be used as a measure of the tax levied, a correct statement of the gross proceeds of all the sales and gross receipts of all business transactions. The report shall also include items of information pertinent to the tax as the department may require. Any person subject to the tax levied by this act may defer reporting credit sales until after their collection, and in the event the person defers reporting them, the person shall thereafter include in each monthly report all credit collections made during the preceding month, and shall pay the tax due at the time of filing the report. All reports filed with the department under this section shall be available for inspection by the county commission, or its designee.

Section 4. Each person engaging or continuing in a business subject to the tax levied by this amendment, shall add to the sales price or admission fee and collect from the purchaser or the person paying the admission fee the amount due by the taxpayer because of the sale or admission. It shall be unlawful for any person subject to the tax to fail or refuse to add to the sales price or admission fee and to collect from the purchaser or person paying the admission fee the amount required to be added to the sale or admission price. It shall be unlawful for any person subject to the tax levied to refund or offer to refund all or any part of the amount collected or to absorb or advertise directly or indirectly the absorption or refund of any portion of the tax.

Section 5. The tax shall constitute a debt due Limestone County. The tax, together with any interest and penalties, shall constitute and be secured by a lien upon the property of any person from whom the tax is due or who is required to collect the tax. The department shall collect the tax, enforce this amendment, and have and exercise all rights and remedies that the state or the department has for collection of the state sales and use tax. The department may employ special counsel as is necessary to enforce collection of the tax levied by this amendment and to enforce this amendment. The department shall pay the special counsel any fees it deems necessary and proper from the proceeds of the tax collected by it for Limestone County.

Section 6. All provisions of the state sales and use tax statutes with respect to the payment, assessment, and collection of the state sales and use tax, making of reports, keeping and preserving records, penalties for failure to pay the tax, promulgating rules and regulations with respect to the state sales and use tax, and the administration and enforcement of the state sales and use tax statutes which are not inconsistent with this amendment shall apply to the tax levied herein. The state Commissioner of Revenue and the department shall have and exercise the same powers, duties, and obligations with respect to the tax levied under this amendment that are imposed on the commissioner and department by the state sales and use tax statutes. All provisions of the state sales and use tax statutes that are made applicable by this amendment to the tax levied under this amendment, and to the administration and enforcement of this amendment, are incorporated by reference and made a part of this act as if fully set forth herein.

Section 7. The department shall charge Limestone County for collecting the tax levied under this act in an amount or percentage of total collections as may be agreed upon by the commissioner and the Limestone County Commission. The charge shall not exceed five percent of the total amount of the tax collected in the county. The charge may be deducted each month from the gross revenues from the tax before certification of the amount of the proceeds due Limestone County for that month. The Commissioner of Revenue shall pay into the State Treasury all amounts collected under this act, as the tax is received by the department on or before the first day of each successive month. The commissioner shall certify to the State Comptroller the amount collected and paid into the State Treasury for the benefit of Limestone County during the month immediately preceding the certification. The State Comptroller shall issue a warrant each month payable to the County Treasurer of Limestone County in an amount equal to the certified amount which shall be paid into the county general fund to be divided between the Athens City Board of Education and the Limestone County Board of Education based on the average daily attendance of the two school systems.

Section 8. Effective date of this tax should be the first day of the second month following approval by the qualified electors of Limestone County.

Amendment 547 ratified

Compensation of Probate Judge of Pickens County.

Effective the beginning of the next term of office after ratification of this amendment, the Judge of Probate of Pickens County shall be compensated on a salary basis. The judge shall receive in equal monthly installments from the General Fund of Pickens County such salary as provided by general law, unless provided otherwise by local law. The salary shall be the entire compensation received by the judge for services in any official or ex officio capacity. The salary shall be in lieu of all fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges previously paid to the Judge of Probate of Pickens County.

All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the Judge of Probate of Pickens County shall continue to be collected but shall be paid into the General Fund of Pickens County.

The County Commission of Pickens County shall provide the Judge of Probate with such office personnel, equipment, and supplies as the County Commission may consider necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the office. Compensation of any personnel so provided shall be fixed by the County Commission and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the General Fund of Pickens County.

Amendment 548 ratified

Election of Talladega City Board of Education.

The Legislature may by local act provide for the election of the members of the Talladega City Board of Education.

Amendment 549 ratified

Bingo Games in Walker County.

The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by certain nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal outside of the corporate limits of the City of Jasper in Walker County, subject to any resolution by the county governing body as provided by law regulating the operation of bingo. The governing body may promulgate rules and regulations for issuing permits or licenses, and for operating bingo games, within its respective jurisdiction. The county governing body shall insure compliance pursuant to any ordinance and the following:

- (1) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo.
 - (2) No bingo permit or license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless the organization shall have been in existence for at least 60 months and owned real property at least five years immediately prior to issuing the permit or license.
 - (3) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises are leased, the rate or rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from operating the bingo games.
 - (4) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization. No nonprofit organization may pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed relating to operating or conducting any bingo game.
 - (5) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow any other person or entity to use its identity in operating or advertising a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating the bingo game.
 - (6) Prizes given by any qualified nonprofit organization for playing bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value, set by the Legislature, during any bingo session. The Legislature shall set a maximum
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amount for any calendar week.

(7) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition, shall take any expenses for operating a bingo game except as permitted by law.

Amendment 550 ratified

Bingo Games in City of Jasper.

The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by certain nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in the corporate limits of the City of Jasper in Walker County, subject to any resolution or ordinance by the city governing body as provided by law regulating the operation of bingo. The governing body may promulgate rules and regulations for issuing permits or licenses, and for operating bingo games, within its respective jurisdiction. The governing body of the City of Jasper shall insure compliance pursuant to any ordinance and the following:

(1) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo.

(2) No bingo permit or license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless the organization shall have been in existence for at least 60 months and owned real property in the City of Jasper five years immediately prior to issuing the permit or license.

(3) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises are leased, the rate or rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from operating the bingo games.

(4) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization. No nonprofit organization may pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed relating to operating or conducting any bingo game.

(5) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow any other person or entity to use its identity in operating or advertising a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating the bingo game.

(6) Prizes given by any qualified nonprofit organization for playing bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value, set by the Legislature, during any bingo session. The Legislature shall set a maximum amount for any calendar week.

(7) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition, shall take any expenses for operating a bingo game except as permitted by law.

Amendment 551 ratified

Special Ad Valorem Taxes for Fire Protection and Emergency Services in Montgomery County.

The Legislature declares that all volunteer fire departments, including volunteer fire departments that have emergency medical technicians that are members, are organizations that are public in nature and serve to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Montgomery County.

In addition to all ad valorem taxes levied for fire protection, the Montgomery County Commission may levy and collect a special ad valorem tax, not to exceed two and one-half mills in any year on each dollar of assessed value of the property taxed, on property in the unincorporated area of Montgomery County for the purpose of providing fire protection in the unincorporated area of Montgomery County.

The tax provided in this act shall be levied, collected, administered, and enforced at the same time, in the same manner, and under the same requirements and laws as state ad valorem taxes. The officials collecting or assessing

the tax shall be entitled to the same fees and compensation as are provided for collecting and assessing ad valorem taxes. The proceeds of the tax shall be paid into the county general fund. Within thirty days after payment into the county general fund, the Montgomery County Commission shall pay the funds to the Montgomery County Association of Volunteer Firefighters, hereafter referred to as the county association. The county association shall distribute the funds as follows:

(1) 60 percent shall be divided equally among all eligible volunteer fire departments.

(2) 30 percent shall be divided according to a percentage based upon the monies collected in a fire district compared to the total monies collected. The county association shall notify the Revenue Commissioner within 30 days after this act becomes operative of the designated fire districts. The boundaries of the fire districts may be rearranged at the discretion of the county association as they deem necessary, from time to time, to maximize fire protection services in the county.

(3) Ten percent of the money shall be designated as discretionary fund of the county association to be used for any expenditure otherwise allowable under this act.

In order to be an eligible volunteer fire department for purposes of this act, a volunteer fire department shall be in good standing with the Montgomery County Association of Volunteer Firefighters.

Funds disbursed to eligible volunteer fire departments pursuant to this act shall be expended only for fire protection and emergency medical services, including but not limited to, training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, equipment, insurance, professional services, and dues. The funds shall not be expended for food, drink, social activities, or fund-raising activities. After receiving the funds, the volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds are properly expended. By September 15th of each year, the department shall file a report with the county association detailing the expenditure of all funds during the previous twelve months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall account for all unspent funds and whether unspent funds have been obligated. Unspent funds that have not been obligated which exceed the amount of total receipts paid to the department for the prior year from this tax shall be returned to the county association for redistribution equally among the other fire departments. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department. The copy of the year-end report shall be filed with the county commission and shall be audited by the Examiners of Public Accounts of the state on the same basis as county funds are audited.

Upon dissolution or abandonment of an eligible volunteer fire department, all remaining funds derived from this act or assets purchased with the funds derived from this act shall be transferred to the county association.

Prior to the levy of the fire protection tax in the unincorporated areas of county, there shall be submitted to the electors at a special election called for that purpose in the county, the question of whether the tax shall be levied. If a majority of the qualified electors within the unincorporated area of the county who vote at the election approve the tax, the tax shall be effective and levied. If a majority of the qualified electors within the unincorporated area of the county who vote at the election do not approve the tax, the tax shall not be effective and shall not be levied.

Elections on the question of the levy of a fire protection tax in the county may be held at any time and from time to time. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if at an election held after the ratification of this amendment the proposal to levy the tax so submitted is defeated, then the proposal may not be submitted at another election held in the county within two years from the last election held under this amendment.

Amendment 552 ratified

Election of Dothan City Board of Education.

The Legislature may, by local act, provide for the election of the Dothan City Board of Education.

This amendment shall not become operative unless it is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the City of Dothan who vote thereon upon its submission.

Amendment 553 ratified

Election of Decatur City Board of Education.

The Legislature may, by local act, provide for the election of the Decatur City Board of Education.

Amendment 554 ratified

Levy and Collection of Special Ad Valorem Property Tax for Public Library Purposes in Chambers County.

The governing body of Chambers County shall, subject to succeeding provisions of this amendment (including those relating to approval by the Chambers County electorate), and notwithstanding anything in the Constitution or laws of Alabama to the contrary, levy and collect a special county ad valorem or property tax at the rate of twenty cents (\$.20) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of taxable property in said County, for a period of ten fiscal (or ad valorem tax) years of said County. Such tax shall be in addition to any taxes now authorized, or that may hereafter be authorized, by the Constitution and laws of Alabama to be levied and collected in Chambers County or by said governing body.

The proceeds of the aforesaid tax shall be used exclusively for public library purposes in Chambers County, including particularly (but without limitation)

(a) the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, improvement, enlargement, equipment, operation, maintenance and support (or any one or more thereof) of

(1) any public library or libraries operated or supported (whether in whole or in part) by said County, by the Chambers County Library Board, or by any other similar public or governmental body empowered, under the Constitution and laws of Alabama, to operate or support public libraries, including particularly, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, (i) that certain public library located in the City of Lafayette now owned by the City of Lafayette, and (ii) that certain public library located in the City of Valley now owned by a not-for-profit foundation or a not-for-profit corporation, and

(2) any other public libraries, branch libraries or related public library facilities (including, without limitation, one or more buildings and any equipment and lands necessary therefor) located or to be located in Chambers County and forming or to form a part of the public library system of said County; and

(b) the payment of principal of or interest (or premium, if any) on any bonds, warrants, notes or other securities (including, without limitation, refunding securities) issued by said County for public library purposes in Chambers County; provided, that any public library, branch library or related public library facilities described in the preceding provisions of this amendment shall be owned either by said County, said Chambers County Library Board or other public or governmental body, or by a not-for-profit corporation or other similar nonprofit organization (regardless of how denominated or organized); and provided further, (A) that the proceeds of such tax may be expended to pay any costs of constructing, reconstructing, improving or enlarging any additions or improvements to any building or buildings used or to be used (at least in part) by, or in connection with the operation of, the aforesaid public library located in the City of Valley, notwithstanding that such building or buildings may also then be used (or may thereafter be used) in part by, or in connection with the operation of, archives or other facilities that are not, and are not expected to be, operated for public library purposes, and (B) that none of the proceeds of such tax may be expended to pay any costs of operating, equipping, maintaining or supporting any such facilities that are not, and are

not expected to be, operated for public library purposes. In expending (or causing to be expended) the proceeds of such tax for the purposes herein authorized, and in otherwise carrying out the purposes of this amendment, the governing body of Chambers County shall not be subject to the provisions of Sections 93 and 94 of the Constitution, as amended.

If this amendment is approved, and if a majority of the qualified electors of Chambers County who vote at the election thereon vote in favor of this amendment, then the tax hereinabove authorized shall be levied and collected as hereinabove provided, without any other election having been held thereon. However, if this amendment is approved but a majority of the qualified electors of Chambers County who vote at the election thereon vote against it, then such tax shall not be levied unless the question of the levy of such tax as hereinabove provided shall have been submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of said County and approved by a majority of those voting at such election; and such tax shall, upon such approval, be levied and collected as hereinabove provided. Subsequent elections may be held at intervals of not less than one year, and shall be called, held and conducted in the same way, according to the general laws of Alabama (with such modifications as shall be necessary to comply with the provisions of this amendment), as elections on the question of issuing county bonds. Following the approval of the Chambers County electorate (whether at the election on this amendment or at a subsequent county election as hereinabove provided), the tax herein authorized shall, to the fullest extent consistent with the efficient and practical administration of the tax system of Chambers County and without regard to any law otherwise requiring the levy of county taxes during a certain month or on or before a particular date, be initially levied by the governing body of said County so that it shall first become due and payable on the October 1 next succeeding such election.

The provisions of this amendment are and shall be self-executing, and authorization from or any other action by the legislature shall not be a prerequisite to the levy and collection of the tax herein authorized, to the use of the proceeds of such tax as herein provided, or to the call, holding or conduct of any election in said County as hereinabove provided for. It is hereby specifically declared that this amendment is not being proposed pursuant to the provisions of that certain amendment to the Constitution (known as Amendment No. 425) that was proposed by Act No. 82-330 adopted at the 1982 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama, and the provisions of the said Amendment No. 425 are hereby declared to be inapplicable to this amendment.

Amendment 555 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 425.

(a) Any proposed constitutional amendment which affects or applies to only one county shall be adopted as a valid part of the constitution by a favorable vote of a majority of the qualified electors of the affected county who vote on the amendment. Any proposed constitutional amendment which affects or applies to only one political subdivision within a county or counties shall be adopted as a valid part of the constitution by a favorable vote of a majority of the qualified electors of both the county and the political subdivision affected by the amendment who vote on the amendment. The proposed amendment may provide for a separate referendum in a political subdivision of less than a county if a simultaneous referendum is not possible because of conflicting voting precincts.

(b) The proposed amendment shall first be approved by at least a three-fifths vote of the elected members of each house of the Legislature with no dissenting vote cast and approved by a majority vote of the Local Constitutional Amendment Commission. The commission shall be composed of the Governor, Presiding Officer of the Senate, Attorney General, Secretary of State, and Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Legislature may by general act specify procedures for the Local Constitution Amendment Commission, but may not expand its role beyond deciding whether the amendment affects more than one county or more than one political subdivision in one or more counties.

(c) Notice of the election, together with the proposed amendment, shall be given by proclamation of the Governor, which proclamation shall be published once a week for four successive weeks next preceding the day appointed for the election in each newspaper qualified to run legal notices in the county or counties affected.

(d) In the event any constitutional amendment proposed for adoption pursuant to this amendment is approved by at least a three-fifths vote of the elected members of each house of the Legislature but with one or more dissenting votes cast, the amendment shall be treated as a statewide amendment as described in subsection (e).

(e) If after having been approved by at least a three-fifths vote of the elected members of each house of the Legislature without a dissenting vote cast the proposed amendment is not approved by a majority vote the Local Constitutional Amendment Commission, it shall automatically be submitted in a statewide referendum in accordance with the procedures for proposed statewide constitutional amendments under Sections 284 and 285 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. If the proposed amendment is submitted in a statewide referendum, it shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified voters of the affected county voting on the proposition and the affected political subdivision voting on the proposition, if it affects less than the whole county. The referendum in a political subdivision may be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of the proposed amendment, or at another time if provided by the proposed amendment.

(f) Notwithstanding any provision of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to the contrary, all constitutional amendments which have been adopted by a majority vote of the appropriate electorate pursuant to Amendment No. 425 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, are hereby ratified and confirmed.

Amendment 556 ratified

Conveyance to Huntsville-Madison County Marina and Port Authority Title to Alabama State Docks's Property.

The State of Alabama, through the Alabama State Docks Department, may convey, without consideration, title to its real property, equipment, and facilities located in Madison County, Alabama, and known as the Alabama State Docks, to the Huntsville-Madison County Marina and Port Authority, a public corporation. The conveyance shall be subject to existing leases and other contractual agreements now in effect. Any laws or parts of laws, or any provisions of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, are revised, superseded, and repealed to the extent they are in conflict with this amendment.

Amendment 557 ratified

Basic Rights for Crime Victims.

(a) Crime victims, as defined by law or their lawful representatives, including the next of kin of homicide victims, are entitled to the right to be informed, to be present, and to be heard when authorized, at all crucial stages of criminal proceedings, to the extent that these rights do not interfere with the constitutional rights of the person accused of committing the crime.

(b) Nothing in this amendment or in any enabling statute adopted pursuant to this amendment shall be construed as creating a cause of action against the state or any of its agencies, officials, employees, or political subdivisions. The Legislature may from time to time enact enabling legislation to carry out and implement this amendment.

Amendment 558 ratified

Amendment of Section 94. SECTION 94

Political subdivisions not to grant public money or lend credit to individuals or corporations; alienation of recreational facilities and housing projects by political subdivisions and public bodies; expenditures by local school boards of education for recognition of contributions to public education.

(a) The Legislature shall not have power to authorize any county, city, town, or other subdivision of this state to lend its credit, or to grant public money or thing of value in aid of, or to any individual, association, or corporation whatsoever, or to become a stockholder in any corporation, association, or company, by issuing bonds or otherwise. The Legislature may enact general, special, or local laws authorizing political subdivisions and public bodies to alienate, with or without a valuable consideration, public parks and playgrounds, or other public recreational facilities and public housing projects, conditional upon the approval of a majority of the duly qualified electors of the county, city, town, or other subdivision affected thereby, voting at an election held for that purposes.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a), local school boards of education may expend public funds for the recognition of significant contributions to education in Alabama and to promote educational excellence by students, faculty, staff, and the public. Recognitions shall be in the form of trophies, plaques, academic banquets, and other honors that promote academic excellence in the public schools of Alabama and recognize special deeds that strengthen public education in Alabama.

Amendment 559 ratified

Ratification and Validation of Ad Valorem Tax Levies and Payments in Baldwin County.

(a) All ad valorem tax levies and payments collected in Baldwin County prior to the approval of this amendment, are hereby ratified, validated, and confirmed.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Baldwin County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 560 ratified

Additional Fees Assessed on Cases in Barbour County.

(a) In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized, and notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution, including without limitation Sections 96, 104, and 105 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, there shall be an additional twenty-five dollar (\$25) fee assessed and taxed as costs on each civil case and an additional fifty dollar (\$50) fee assessed on each criminal case, including traffic cases, filed in the Circuit Court, District Court, or any Municipal Court in Barbour County, as well as a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5) for the service of all pleadings and other documents in connection with any such action or case. The aforementioned fees shall not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the cases are waived. The additional fees, when collected by the clerks or other collection officers of the courts, shall be paid into the General Fund of Barbour County to be used by the county commission for the planning, designing, construction, financing, and operation of a new county jail. This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Barbour County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this amendment, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 561 ratified

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services Districts in Blount County.

(a) The Legislature may, by local law from time to time, provide for the establishment of districts in Blount County for fire protection and emergency medical services and provide for mandatory annual dues in the districts upon approval of the qualified electors residing within the districts. The Legislature shall provide for the operation of the districts and for the collection of mandatory annual dues. The Legislature may limit the liability of the county for the operation of a district and provide that a district shall be exempt from all taxation. The districts may include the area currently served by the Remlap Volunteer Fire and Rescue, Inc., or may be formed in other areas of the county.

(b) Act No. 93-342, H. 970, 1993 Regular Session, is repealed.

(c) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Blount County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 562 ratified

Local Legislation to Change Procedure for Sale of Lands for Delinquent Taxes in Calhoun County.

(a) Notwithstanding Sections 104 and 105 to the contrary, the Legislature of the state of Alabama may enact local legislation applicable to Calhoun County to change the method prescribed by law for giving notice to delinquent Calhoun County taxpayers of their failure to pay taxes assessed against any property which is assessed to them and to change the notice required to be given them prior to the sale for taxes of the property and to change the method for issuing decrees for the sale of land and the trials held to determine whether the sales should be ordered and to change the method of giving notice to delinquent property owners to show cause why a decree of sale should not be rendered against them and to change the method regarding the sale of the property and the report of the amount of taxes collected from the sale.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Calhoun County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 563 ratified

Promotion of Industry, Trade, and Economic Development in Calhoun County.

(a) The Legislature may, by general, local, or special law, provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority, and financing of a public corporation empowered or intended to assist or aid in any way Calhoun County or any municipality there in promoting industry, trade, and economic development of Calhoun County and each municipality situated in the county, and the Legislature may grant the corporation all powers, rights, privileges, exemptions, and authority as the Legislature considers necessary or desirable for the furtherance and accomplishment of the purposes of the public corporation. The passage and enactment of Act No. 82-222 of the 1982 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature, and all terms and provisions of Act No. 82-222, are approved, ratified, and confirmed in all respects, any provision of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to the contrary notwithstanding, and Act No. 82-222 shall be effective from and as of the date of its passage and approval by the Governor during the 1982 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature. Any act enacted during the 1993 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature, or during any subsequent regular or special session of the Alabama Legislature, in amendment of or supplementary to Act No. 82-222 shall be effective as of the date of its passage by the Legislature and approval by the Governor, or upon its otherwise becoming a law. The creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority, and financing of the Calhoun County Economic

Development Council is approved, ratified, and confirmed from and as of the date of passage and approval by the Governor of Act No. 82-222 during the 1982 Regular Session of the Alabama Legislature. All actions taken, and all obligations, whether secured or unsecured and whether general or limited as to the source of payment, incurred or assumed, in the name and on behalf of the Calhoun County Economic Development Council by any directors, officers, employees, representatives, or agents thereof in furtherance of the powers and purposes of the council as set forth in Act No. 82-222, as the same may be at any time amended or supplemented, prior to the date this amendment is proclaimed ratified, are approved, ratified, and confirmed as fully effective for all purposes from and as of the respective dates of which the actions were taken and the obligations were incurred or assumed.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Calhoun County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this act, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 564 ratified

Fire Protection and Special Fire Protection Property Tax in Covington County.

(a) The Legislature hereby declares that the fire departments and rescue squads that receive funds pursuant to this amendment are organizations which are public in nature, as they promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the county.

(b) The County Commission of Covington County shall levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes now or hereafter provided by law, of three mills on each one dollar's worth of taxable property as assessed for the state ad valorem taxation during the preceding year. The proceeds of the additional taxes levied by this amendment shall be used exclusively for fire, emergency medical, and rescue services.

(c) The Revenue Commissioner of Covington County shall assess the tax herein provided for, and shall collect the fire tax in the same manner and method that other ad valorem taxes are collected. The proceeds of the tax shall be paid into a special county fund. Within thirty days of payment into the special fund, the county commission shall allocate the funds among the eligible fire departments and rescue squads. The funds shall be divided equally among the eligible fire departments and rescue squads.

(d) An eligible fire department, for purposes of this amendment, means a fire department in Covington County that maintains an ISO-approved rating of at least Class 9, is certified under the Alabama Forestry Commission guidelines, and is a member in good standing of the Covington County Firefighters Association. An eligible rescue squad, for purposes of this amendment, means a rescue squad that is certified by the Alabama Association of Rescue Squads or Emergency Medical Services.

(e) Funds paid to eligible fire departments and rescue squads shall only be expended for fire protection and emergency medical and rescue services including training, supplies, and equipment. The funds may also be expended to purchase liability insurance to insure coverage of acts or omissions which are directly related to the functions of a fire department or rescue squad which are committed by a fire department or rescue squad or the personnel of a fire department or rescue squad. The funds may not be expended for food, drink, social activities or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the fire departments and rescue squads shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15 of each year, the fire departments and rescue squads shall file a financial statement with the Covington County Commission detailing the expenditure of all funds received from this amendment during the previous twelve months. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The Covington County Firefighters Association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible fire department and rescue squad. No new fire departments shall be funded within Covington County without prior approval of the Covington County Firefighters Association and the Covington County Commission and without first being certified according to Alabama Forestry Commission guidelines. New departments shall attain an ISO Class 9 rating within two years of receiving fire tax funds to remain eligible. No new rescue squads shall be funded within Covington County without prior approval of the Covington County

Commission.

(f) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible fire department or rescue squad, any remaining funds derived from this amendment or any assets purchased with funds derived from this amendment shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the county commission. The funds and assets shall be reallocated by the county commission equally to the other fire departments and rescue squads. In the event there are no fire departments or rescue squads, the funds or assets shall be placed in the county general fund.

(g) The personnel of fire departments and rescue squads provided for in this amendment shall not be considered employees, servants or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of fire departments or rescue squads.

(h) Act No. 93-317, H. 825, 1993 Regular Session, is repealed.

(i) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Covington County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 565 ratified

Bingo Games in Covington County.

(a) The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by certain nonprofit organizations and certain private clubs for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in Covington County, subject to any resolution or ordinance by the county commission as provided by law regulating the operation of bingo. The county commission may promulgate rules and regulations for issuing permits or licenses and for operating bingo games within the county. The county commission shall insure compliance pursuant to any ordinance and the following:

(1) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo.

(2) Except for special permit holders, no bingo permit or license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless the organization has been in existence for at least five years and has owned real property in the county for five years immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license.

(3) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization or club operating the bingo game. If the premises are leased, the rate of rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from operating the bingo games.

(4) No nonprofit organization or club shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization. A nonprofit organization may not pay consulting fees or any compensation or salary to any individual or entity for any services performed relating to operating or conducting any bingo game.

(5) A nonprofit organization may not lend its name or allow any other person or entity to use its identity in operating or advertising a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating the bingo game or concessions.

(6) One hundred percent of the net revenues derived from operating bingo games shall be designated and expended for charitable or educational purposes.

(7) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition, shall take any expenses for operating a bingo game except as permitted by law.

(b) The Legislature may, by local legislation, provide for the implementation of this amendment, including, but not limited to, the imposition of criminal penalties for violations of this amendment or the local legislation.

Amendment 566 ratified

Election of Members of Cullman City Board of Education.

(a) The Legislature may by local act provide for the election of the members of the Cullman City Board of Education.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Cullman County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 4 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

(c) Act No. 93-536 which provides for an elected Board of Education in the City of Cullman is hereby ratified.

Amendment 567 ratified

Collection and Levying of Fees for Fire Protection Services and Emergency Medical Care in Elmore County.

(a) The Legislature may from time to time by local law authorize the county governing body of Elmore County to levy and collect fees, annually not to exceed \$25.00 on each residence and \$50.00 on each business located within the county, for fire protection services and emergency medical care, such local law may provide for the distribution of the fees to volunteer fire departments and to emergency medical technicians who are members of volunteer fire departments, or provide for the distribution of the fees to an association of volunteer fire departments to be distributed by the association for the same purposes.

(b) Act No. 92-660, H. 63, 1992 Second Special Session, a proposed, but not ratified local constitutional amendment, relating to the same subject matter, is repealed.

(c) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Elmore County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 568 ratified

Incorporation of Regional Airport Authority by City of Red Bay and Franklin County with Political Subdivisions in Mississippi.

(a) The City of Red Bay and Franklin County may join with political subdivisions of the State of Mississippi to organize a regional airport authority to be located in the State of Alabama or in the State of Mississippi.

The regional airport authority shall be incorporated according to the laws of the State of Alabama relative to the incorporation of airport authorities and shall have the same powers and authority of airport authorities organized under the general laws of the State of Alabama. The incorporation procedure shall be commenced by at least three natural persons, two of whom shall be residents of the City of Red Bay, and the other or others may be residents of the political subdivisions of the State of Mississippi. The incorporators shall be qualified electors of the political subdivision which they represent.

The regional airport authority shall be governed by a board of directors as provided in the certificate of incorporation or the bylaws. The governing body of each participating political subdivision shall appoint one member to the board of directors.

The regional airport authority may issue and sell its interest-bearing revenue bonds for its corporate purposes. The principal of and the interest on all bonds shall be payable solely from, and may be secured by a pledge of the

revenues derived by the regional authority from the operation of any or all of its airports, facilities, and other property. The bonds issued or contracts entered into by the authority shall not constitute or create an obligation or debt of this state or of any county, city, or town within this state, or a charge against the credit or taxing powers of this state or of any county, city, or town within this state.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Franklin County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 569 ratified

Bingo Games in Houston County.

(a) The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by certain nonprofit organizations and certain private clubs for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in Houston County, subject to any resolution or ordinance by the county commission as provided by law regulating the operation of bingo. The county commission may promulgate rules and regulations for issuing permits or licenses and for operating bingo games within the county jurisdiction. The county commission shall insure compliance pursuant to any ordinance and the following:

(1) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo.

(2) Except for special permit holders, no bingo permit or license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization or qualified private club, unless the organization or club shall have been in existence for at least five years and owned real property in the county for five years immediately prior to issuing the permit or license, except the following:

a. A fraternal, or benevolent, or charitable organization which qualifies as an exempt organization under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

b. A private club with annual membership dues of three hundred dollars (\$300) or more.

(3) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization or club operating the bingo game. If the premises are leased, the rate or rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from operating the bingo games.

(4) No nonprofit organization or club shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization or club. No nonprofit organization or club may pay consulting fees, any compensation or salary to any individual or entity for any services performed relating to operating or conducting any bingo game.

(5) A nonprofit organization or club shall not lend its name or allow any other person or entity to use its identity in operating or advertising a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization or club is not directly and solely operating the bingo game or concessions.

(6) Prizes given by any qualified nonprofit organization or qualified private club for playing bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value, set by the Legislature, during any bingo session. The Legislature shall set a maximum amount for any calendar week.

(7) One hundred percent of the net revenues derived from operating bingo games shall be designated and expended for charitable or educational purposes.

(8) No person, or organization, or club, by whatever name or composition, shall take any expenses for operating a bingo game except as permitted by law.

(b) The Legislature may, by local legislation, provide for the implementation of this amendment, including, but not limited to, the imposition of criminal penalties for violations of this amendment or the local legislation.

(c) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Houston County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

(d) Act No. 93-333, H. 717 of the 1993 Regular Session is repealed.

Amendment 570 ratified

Police Jurisdiction and Planning and Zoning Authority of Municipalities in Lee County.

(a) In Lee County, the police jurisdiction and planning and zoning authority of any municipality located partially within Lee County with the exception of the municipality of Notasulga shall not extend beyond the corporate limits of the municipality. This amendment shall affect the authority of a municipality located partially within Lee County only in Lee County.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Lee County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

(c) The provisions of this amendment restricting the planning and zoning authority of any municipality affected by the amendment shall expire on June 30, 1997.

Amendment 571 ratified

Validation of Laws Regulating Court Costs in Sumter County.

(a) All general laws, local laws, and population based laws previously enacted by the Legislature and which are in effect on January 1, 1994, pertaining to or applicable to Sumter County which in whole or in part regulate costs and charges of courts are hereby ratified, approved, validated, and confirmed as of the date of their enactment. Any actions taken or payments made in accordance with those laws are hereby ratified, approved, validated, and confirmed. This amendment shall not be construed as prohibiting the Legislature from properly enacting a law to amend or repeal those laws.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Sumter County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 572 ratified

Establishment of Fire Districts and Levy of Charges for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services in Tallapoosa County.

(a) Upon approval of the E911 Board of Commissioners of Tallapoosa County, districts may be established for fire protection and emergency medical services within the geographical boundaries of Tallapoosa County. Each district for fire fighting and emergency medical services of Tallapoosa County is authorized, in its discretion, to levy a service charge for fire protection and emergency medical services in an amount it deems reasonable on each dwelling and commercial building in Tallapoosa County. A service charge if approved by the majority of the voters residing in the proposed fire district shall be collected by the board of directors of the proposed district that has response coverage for the district unless otherwise provided by law. The proceeds from the service charge less any costs of collection shall be used by the district for fire protection and emergency medical service.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Tallapoosa County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the

election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 573 ratified

Ad Valorem Tax in Morgan County.

(a) In lieu of the ad valorem taxes otherwise authorized by Section 269 and Amendment 3 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, and enabling statutory provisions thereto, the Morgan County Commission may levy annually, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1995, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located in Morgan County, Alabama at a rate of 5.8 mill per dollar assessed value of the property, the proceeds of which shall be distributed to the Board of Education of Morgan County in proportions as the proceeds would be distributable if the taxes were levied under the authority of Section 269 and Amendment 3 and enabling statutory provisions relating thereto.

(b) The authority conferred by this constitutional amendment shall be self-executing in the event this amendment is duly adopted and ratified at the election required by the act which this amendment is proposed.

Amendment 574 ratified

Ad Valorem Tax in City of Hartselle.

(a) In lieu of the special district school tax of forty cents per one hundred dollars of assessed value which the Morgan County Commission is authorized to levy for the benefit of the public schools in the City of Hartselle, Alabama, the Morgan County Commission shall be authorized to levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1995, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located within the City of Hartselle, at a rate of four mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property, the proceeds of which shall be distributed to the Hartselle City Board of Education.

(b) The authority conferred by this constitutional amendment shall be self-executing in the event this amendment is duly adopted and ratified at the election required by the act by which this amendment is proposed.

Amendment 575 ratified

Additional Ad Valorem Tax within Portion of City of Decatur in Morgan County.

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes which the Morgan County Commission is authorized by law to levy for the benefit of the public schools in the City of Decatur, Alabama, the Morgan County Commission shall be authorized to levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1995, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located within that portion of the City of Decatur which lies in Morgan County at a rate of 3.6 mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property, the proceeds of which shall be distributed to the Decatur City Board of Education.

(b) The authority conferred by this constitutional amendment shall be self-executing in the event this amendment is duly adopted and ratified at the election required by the act by which this amendment is proposed.

Amendment 576 ratified

Additional Ad Valorem Tax on Property in Morgan County Outside Cities of Decatur and Hartselle.

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes which the Morgan County Commission is authorized by law to levy for the benefit of the public schools within the jurisdiction of the Morgan County Board of Education, the Morgan County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1995, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property in Morgan County located outside the corporate limits of the City of Decatur and the City of Hartselle, as those corporate limits exist on the first day of each ad valorem tax year, at a rate of four

mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property, the proceeds of which shall be distributed to the Morgan County Board of Education.

(b) The authority conferred by this constitutional amendment shall be self-executing in the event this amendment is duly adopted and ratified at the election required by the act by which this amendment is proposed.

Amendment 577 ratified

Manner of Filling Vacancies on Morgan County Board of Education.

The Legislature may, by local act, provide for the manner of filling vacancies on the Morgan County Board of Education.

Amendment 578 ratified

Election of Franklin County Superintendent of Education by Qualified Electors.

(a) The Franklin County Superintendent of Education shall be elected by the qualified electors residing in the jurisdiction of the Franklin County School System. The initial county superintendent of education elected pursuant to this amendment shall be elected at the general election in 1996. The election shall be conducted in the same manner as the election of other county officers. The initial county superintendent of education elected pursuant to this amendment shall serve upon election until June 30, 2001. A successor shall be elected at the general election in 2000 and take office on July 1, 2001. Successors shall serve a term of four years from July 1 of the year following election and shall be elected at the general election immediately preceding the expiration of the term of the incumbent. The Franklin County Superintendent of Education shall be a resident of the area served by the Franklin County School System at the time of his or her election and shall possess all the qualifications of a county superintendent of education provided by general law. The Legislature may, from time to time, enact laws to implement and facilitate the purposes of this amendment.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved by a majority of the qualified electors residing in the jurisdiction of the Franklin County School System and a majority of the qualified electors of Franklin County.

Amendment 579 ratified

Amendment of Article VIII.

Article VIII of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 is hereby repealed and in lieu thereof the following article shall be adopted.

Article VIII

Suffrage and Elections

(a) Every citizen of the United States who has attained the age of eighteen years and has resided in this state and in a county thereof for the time provided by law, if registered as provided by law, shall have the right to vote in the county of his or her residence. The Legislature may prescribe reasonable and nondiscriminatory requirements as prerequisites to registration for voting. The Legislature shall, by statute, prescribe a procedure by which eligible citizens can register to vote.

(b) No person convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude, or who is mentally incompetent, shall be qualified to vote until restoration of civil and political rights or removal of disability.

(c) The Legislature shall by law provide for the registration of voters, absentee voting, secrecy in voting, the administration of elections, and the nomination of candidates.

Amendment 580 ratified

Amendment of Article VI.

Amendment of Article VI.

Section 6.18A.

Impeachment provisions in Article VII, Section 173 to apply to Supreme Court Justices and appellate judges.

In addition to the authority conferred on the Court of the Judiciary in Section 6.18, the provisions for impeachment in Article VII, Section 173, shall also apply to Justices of the Supreme Court and Judges of the Courts of Appeals. No proceeding for impeachment under Article VII, Section 173, may proceed or be initiated against a judge while the same charge or subject matter is under consideration by the Judicial Inquiry Commission or the Court of the Judiciary. A finding of lack of probable cause or a termination of proceeding without a finding of wrongdoing by either the Judicial Inquiry Commission or the Court of the Judiciary shall constitute a complete defense to proceedings of impeachment under Article VII, Section 173, and shall bar all further proceedings of impeachment as to the same charge or subject matter. No justice or judge who has been tried before the Court of the Judiciary shall be subject to impeachment on the same charge or subject matter. No conduct that occurred prior to the effective date of this amendment may be the basis of a proceeding of impeachment under this section. No proceeding in impeachment under this section may be initiated without the verification, under oath, of at least 12 members of the House of Representatives as to the factual basis of the charge under which the article of impeachment is preferred. No article of impeachment shall be passed upon less than two-thirds majority of the House of Representatives and no conviction of impeachment shall be had upon less than two-thirds majority of the Senate under this section. Dissatisfaction with the ruling of a judge or justice shall not be a ground upon which impeachment under this section may proceed.

Amendment 581 ratified

Amendment of Article VI.

6.17. Judicial Inquiry Commission.

(a) A Judicial Inquiry Commission is created consisting of nine members. The Supreme Court shall appoint one appellate judge who shall not be a Justice on the Supreme Court; the Circuit Judges' Association shall appoint two judges of the circuit court; the Governor shall appoint three persons who are not lawyers, who shall be subject to Senate confirmation before serving; the Lieutenant Governor shall appoint one district judge who shall be subject to Senate confirmation; and the governing body of the Alabama State Bar shall appoint two members of the state bar to serve as members of the commission. Provided, however, that on January 1, 2005, the appointment authority granted to the Lieutenant Governor shall revert to the Governor and the Governor shall thereafter be entitled to appoint three persons who are not lawyers and one district judge, all subject to Senate confirmation. The commission shall select its own chair. The terms of the members of the commission shall be four years. A vacancy on the commission shall be filled for a full term in the manner the original appointment was made.

(b) The commission shall be convened permanently with authority to conduct investigations and receive or initiate complaints concerning any judge of a court of the judicial system of this state. The commission shall file a complaint with the Court of the Judiciary in the event that a majority of the members of the commission decide that a reasonable basis exists, (1) to charge a judge with violation of any Canon of Judicial Ethics, misconduct in office, failure to perform his or her duties, or (2) to charge that the judge is physically or mentally unable to perform his or her duties. All proceedings of the commission shall be confidential except the filing of a complaint with the Court of the Judiciary. The commission shall prosecute the complaints.

(c) The Supreme Court shall adopt rules governing the procedures of the commission.

(d) The commission shall have subpoena power and authority to appoint and direct its staff. Members of the commission who are not judges shall receive per diem compensation and necessary expenses; members who are judges shall receive necessary expenses only. The Legislature shall appropriate funds for the operation of the commission

Sec. 6.18. Court of the Judiciary.

(a) The Court of the Judiciary is created consisting of one judge of an appellate court, other than the Supreme Court, who shall be selected by the Supreme Court and shall serve as Chief Judge of the Court of the Judiciary; two judges of the circuit court, who shall be selected by the Circuit Judges' Association; and one district judge who shall be selected by the District Judges' Association. Other members of the Court of the Judiciary shall consist of two members of the state bar, who shall be selected by the governing body of the Alabama State Bar; two persons who are not lawyers who shall be appointed by the Governor; and one person appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. Members appointed by the Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be subject to Senate confirmation before serving. Provided, however, that on January 1, 2005, the appointment authority granted to the Lieutenant Governor shall revert to the Governor and the Governor shall thereafter be entitled to appoint three persons who are not lawyers, subject to Senate confirmation. The court shall be convened to hear complaints filed by the Judicial Inquiry Commission. The court shall have authority, after notice and public hearing (1) to remove from office, suspend without pay, or censure a judge, or apply such other sanction as may prescribed by law, for violation of a Canon of Judicial Ethics, misconduct in office, failure to perform his or her duties, or (2) to suspend with or without pay, or to retire a judge who is physically or mentally unable to perform his or her duties.

(b) A judge aggrieved by a decision of the Court of the Judiciary may appeal to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court shall review the record of the proceedings on the law and the facts.

(c) The Supreme Court shall adopt rules governing the procedures of the Court of the Judiciary.

(d) The Court of the Judiciary shall have power to issue subpoenas. The Legislature shall provide by law for the expenses of the court.

Amendment 582 ratified

Approval of Legislature for Court Orders Requiring Disbursement of State Funds.

No order of a state court, which requires disbursement of state funds, shall be binding on the state or any state official until the order has been approved by a simple majority of both houses of the Legislature. This amendment shall not apply to orders, judgments, or decrees requiring payment of compensation for the taking of property by eminent domain or arising out of challenges to taxation or to such other orders, judgments, or decrees as may be otherwise required by statute, or settled principles of Alabama common law as decided by the Alabama appellate courts, not inconsistent with other provisions of this Constitution. Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude a court from making findings of fact or conclusions of law and orders relating thereto, that standards required by the United States Constitution, the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, laws of this state or of the United States, or rules or regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, are not being met, and from ordering the responsible entity or entities to comply with such standards.

Amendment 583 ratified

Collection and Levying of Fees for Fire Protection Services in Calhoun County.

The Legislature declares that the fire departments which receive funds pursuant to this amendment are organizations which are public in nature as they promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the county.

In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter provided by law, there shall be levied and collected in Calhoun County a special county-wide property tax of three mills on each one dollar's worth of taxable property as assessed for the state ad valorem taxation. The proceeds of the additional taxes levied by this amendment shall be used exclusively for fire protection services provided by volunteer and full-time fire departments.

The Tax Assessor of Calhoun County shall assess the tax herein provided for and the tax collector shall collect the tax in the same manner and method that other ad valorem taxes are collected. The proceeds of the tax shall be paid by the tax collector directly to the Calhoun County Volunteer Firefighters' Association and to the cities. The proceeds shall be divided so that the proceeds of the tax collected within the corporate limits of any city within the county shall be allocated to the fire department of that city and the proceeds from collections in the unincorporated areas of the county shall be allocated among the volunteer fire departments which serve the unincorporated area of the county, based on the following formula:

- (a) One-third of the proceeds shall be equally divided among the volunteer fire departments which are in good standing with the Calhoun County Volunteer Firefighters' Association.
- (b) One-third of the proceeds shall be divided to each volunteer fire department based upon the number of people who live within each respective fire district.
- (c) One-third of the proceeds shall be divided to each volunteer fire department based upon the number of acres of land contained in each fire district.

From the proceeds collected in the police jurisdiction, but outside the corporate limits, of any city, one-third shall be allocated for the city serving the police jurisdiction and two-thirds shall be allocated to the Calhoun County Volunteer Firefighters' Association to be divided as herein prescribed.

An eligible fire department, for purposes of this amendment, means a fire department in Calhoun County which is a member in good standing with the Calhoun County Volunteer Firefighters' Association according to guidelines established by the Alabama Volunteer Fire Department Association.

Funds paid to eligible fire departments shall be expended for fire protection and rescue services including training, supplies, equipment, and facilities. The funds may also be expended to purchase insurance to insure coverage of acts or omissions which are directly related to the functions of a fire department which are committed by the department or the personnel of a fire department and to insure assets of the fire department. The funds may not be expended for food, drink, social activities, salaries, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. The records shall reasonably be open to the public for inspection. By September 15 of each year, the association shall file a financial statement with the Calhoun County Commission detailing the expenditure of all funds received from this amendment during the previous 12 months. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. No new fire departments shall be funded within Calhoun County without prior approval of the Calhoun County Volunteer Firefighters' Association.

Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible fire department, any remaining funds derived from this amendment or any assets purchased with funds derived from this amendment shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the Calhoun County Volunteer Firefighters' Association. The funds and assets shall be reallocated by the association to the other fire departments based upon the formula previously set out in this amendment. In the event the association is dissolved, the additional property tax levied under this amendment shall end and no longer be levied and collected.

The personnel of fire departments provided for in this amendment shall not be considered employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of fire departments.

This amendment shall apply to collections of ad valorem taxes for the 1996-97 tax year and thereafter. The initial provisions of this amendment may hereafter be amended by local legislation which may become effective without referendum approval.

Amendment 584 ratified

Commission Authorized to Levy Ad Valorem Tax for Fire Protection and Rescue Services in Cherokee County.

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes levied, the Cherokee County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1995, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located in Cherokee County at a rate of two mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property, the proceeds of which shall be paid into the county general fund and allocated therefrom for fire protection and rescue services.

(b) Within 30 days of payment into the county general fund of the proceeds from the additional tax levied pursuant to (a), the county commission shall pay the proceeds generated by one and one-half mills of the additional tax levied to the Cherokee County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments and the proceeds generated from one-half of one mill to the Cherokee County Rescue Service Inc. The association shall divide its funds equally among the member fire departments of the Cherokee County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments and allocate one share thereof to the association at the quarterly meetings of the association.

(c) Funds paid to eligible volunteer fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services, including day to day operations, training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. An eligible volunteer fire department shall mean a volunteer fire department located in Cherokee County which is certified under the guidelines of the Alabama Forestry Commission and is a member in good standing of the Cherokee County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. Any tax proceeds allocated for fire protection and rescue services under this amendment shall not be expended for salaries, food, drink, social activities, or fundraising activities. After receiving funds, the volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15th of each year, each fire department and the county association shall file a form with the county association detailing the expenditures of all funds during the previous 12 months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department and the county association.

(d) Funds paid to the Cherokee County Rescue Service Inc. shall only be expended for rescue services, including day to day operations, training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. In order for the Cherokee County Rescue Service to maintain eligibility for tax proceeds it shall maintain current active membership in the Alabama Association of Rescue Squads. After receiving funds, the Cherokee County Rescue Service Inc. shall keep accurate records to verify that funds were properly expended.

(e) All funds collected and disbursed under this amendment shall be subject to audit by the State Department of Examiners of Public Accounts.

(f) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible volunteer fire department, any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the county association.

(g) Upon dissolution or abandonment of the Cherokee County Rescue Service Inc. any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be held in the county general fund, until a decision can be reached by all applicable parties regarding the restoration of rescue service and the transfer of the funds for rescue services.

(h) The personnel of volunteer fire departments and the Cherokee County Rescue Service shall not be considered as employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of volunteer fire departments and the Cherokee County Rescue Service Inc.

Amendment 585 ratified

Collection and Levying of Fees for Fire Protection and Safety Services in Clay County

The Legislature declares that the fire departments and rescue squads which receive funds pursuant to this amendment are organizations which are public in nature as they promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the county.

In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter provided by law, there shall be levied and collected in Clay County a special property tax of two mills on each one dollar's worth of taxable property as assessed for the state ad valorem taxation during the preceding year. The proceeds of the additional taxes levied by this amendment shall be used exclusively for fire protection and safety services.

The Revenue Commissioner of Clay County shall assess the tax herein provided for and shall collect the tax in the same manner and method that other ad valorem taxes are collected. The proceeds of the tax shall be paid by the commissioner directly to the Clay County Volunteer Fire Department Association. The proceeds shall be divided by the association among the eligible volunteer fire departments and rescue squads so that the proceeds of the tax collected within the corporate limits of the Cities of Ashland and Lineville shall be allocated proportionately to the volunteer fire departments of those cities and any rescue squads serving those cities, and the proceeds from collections in the unincorporated areas of the county shall be allocated equally among the volunteer fire departments and the rescue squads which serve the unincorporated areas of the county. The rescue squads shall also receive the same percentage of the proceeds distributed proportionately to Ashland and Lineville which the rescue squads receive from the county portion of the proceeds.

An eligible fire department, for purposes of this amendment, means a fire department in Clay County which is a member in good standing with the Clay County Volunteer Fire Department Association according to guidelines established by the Alabama Volunteer Fire Department Association.

An eligible rescue squad for purposes of this amendment, means a rescue squad in Clay County which is in good standing according to guidelines established by the Alabama Association of Rescue Squads.

Funds paid to eligible fire departments and rescue squads shall only be expended for fire protection and safety services including training, supplies, and equipment. The funds may also be expended to purchase liability insurance to insure coverage of acts or omissions which are directly related to the functions of a fire department or rescue squad which are committed by the department or squad or the personnel of a fire department or rescue squad. The funds may not be expended for food, drink, social activities, salaries, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the fire departments and rescue squads shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15 of each year, the association shall file a financial statement with the Clay County Commission detailing the expenditure of all funds received from this amendment during the previous 12 months. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. No new fire departments or rescue squads shall be funded within Clay County without prior approval of the Clay County Volunteer Fire Department Association.

Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible fire department or rescue squad, any remaining funds derived from this amendment or any assets purchased with funds derived from this amendment shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the Clay County Volunteer Fire Department Association. The funds and assets shall be reallocated by the association equally to the other fire departments and rescue squads. In the event the association is dissolved, the additional property tax levied under this amendment shall self-destruct and no longer be levied and

collected.

The personnel of fire departments and rescue squads provided for in this amendment shall not be considered employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of fire departments or rescue squads.

This amendment shall apply to collections of ad valorem taxes for the 1995-96 tax year and thereafter. The initial provisions of this amendment may hereafter be amended by local legislation which may become effective without referendum approval.

Amendment 586 ratified

Collection and Levying of Fees for Fire Protection Services in Cleburne County.

The Legislature declares that the fire departments which receive funds pursuant to this amendment are organizations which are public in nature as they promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the county.

In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter provided by law, there shall be levied and collected in Cleburne County a special property tax of two mills on each one dollar's worth of taxable property as assessed for the state ad valorem taxation during the preceding year. The proceeds of the additional taxes levied by this amendment shall be used exclusively for fire protection services.

The Revenue Commissioner of Cleburne County shall assess the tax herein provided for and shall collect the tax in the same manner and method that other ad valorem taxes are collected. The proceeds of the tax shall be paid by the commissioner directly to the Cleburne County Volunteer Fire Department Association. The proceeds shall be divided by the association among the eligible volunteer fire departments in the county.

An eligible fire department, for purposes of this amendment, means a fire department in Cleburne County which is a member in good standing with the Cleburne County Volunteer Fire Department Association according to guidelines established by the Alabama Volunteer Fire Department Association.

Funds paid to eligible fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services including training, supplies, and equipment. The funds may also be expended to purchase liability insurance to insure coverage of acts or omissions which are directly related to the functions of a fire department which are committed by the department or the personnel of a fire department. The funds may not be expended for food, drink, social activities, salaries, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15 of each year, the association shall file a financial statement with the Cleburne County Commission detailing the expenditure of all funds received from this amendment during the previous 12 months. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. No new fire departments shall be funded within Cleburne County without prior approval of the Cleburne County Volunteer Fire Department Association.

Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible fire department, any remaining funds derived from this amendment or any assets purchased with funds derived from this amendment shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the Cleburne County Volunteer Fire Department Association. The funds and assets shall be reallocated by the association equally to the other fire departments. In the event the association is dissolved, the additional property tax levied under this amendment shall self-destruct and no longer be levied and collected.

The personnel of fire departments provided for in this amendment shall not be considered employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of fire departments.

This amendment shall apply to collections of ad valorem taxes for the 1995-96 tax year and thereafter. The initial provisions of this amendment may hereafter be amended by local legislation which may become effective without referendum approval.

Amendment 587 ratified

Business License Taxes on Real Estate Operations and Transactions in Etowah County.

Act 95-316, which proposed this amendment, was incorrectly certified as passing. The Secretary of State has determined that Amendment No. 587 should be deleted and subsequent amendments should retain their prior numbering.

Amendment 588 ratified

Election of Franklin County Superintendent of Education by Qualified Electors.

(a) The Franklin County Superintendent of Education shall be elected by the qualified electors residing in the jurisdiction of the Franklin County School System. The initial county superintendent of education elected pursuant to this amendment shall be elected at the general election in 1996. The election shall be conducted in the same manner as the election of other county officers. The initial county superintendent of education elected pursuant to this amendment shall serve from the date elected and certified until June 30, 2001. A successor shall be elected at the general election in 2000 and take office on July 1, 2001. Successors shall serve a term of four years from July 1 of the year following election and shall be elected at the general election immediately preceding the expiration of the term of the incumbent. The Franklin County Superintendent of Education shall be a resident of the area served by the Franklin County School System at the time of his or her election and shall possess all the qualifications of a county superintendent of education provided by general law. The Legislature may, from time to time, enact laws to implement and facilitate the purposes of this amendment.

(b) Any contract of any appointed county superintendent of education shall terminate on the date the elected county superintendent of education takes office.

(c) Any actions taken pursuant to the constitutional amendment proposed by Act 95-224, H. 80, 1995 Regular Session are ratified, validated, and confirmed.

Amendment 589 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Program for Certain Elected Public Officials in Houston County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Houston County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Houston County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Houston County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 590 ratified

Regulation and Alteration of Costs and Charges of Courts in Lauderdale County.

The Legislature may, from time to time, by general or local law applicable to Lauderdale County, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court in the county. This amendment shall be construed together with Amendment 241.

Amendment 591 ratified

Election of Two Persons to Electrical Utility Owned by City of Tuskegee.

Two persons shall be elected to the electrical utility owned by the City of Tuskegee at the same time that the mayor and city council elections are held and the elected candidates for members of the electrical utility shall qualify for office in the same manner. The election shall be conducted in the same manner as that for the election for city council. In the interim of the time between the adoption of this amendment and the mayor-city council election, the State Senator and the Alabama House Representative representing the City of Tuskegee shall each appoint a member on the electrical utility board owned by the City of Tuskegee to serve, only during the interim period until the election. The members of the board of directors of the electrical utility who are not members of the city council shall each receive fifty dollars (\$50) per meeting, not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) per month.

Amendment 592 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Program for Certain Elected Public Officials in Morgan County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Morgan County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Morgan County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Morgan County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 593 ratified

Commission Authorized to Levy Ad Valorem Tax for Fire Protection in Perry County.

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes levied, the Perry County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1995, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located in Perry County at a rate of three mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property, the proceeds of which shall be paid into the county general fund and distributed for the benefit of fire protection.

(b) Within 30 days of payment into the county general fund, the county commission shall pay the funds to the Perry County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. The county association shall divide the funds equally among all eligible volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission at the quarterly meetings of the county association. The county commission and the county association may jointly establish rules regarding the transfer, investing, accounting, and handling of the funds.

(c) Funds paid to eligible volunteer fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services, including training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. An eligible volunteer fire department shall mean a volunteer fire department located in Perry County that is certified under the guidelines of the Alabama Forestry Commission and is a member in good standing of the Perry County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. The funds may not be expended for salaries, food, drink, social activities, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15th of each year, each department and the Alabama Forestry Commission shall file a form with the county association detailing the expenditures of all funds during the previous 12 months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department and the Alabama Forestry Commission.

(d) The Alabama Forestry Commission's share of these funds collected shall be used in Perry County only. The funds shall be used for buildings and purchase of equipment. The funds shall not be expended for salaries.

(e) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible volunteer fire department, any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the county association.

(f) The personnel of volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission shall not be considered as employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission.

Amendment 594 ratified

Collection and Levying of Fees for Fire Protection and Safety Services in Randolph County.

The Legislature declares that the fire departments and rescue squads which receive funds pursuant to this amendment are organizations which are public in nature as they promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the county.

In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter provided by law, there shall be levied and collected in Randolph County a special property tax of two mills on each one dollar's worth of taxable property as assessed for the state ad valorem taxation during the preceding year. The proceeds of the additional taxes levied by this amendment shall be used exclusively for fire protection and safety services.

The Revenue Commissioner of Randolph County shall assess the tax herein provided for and shall collect the tax in the same manner and method that other ad valorem taxes are collected. The proceeds of the tax shall be paid by the commissioner directly to the Randolph County Volunteer Fire Department Association. The proceeds shall be divided by the association so that the proceeds of the tax collected within the corporate limits of the City of Roanoke shall be allocated to the volunteer fire department of the city and the proceeds from collections in the unincorporated areas of the county shall be allocated equally among the volunteer fire departments and the rescue squad which serve the unincorporated area of the county.

An eligible fire department, for purposes of this amendment, means a fire department in Randolph County which is a member in good standing with the Randolph County Volunteer Fire Department Association according to guidelines established by the Alabama Volunteer Fire Department Association.

An eligible rescue squad for purposes of this amendment, means a rescue squad in Randolph County which is in good standing according to guidelines established by the Alabama Association of Rescue Squads.

Funds paid to eligible fire departments and rescue squads shall only be expended for fire protection and safety services including training, supplies, and equipment. The funds may also be expended to purchase liability insurance to insure coverage of acts or omissions which are directly related to the functions of a fire department or rescue squad which are committed by the department or squad or the personnel of a fire department or rescue squad. The

funds may not be expended for food, drink, social activities, salaries, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the fire departments and rescue squads shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15 of each year, the association shall file a financial statement with the Randolph County Commission detailing the expenditure of all funds received from this amendment during the previous 12 months. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. No new fire departments or rescue squads shall be funded within Randolph County without prior approval of the Randolph County Volunteer Fire Department Association.

Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible fire department or rescue squad, any remaining funds derived from this amendment or any assets purchased with funds derived from this amendment shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the Randolph County Volunteer Fire Department Association. The funds and assets shall be reallocated by the association equally to the other fire departments and rescue squads. In the event the association is dissolved, the additional property tax levied under this amendment shall self-destruct and no longer be levied and collected.

The personnel of fire departments and rescue squads provided for in this amendment shall not be considered employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of fire departments or rescue squads.

This amendment shall apply to collections of ad valorem taxes for the 1995-96 tax year and thereafter. The initial provisions of this amendment may hereafter be amended by local legislation which may become effective without referendum approval.

Amendment 595 ratified

Business License Taxes on Real Estate Operations and Transactions in Shelby County.

(a) In order to allow for the orderly and efficient collection of municipal business license taxes in Shelby County with respect to corporations, firms, brokers, agents, and others in the business of buying, selling, leasing, or representing others in the purchase, sale, or lease of real property in Shelby County, the Legislature may, by local law, provide for the imposition and collection of taxes as follows:

1. Any city or municipality within Shelby County may fix and collect licenses pursuant to Sections 11-51-90 and 11-51-91, Code of Alabama 1975, for any business, trade, or profession relating to the buying, selling, or renting of real estate on commission in Shelby County if the licensee maintains its principal place of business in the corporate limits or police jurisdiction of that city or municipality.
2. Effective January 1, following the ratification of this amendment and each year thereafter, in addition to the taxes, if any, imposed under 1. above, every corporation, firm, broker, agent, or other person or entity engaged in the business of buying, selling, managing, leasing, or renting of real estate on commission in Shelby County shall pay an annual business license tax at a rate to be set by the Legislature for the privilege of engaging in that business in every other city or municipality in Shelby County. The tax shall be collected by the License Commissioner of Shelby County and shall be distributed by the License Commissioner of Shelby County to each city or municipality within Shelby County on a pro rata basis based on population. The License Commissioner of Shelby County shall be entitled to an administrative fee for administering this tax at a rate to be set by the Legislature. The fee shall be added to the license tax.
3. Effective January 1, following the ratification of this amendment and each year thereafter, except for the licenses permitted or mandated under 1. and 2. above, no other privilege license tax or any other fee or tax shall be imposed under Sections 11-51-90 and 11-51-91, Code of Alabama 1975, or any other law by any city or municipality within Shelby County on corporations, firms, brokers, agents, or other persons or entities engaged in the business of buying, selling, managing, leasing, or renting of real estate on commission in Shelby County.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Shelby County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 596 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Walker County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development of Walker County, Walker County and each municipality the corporate limits of which are located wholly in the county shall, other provisions of law or this constitution notwithstanding, have, independently or in cooperation with one or more of such governmental entities, full and continuing power to do all of the following:

(1) To purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and to improve and develop such land for use as industrial sites or industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve those sites or projects.

(2) To lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or any such municipality, as applicable, all or any part of any site or project to any person, firm, or corporation, public or private, including any industrial development board, other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or any municipality therein, for the purpose of constructing or developing, by a purchaser or lessee, and equipping and operating, industrial, transportation, distribution, warehouse or research facilities, and offices and other facilities auxiliary to the foregoing.

(3) To grant public funds to the industrial development boards, public corporations, or authorities.

Any action referred to in subdivision (1), (2), and (3) which has been taken subsequent to January 1, 1996, is ratified, approved, and confirmed. Nothing herein shall authorize the county, or any municipality therein, to construct buildings for the purpose of lease or sale.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Walker County nor any municipality located wholly within Walker County shall be subject to the provisions of Sections 93 or 94 of this constitution, as amended. The Legislature shall have the power, by special or local law, to create, or provide for the creation of, any public corporation, authority, board, agency, or other entity empowered or intended to assist or aid in any way the county or the municipality in carrying out the purposes of this amendment and the special or local law shall not be subject to the provisions of Sections 104 and 106 of this constitution, as amended. This amendment shall be self-executing and the powers granted hereby may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state and acting pursuant to this amendment.

No action may be taken under this amendment by the county or any of the municipalities until after the question of whether the county and the municipalities shall have the authority to take the action shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the county, at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of the county and a majority of the qualified electors voting at the election vote in favor of the county and the municipalities having the authority to take action.

Amendment 597 ratified

Sportsperson's Bill of Rights.

- (a) All persons shall have the right to hunt and fish in this state in accordance with law and regulations.
- (b) This amendment shall be known as the "Sportsperson's Bill of Rights."

Amendment 598 ratified

Amendment of Article XIV, Section 8.

Article XIV, Section 8, as amended by Amendment 37 of the Constitution of Alabama 1901, is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 8. No person shall for any indictable offense be proceeded against criminally by information, except in cases arising in the militia and volunteer forces when in actual service, or when assembled under arms as a military organization, or, by leave of the court, for misfeasance, misdemeanor, extortion, and oppression in office, otherwise than is provided in the Constitution. In cases of misdemeanor, the Legislature may by law dispense with a grand jury and authorize prosecutions and proceedings before any inferior courts as may be by law established. In all felony cases, except those punishable by capital punishment, the Legislature may by law dispense with a grand jury and authorize prosecutions and proceedings in any manner as may be provided by law if the defendant, after having had the advice of counsel of his or her choice or in the event he or she is unable to employ counsel, the advice of counsel which shall be appointed by the court, makes known in open court to a judge of a court having jurisdiction of the offense that he or she desires to plead guilty."

Amendment 599 ratified

Bingo Games in Morgan County.

- (a) The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal only within the boundaries of the Cities of Hartselle and Falkville and that area of the City of Decatur located within the boundaries of Morgan County, subject to any resolution or ordinance by the governing bodies of the respective cities and towns, within their respective jurisdictions. The governing bodies may promulgate rules and regulations for the licensing and operation of bingo games, within their respective jurisdictions. The governing bodies shall insure compliance pursuant to any ordinance and the following:
 - (1) No person under the age of 19 years shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, nor shall any person under the age of 19 years be permitted to conduct or assist in the operation of any game of bingo.
 - (2) No bingo license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless the organization shall have been in existence for at least three years in the county immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license.
 - (3) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises are leased, the rate of rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games.
 - (4) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization. No nonprofit organization shall pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game.
 - (5) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by any other person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating the bingo game.
 - (6) Prizes given by any nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value set by the Legislature during any bingo session during any calendar week.

(7) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition thereof, shall take any expense for the operation of a bingo game except as permitted by law.

(b) The Legislature may, by local legislation, provide for the implementation of this amendment, including, but not limited to, the imposition of criminal penalties for violations of this amendment or the local legislation.

(c) The Legislature, may by local law, provide for the operation of bingo games for prizes or money by nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes within any other city located within the boundaries of Morgan County pursuant to subsection (a) of Section 1 of this constitutional amendment.

Amendment 600 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 386.

Amendment To Subsection (f) of Amendment No. 386

"(f) Prizes given by any nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games in Jefferson County shall not exceed the amounts set by local law;"

Article Sources and Contributors

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Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 601-700

Amendment 601 ratified

Compensation of Judge of Probate of Barbour County.

(a) Effective October 1, 1997, the Judge of Probate of Barbour County shall receive compensation in the form of an annual salary in the amount provided by general or local law, which salary may be set from time to time by the Legislature. The salary paid in lieu of all other fees, allowances, and percentages heretofore provided by law, shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund in the county treasury.

(b) All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges collected for the use of the Judge of Probate of Barbour County shall continue to be collected, but shall be paid into the county general fund.

Amendment 602 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Program for Certain Elected Public Officials in Coosa County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

A mayor, sheriff, or elected or appointed Coosa County official shall not assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every mayor, sheriff, and elected or appointed Coosa County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Coosa County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 603 ratified

Commission Authorized to Levy Ad Valorem Tax for Fire Protection in Hale County.

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes levied, the Hale County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1996, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located in Hale County at a rate of two mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property, the proceeds of which shall be paid into the county general fund and distributed for the benefit of fire protection.

(b) Within 30 days of payment into the county general fund, the county commission shall pay the funds to the Hale County Fire Fighters Association. The county association shall divide the funds equally among all eligible volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission at each monthly meeting of the county association. The county commission and the county association may jointly establish rules regarding the transfer, investing, accounting, and handling of the funds.

(c) Funds paid to eligible volunteer fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services, including training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. All eligible volunteer fire department shall mean a volunteer fire department located in Hale County that is certified under the guidelines of the Alabama Forestry

Commission and is a member in good standing of the Hale County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. The funds may not be expended for salaries, food, drink, social activities, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15th of each year, each department and the Alabama Forestry Commission shall file a form with the county association detailing the expenditures of all funds during the previous 12 months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department and the Alabama Forestry Commission.

(d) The Alabama Forestry Commission's share of these funds collected shall be used in Hale County only. The funds shall be used for buildings and purchase of equipment. The funds shall not be expended for salaries.

(e) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible volunteer fire department, any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the county association.

(f) The personnel of volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission shall not be considered as employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission.

Amendment 604 ratified

Special Fire Protection Property Tax in Henry County.

The Legislature declares that the fire departments which receive funds pursuant to this amendment are organizations which are public in nature, as they promote and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the county.

In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter provided by law, there shall be levied and collected in Henry County a special property tax of two mills on each one dollar's worth of taxable property as assessed for the state ad valorem taxation during the preceding year. The proceeds of the additional taxes levied by this amendment shall be used exclusively for fire protection services.

The Revenue Commissioner of Henry County shall assess the tax herein provided for, and shall collect the tax in the same manner and method that other ad valorem taxes are collected. The proceeds shall be divided by the revenue commissioner on an equal basis among the six eligible volunteer fire departments in the county.

An eligible fire department, for purposes of this amendment, means a fire department in Henry County which is a member in good standing with the Alabama Volunteer Fire Department Association.

Funds paid to eligible volunteer fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services including training, supplies, and equipment. The funds may also be expended to purchase liability insurance to insure coverage of acts or omissions which are directly related to the functions of a fire department which are committed by the department or the personnel of a fire department. The funds may not be expended for food, drink, social activities, salaries, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15 of each year, each volunteer fire department shall file a financial statement with the Henry County Commission detailing the expenditure of all funds received from this amendment during the previous 12 months. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated.

Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible fire department, any remaining funds derived from this amendment or any assets purchased with funds derived from this amendment shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be divided equally among the remaining volunteer fire departments in the county. In the event all of the volunteer fire departments are dissolved, the additional property tax levied under this amendment shall self-destruct and no longer be levied and collected.

The personnel of volunteer fire departments provided for in this amendment shall not be considered employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of fire departments.

This amendment shall apply to collections of ad valorem taxes for the 1996-97 tax year and thereafter. The initial provisions of this amendment may hereafter be amended by local legislation which may become effective without referendum approval.

Amendment 605 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Houston County.

The Legislature may, from time to time, by general or local laws, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts in Houston County.

Amendment 606 ratified

Election of Board of Education of City of Bessemer.

The Legislature, by local act, may provide for the election of the members of the board of education of the City of Bessemer in Jefferson County and may provide further for the operation of the board.

Amendment 607 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 334.

Amendment No. 334

All vacancies in the office of judge of the circuit court and the office of judge of the district court holding in Madison County shall be filled in the manner and for the time as herein provided.

The Madison County Judicial Commission is created for the purpose of nominating to the Governor persons for appointment to such a vacancy. The commission shall be composed of nine members. The members of the commission shall be two persons who are members of the Alabama State Bar, one judge of the circuit court holding in Madison County, two members appointed by Members of the Alabama House of Representatives who represent Madison County, irrespective of whether such Members of the House of Representatives reside in Madison County, two members appointed by Members of the Alabama Senate who represent Madison County, irrespective of whether such Members of the Senate reside in Madison County, and two members appointed jointly by these Members of the House of Representatives and Members of the Senate.

All members of the commission shall reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding in Madison County.

The two members of the commission who are required to be members of the Alabama State Bar shall be elected by the members of such bar who are regularly licensed and qualified to practice law in this state and who reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding in Madison County. The Executive Committee of the Madison County Bar Association or its successor body in such capacity, is authorized and directed to make rules, not inconsistent with this amendment, for the election of such members of the commission as are required to be members of the Alabama State Bar. The executive committee shall certify in writing to the Judge of Probate of Madison County the names of the persons elected as members of the commission by these members of the bar.

The Members of the Alabama House of Representatives who represent Madison County, irrespective of whether these members reside in Madison County, shall make one initial appointment of a member of the commission immediately upon the adoption of the amendment adding this amendatory language and shall make the other initial appointment upon the first expiration of the term of office of a member previously appointed pursuant to this

amendment by the Senators and Representatives in the Alabama Legislature residing in Madison County. These Members of the Alabama House of Representatives representing Madison County shall make all succeeding appointments to these two positions. These appointees shall not be members of the Alabama State Bar.

The Members of the Alabama Senate representing Madison County, irrespective of whether these members reside in Madison County, shall make one initial appointment of a member of the commission immediately upon the adoption of the amendment adding this amendatory language and shall make the other initial appointment upon the expiration of the term of office of the last member previously appointed pursuant to this amendment by the Senators and Representatives of the Alabama Legislature residing in Madison County. These Members of the Alabama Senate representing Madison County shall make all succeeding appointments to these two positions. These appointees shall not be members of the Alabama State Bar.

The Members of the House of Representatives and Senate representing Madison County, irrespective of whether these members reside in Madison County, shall jointly make two initial appointments upon the adoption of the amendment adding this amendatory language. These Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall jointly make all succeeding appointments to these two positions. These appointees shall not be members of the Alabama State Bar.

These Members of the House of Representatives and Senate, respectively, shall certify in writing to the Judge of Probate of Madison County the names of persons appointed by them to the commission.

The judges of the circuit court holding in Madison County shall elect the member of the commission who is required to be a judge of the circuit court. The judges of the circuit court shall certify in writing to the judge of probate the name of the circuit judge elected by the circuit judges as a member.

The terms of office of all members of the commission shall be six years. A vacancy in the office of a member of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the member was originally chosen.

The Judge of Probate of Madison County shall record all such certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original certificates. Forthwith upon his or her receipt and recordation of every certificate, the judge of probate shall send to the Governor a certified copy of every certificate.

No member of the commission shall be eligible for nomination to the Governor for appointment as judge of the circuit court or the district court during the term of office of the commission member.

The members of the commission shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their services as members. No member of the commission other than the member required to be a judge of the circuit court shall hold any public office, and no member of the commission shall hold any official position in any political party.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of judge of the circuit court or the office of judge of the district court holding in Madison County, the commission shall nominate to the Governor three persons having the qualifications for the office. The names of all persons considered for nomination shall be available for review by the public and shall be deemed a public record. A nomination shall be made only by the concurrence of at least five members of the commission, which vote shall be conducted at a public meeting. The member of the commission elected by the judges of the circuit court holding in Madison County shall only vote on matters before the commission in instances when the vote by other commission members has resulted in a tie. The Governor shall appoint to the office in which the vacancy exists one of the three persons so nominated for the office. If the Governor fails to make an appointment from the list within 30 days from the date it is presented to the Governor, the appointment shall be made by the Chief Justice or the acting Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from the same list. The appointee shall hold such office until the next general election for any state officer held at least six months after the vacancy occurs and until a successor is elected and qualified. At the general election, the judicial office shall be filled for a full term of office to commence on the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the general election.

Amendment 608 ratified

Ratification of Levy and Collection of Certain Sales and Use Taxes in School District No. 1 in Madison County.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to the contrary notwithstanding, all sales and use taxes for public school or education purposes imposed pursuant to Act No. 82-525 in School District One in Madison County which have been approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors of School District One in Madison County prior to January 1, 1996, and the levy and collection thereof from the date of the initial levy thereof, are hereby authorized, ratified, and confirmed regardless of any statutory or constitutional defects, mistakes, errors, or ambiguities, including without limitation, with respect to the authorization, adoption, or levy thereof or the election thereon, any failure to publish any required notice, or any act of or failure to act by the Legislature with respect thereto; provided, however, that the authorization, ratification, and confirmation effected by this amendment shall not be applicable to any sales and use tax which is being challenged in appropriate judicial proceedings in any proper court on the date the act proposing this amendment is adopted.

Amendment 609 ratified

Judge of Probate of Marengo County; Compensation, Fees, Etc.

(a) The Judge of Probate of Marengo County shall receive compensation in the form of an annual salary which shall be equal to ninety percent of the annual salary compensation paid by the state to the district court judge of the county. The salary shall be paid in lieu of all other fees, allowances, and percentages heretofore provided by law and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the general fund of the county treasury.

(b) All fees, commissions, allowances, percentages, and other charges heretofore collected for the use of the Judge of Probate of Marengo County shall continue to be collected by the judge of probate, but shall be paid into the county general fund.

(c) The County Commission of Marengo County shall provide the judge of probate with office personnel, clerks and deputies, and with quarters, books, stationery, furniture, equipment, and other supplies necessary for the proper and efficient conduct of the office of the judge of probate. Compensation of the personnel shall be fixed by the county commission and shall be paid in equal monthly installments out of the General Fund of Marengo County.

(d) This amendment shall be effective January 1 after its approval.

Amendment 610 ratified

Commission Authorized to Levy Ad Valorem Tax for Fire Protection in Marengo County.

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes levied, the Marengo County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1997, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located in Marengo County, excluding the city limits of Demopolis, at a rate of two mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property, the proceeds of which shall be paid into the county general fund and distributed for the benefit of fire protection.

(b) Within 90 days of payment into the county general fund, the county commission shall pay the funds to the Marengo County Association of Fire and Rescue Departments, Incorporated. The county association shall divide the funds equally among all the eligible volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission at each quarter meeting of the county association. The county commission and the county association may jointly establish rules regarding the transfer, investing, accounting, and handling of the funds.

(c) Funds paid to eligible volunteer fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services, including training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. An eligible volunteer fire department shall mean a volunteer fire department located in Marengo County that is certified under the guidelines of the Alabama Forestry

Commission and is a member in good standing of the Marengo County Association of Fire and Rescue Departments, Incorporated. The funds may not be expended for salaries, food, drink, social activities, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15th of each year, each department and the Alabama Forestry Commission shall file a form with the county association detailing the expenditures of all funds during the previous 12 months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department and the Alabama Forestry Commission.

(d) The Alabama Forestry Commission's share of these funds collected shall be used in Marengo County only. The funds shall be used for buildings and purchase of equipment. The funds shall not be expended for salaries.

(e) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible volunteer fire department, any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the county association.

(f) The personnel of volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission shall not be considered as employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission.

Amendment 611 ratified

Validation of Laws Regulating Court Costs in Randolph County.

All general laws, local laws, and population based laws previously enacted by the Legislature and which are in effect on January 1, 1996, pertaining to or applicable to Randolph County which in whole or in part regulate costs and charges of courts are hereby ratified, approved, validated, and confirmed as of the date of their enactment. Any actions taken or payments made in accordance with those laws are hereby ratified, approved, validated, and confirmed. This amendment shall not be construed as prohibiting the Legislature from properly enacting a law to amend or repeal those laws. The Legislature may, by local law, increase or decrease costs and charges of courts.

Amendment 612 ratified

Bingo Games in Russell County.

(a) The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by certain nonprofit organizations and certain private clubs for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in Russell County, subject to any resolution or ordinance by the county commission as provided by law regulating the operation of bingo. The county commission may promulgate rules and regulations for issuing permits or licenses and for operating bingo games within the jurisdiction of the county. The county commission shall insure compliance pursuant to any ordinance and the following:

(1) No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian. No person under the age of 19 shall be permitted to conduct or assist in the conduct of any game of bingo.

(2) Except for special permit holders, no bingo permit or license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization or qualified private club, unless the organization or club shall have been in existence for at least five years and owned real property in the county for five years immediately prior to issuing the permit or license, except the following:

a. A fraternal, or benevolent, or charitable organization which qualifies as an exempt organization under Section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code.

b. A private club with annual membership dues of three hundred dollars (\$300) or more.

(3) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization or club operating the bingo game. If the premises are leased, the rate or rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from operating the bingo games.

(4) No nonprofit organization or club shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization or club. No nonprofit organization or club may pay consulting fees, any compensation or salary to any individual or entity for any services performed relating to operating or conducting any bingo game.

(5) A nonprofit organization or club shall not lend its name or allow any other person or entity to use its identity in operating or advertising a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization or club is not directly and solely operating the bingo game or concessions.

(6) Prizes given by any qualified nonprofit organization or qualified private club for playing bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value, set by the Legislature, during any bingo session. The Legislature shall set a maximum amount for any calendar week.

(7) One hundred percent of the net revenues derived from operating bingo games shall be designated and expended for charitable or educational purposes.

(8) No person, or organization or club, by whatever name or composition, shall take any expenses for operating a bingo game except as permitted by law.

(b) The Legislature may, by local legislation, provide for the implementation of this amendment, including, but not limited to, the imposition of criminal penalties for violations of this amendment or the local legislation.

Amendment 613 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in St. Clair County; Distribution of Additional Revenue.

The Legislature may, from time to time, by general, special, or local law, regulate and alter the costs and charges of court in St. Clair County and provide for the distribution of any additional revenue for the purpose of establishing, operating, and maintaining the juvenile court system and juvenile programs in the county.

Amendment 614 ratified

Fire Protection Districts in Talladega County.

The Legislature may, by local law, from time to time, provide for the establishment of districts in Talladega County for fire protection and provide for mandatory annual dues in the districts. The Legislature shall provide for the operation of the districts and for the collection and disposition of the mandatory annual dues. The Legislature may limit the liability of the county for the operation of a district and provide that a district shall be exempt from all taxation. The districts may include incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county which need and are willing to subscribe to the fire protection services.

Amendment 615 ratified

Procedure for Filling Vacancies in Office of Judge of Circuit Court, Judge of District Court, and District Attorney in Talladega County.

In Talladega County, all vacancies in the offices of judge of the circuit court, judge of the district court, and district attorney shall be filled in the manner and for the time as provided in this amendment.

The Talladega County Judicial Commission is created for the purpose of nominating to the Governor persons for appointment to any vacancy in the offices of judge of the circuit court, judge of the district court, and district attorney. The five members of the commission shall consist of the following: The presiding judge of the Circuit Court of Talladega County, as a nonvoting ex officio member who may only vote in the event of a tie vote among the other four members of the commission, and who shall preside over all meetings of the commission; the commissioner of the Alabama State Board of Bar Commissioners representing Talladega County, as an ex officio voting member; and three residents of Talladega County who are not members of the Alabama State Bar. Appointed members shall serve for terms of four years. A vacancy in the office of a member of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the member was originally chosen. The term of office for the initial appointed members of the commission shall begin immediately upon appointment.

The nonlawyer members of the commission shall be appointed by mutual consent of the members of the state Legislature who represent Talladega County. The nonlawyer members of the commission shall not be eligible to serve two successive terms.

The presiding judge of the Circuit Court of Talladega County shall certify in writing to the Judge of Probate of Talladega County his or her own name and the name of the Alabama State Bar Commissioner representing Talladega County, as ex officio members. The appropriate members of the state Legislature representing Talladega County shall certify in writing to the Judge of Probate of Talladega County the names of the three resident members appointed to the commission.

The Judge of Probate of Talladega County shall record all certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original and all subsequent certificates of election. Immediately upon receipt and recordation of a certificate of election, the judge of probate shall send a certified copy to the Governor.

No member of the commission shall seek appointment as a judge of the circuit court, judge of the district court, or district attorney during the term of office for which the member has been selected.

The members of the commission shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their service as members. No appointed member of the commission shall hold any public office. No member of the commission shall hold any official position in any political party.

If, after the ratification of this amendment, a vacancy occurs in Talladega County in the offices of judge of the circuit court, judge of the district court, or district attorney, the presiding judge of the Circuit Court of Talladega County shall call a meeting of the commission to fill the vacancy. The commission shall nominate three persons having the qualifications for the vacant office. The nominations shall be made only by the concurrence of a majority of the members of the commission. The presiding judge of the circuit court shall certify the three nominees to the Governor, who shall appoint one to the office in which the vacancy exists. If the Governor fails to make an appointment from the submitted list within 30 days from the date of submission, the appointment shall be made from the list by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama. If the appointment is for a judicial vacancy, the appointee shall hold office for an initial term lasting until the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the next general election held after completing one year in office. At the election, the judicial office shall be filled for a full term of office beginning at the end of the appointed term. If the appointment is for the office of district attorney, the appointee shall hold office for the term or the remainder of the unexpired term as provided by law.

Amendment 616 ratified

Appropriations of Cellular Radio Telecommunication Service Tax Funds for Payment on Outstanding Bonds of Alabama Revolving Loan Fund Authority.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Legislature may appropriate the revenue and other funds received or collected pursuant to any cellular radio telecommunication service tax to pay the principal at maturity and any interest due on the outstanding bonds issued by the Alabama Revolving Loan Fund Authority or its successor authority.

Amendment 617 ratified

Indebtedness by State for State Parks System and Historical Sites.

The State of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for the purpose of the acquisition, provision, construction, improvement, renovation, equipping, and maintenance of the state parks system, public historical sites, and public historical parks, and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to sell and issue bonds, in addition to all other bonds of the state, not exceeding one hundred ten million dollars (\$110,000,000) in aggregate principal amount. The bonds shall be direct general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. One hundred four million dollars (\$104,000,000) of the bonds shall be issued for the state by the Alabama State Parks System Improvement Corporation pursuant to the appropriate resolutions adopted by the board of directors of the corporation and the proceeds thereof shall be appropriated and used exclusively for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance of the bonds and for payment of the costs of the acquisition, provision, construction, improvement, renovation, equipping, and maintenance of the state parks system; provided, any lake acquired and/or built with the proceeds thereof by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources as a part of a state park must have a minimum buffer of six hundred (600) lateral feet between the shoreline and any private property. In the event that the water from any said lake is sold, the cost thereof shall be equal to the periodic costs for that portion of the bond issue incurred by the Alabama State Parks System Improvement Corporation for said lake, and shall be repaid to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources at the same rate as the debt service on said bond issue. Such acquisition, provision, construction, improvement, renovation, equipping and maintenance of the state parks system, shall be completed at the direction of the Alabama State Parks System Improvement Corporation with the advice and concurrence of the Joint Legislative Committee on State Parks, and all state park system land and facilities, except for existing concession operations or other existing permitted operations, shall thereafter be exclusively and solely operated and maintained by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Six million dollars (\$6,000,000) of the bonds shall be issued for the state by the Alabama Public Historical Sites and Parks Improvement Corporation pursuant to the appropriate resolutions adopted by the board of directors of the corporation and the proceeds thereof shall be appropriated and used exclusively for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance of the bonds and for the payment of the costs of the acquisition, provision, construction, improvement, renovations, equipping, and maintenance of public historical sites and public historical parks not under the jurisdiction of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Such acquisition, provision, construction, improvement, renovation, equipping, and maintenance of public historical sites and public historical parks shall be completed at the direction of the Alabama Public Historical Sites and Parks Improvement Corporation and shall thereafter be operated by the Alabama Historical Commission, or other entity as authorized by the commission, with the advice and concurrence of the Joint Legislative Committee on State Parks.

The State of Alabama is further authorized to become indebted and in evidence thereof to sell and issue one or more series of bonds to refund all or any of the bonds hereinabove authorized by this amendment in such principal amount or amounts, which may exceed the principal amount of the bonds being refunded, and in such manner as may be provided by law duly enacted by the Legislature.

The aforesaid corporations are hereby vested with the power and authority to provide for the sale and terms of the bonds hereby authorized and the issuance thereof, subject to the approval of the Governor. The bonds may be sold, executed, and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series, and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state to be exercised by the corporations at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the corporations in the resolution or resolutions whereunder the bonds hereby authorized are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature on such date and in such amounts as shall be specified in the resolution or resolutions of the board of directors of the corporations under which they are issued, the last of which installments shall mature not later than 20 years after the date of the bonds of the same series. All of the bonds, including refunding bonds, shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the corporations, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest true interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the corporation is received, all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the Governor of the State of Alabama and the Great Seal of the State of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the Secretary of State of the State of Alabama; provided that facsimile signatures of either or both of the officers may be reproduced on such bonds in lieu of their manually signing the same.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from all taxation in the state, except inheritance, estate and gift taxes.

The proceeds from the sale of the bonds by the Alabama State Parks System Improvement Corporation hereby authorized, other than refunding bonds, after the payment of all expenses of the sale thereof, shall be set apart in a special fund in the State Treasury to be designated "The Alabama State Parks System Improvement Fund," and such proceeds, together with income derived from the investment and reinvestment thereof, shall be temporarily invested until needed and disbursed, on order of the aforesaid corporation solely for the purposes, hereinabove described, for which the bonds are authorized to be issued.

The proceeds from the sale of the bonds by the Alabama Public Historical Sites and Parks Improvement Corporation hereby authorized, other than refunding bonds, after the payment of all expenses of the sale thereof, shall be set apart in a special fund in the State Treasury to be designated "The Alabama Public Historical Sites and Parks Improvement Fund," and such proceeds, together with income derived from the investment and reinvestment thereof, shall be temporarily invested until needed and disbursed, on order of the aforesaid corporation solely for the purposes, hereinabove described, for which the bonds are authorized to be issued.

No further authorization from the Legislature shall be a prerequisite to the validity of any bonds issued hereunder. However, the Legislature shall enact appropriate legislation implementing the provisions hereof, including provisions for the issuance of refunding bonds as hereinabove authorized.

The Alabama State Parks System Improvement Corporation and the Alabama Public Historical Sites and Parks Improvement Corporation authorized in this constitutional amendment are strongly encouraged to utilize businesses and companies in all aspects of the bond and construction portions of this amendment that reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the state.

Amendment 618 ratified

Indebtedness by State for Animal and Livestock Diagnostic Services and Education Facilities.

The State of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for the purpose of providing, equipping and improving facilities for the provision of animal and livestock diagnostic services and for use as educational, research and promotional facilities in the fields of agriculture, forestry and veterinary medicine, and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to sell and issue bonds, in addition to all other bonds of the State, not exceeding \$52,000,000 in aggregate principal amount. Said bonds shall be direct general obligations of the State and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the State are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The proceeds from the sale of said bonds are hereby appropriated and shall be used exclusively for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance thereof and for payment of the costs of the construction, alteration, improvement, remodeling, renovation, modernization, enlargement and equipment of buildings and related facilities, including parking areas and ramps, roadways, sewers, curbs, and gutters, but not including the purchase of sites therefor, for use (1) as animal diagnostic laboratories in order to provide improved animal health testing for livestock and poultry producers, veterinarians, animal owners and animal-related businesses generally, (2) in carrying out agricultural and forestry research and for agriculture and forestry, plant science and nursery crop education at post-secondary levels, (3) in the provision of instruction and research in the field of veterinary medicine and (4) in providing agricultural extension services at regional research extension centers. Said bonds shall be issued by the State pursuant to appropriate resolutions adopted by the board of directors of Alabama Agricultural Development Authority, and the proceeds thereof shall be allocated by said Authority for payment of the aforesaid costs in such amounts and manner as shall be authorized by act of the legislature. Such buildings and facilities and improvements thereto shall be constructed at the direction of said Authority and shall thereafter be operated by or in cooperation with the State's Morrill Act land grant universities and those institutions eligible to receive federal appropriations in support of agriculture and forestry extension and research and for the acquisition and improvement of agricultural and food sciences facilities and equipment and such other agencies and institutions as the said Authority shall determine to be appropriate and convenient therefor.

The State of Alabama is further authorized to become indebted and in evidence thereof to sell and issue one or more series of bonds to refund all or any of the bonds hereinabove authorized by this amendment in such principal amount or amounts (which may exceed the principal amount of the bonds being refunded) and in such manner as may be provided by law duly enacted by the legislature.

The aforesaid Authority is hereby vested with the power and authority to provide for the sale and terms of the bonds hereby authorized and the issuance thereof, subject to the approval of the Governor. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the State to be exercised by said Authority at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said Authority in the resolution or resolutions whereunder the bonds hereby authorized are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature on such date in such amounts as shall be specified in the resolution or resolutions of the board of directors of the said Authority under which they are issued, the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty-one years after the date of the bonds of the same series. All of the bonds (including refunding bonds) shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said Authority, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest true interest cost to the State computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said Authority is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the State by the Governor and countersigned by the chairman of the said Authority and the Great Seal of the State of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise

reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the Secretary of State; provided that facsimile signatures of any or all of said officers may be reproduced on such bonds in lieu of their manually signing the same.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from all taxation in the State, except inheritance, estate and gift taxes.

The proceeds from the sale of those bonds hereby authorized (other than refunding bonds), after the payment of all expenses of the sale thereof, shall be set apart in a special fund in the state Treasury to be designated "The Alabama Agricultural, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine Facilities Improvement Fund," and such proceeds shall be temporarily invested until needed and disbursed, together with income derived from the investment and reinvestment thereof, on order of the aforesaid Authority solely for the purposes, hereinabove described, for which said bonds are authorized to be issued. Proceeds and said income so disbursed may be combined with monies derived from other sources or otherwise provided by State institutions in accomplishing said purposes in such manner as said Authority shall direct, but the provision or existence of matching funds from the federal government or other entities or persons shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of any bonds hereunder or to the disbursement of any proceeds thereof or any income earned on such proceeds.

No further authorizations from the legislature shall be a prerequisite to the validity of any bonds issued hereunder. However, the legislature shall enact appropriate legislation implementing the provisions hereof, including provisions for the issuance of refunding bonds as hereinabove authorized.

Amendment 619 ratified

Indebtedness by State for Textile Technology and Education Facilities.

The State of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for the purpose of providing, equipping, and improving facilities for the purpose of providing and equipping a center for cotton, cotton products technology, and for its use as an educational, applied research, and promotional facility in the field of textile and apparel technology, and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to sell and issue bonds, in addition to all other bonds of the state, not exceeding five million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$5,700,000) in aggregate principal amount. Said bonds shall be direct general obligations of the state and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the state are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The proceeds from the sale of said bonds are hereby appropriated and shall be used exclusively for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance thereof and for payment of the costs of the construction, alteration, improvement, remodeling, renovation, modernization, enlargement, and equipment of buildings and related facilities, including parking areas and ramps, roadways, sewers, curbs, and gutters, but not for the purchase of sites for providing and equipping a center for cotton, cotton products technology, and for its use as an educational, applied research, and promotional facility in the field of textile and apparel technology. Said bonds shall be issued by the state pursuant to appropriate resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of the Alabama Agricultural Development Authority, and the proceeds thereof shall be allocated by said authority for payment of the aforesaid costs in such amounts and manner as shall be authorized by an act of the Legislature. Such buildings and facilities and improvements thereto shall be constructed at the direction of said authority and shall thereafter be operated by an agency to be determined by the Alabama Commissioner of Agriculture and Industries in consultation and cooperation with textile and apparel-related businesses and trade associations to include, but not be limited to, the Alabama Textile Manufacturers Association, Inc., under such arrangements as may be authorized by law.

The State of Alabama is further authorized to become indebted and in evidence thereof to sell and issue one or more series of bonds to refund all or any of the bonds hereinabove authorized by this amendment in such principal amount or amounts (which may exceed the principal amount of the bonds being refunded) and in such manner as may be provided by law duly enacted by the Legislature.

The aforesaid authority is hereby vested with the power and authority to provide for the sale and terms of the bonds hereby authorized and the issuance thereof, subject to the approval of the Governor. The bonds may be sold,

executed, and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series, and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the state to be exercised by said authority at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said authority in the resolution or resolutions whereunder the bonds hereby authorized are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature on such date in such amounts as shall be specified in the resolution or resolutions of the board of directors of the said authority under which they are issued, the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty-one years after the date of the bonds of the same series. All of the bonds (including refunding bonds) shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said authority, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest true interest cost to the state computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said authority is received, all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the state by the Governor and countersigned by the chairman of the said authority and the Great Seal of the State of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the Secretary of State; provided that facsimile signatures of any or all of said officers may be reproduced on such bonds in lieu of their manually signing the same.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from all taxation in the state, except inheritance, estate and gift taxes.

The proceeds from the sale of those bonds hereby authorized (other than refunding bonds), after the payment of all expenses of the sale thereof, shall be set apart in a special fund in the State Treasury to be designated "The Alabama Textile Technology Facilities Improvement Fund," and such proceeds shall be temporarily invested until needed and disbursed, together with income derived from the investment and reinvestment thereof, on order of the aforesaid authority solely for the purposes, hereinabove described, for which said bonds are authorized to be issued. Proceeds and said income so disbursed may be combined with moneys derived from other sources or otherwise provided by state institutions in accomplishing said purposes in such manner as said authority shall direct, but the provision or existence of matching funds from the federal government or other entities or persons shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of any bonds hereunder or to the disbursements of any proceeds thereof or any income earned on such proceeds.

No further authorization from the Legislature shall be a prerequisite to the validity of any bonds issued hereunder. However, the Legislature shall enact appropriate legislation implementing the provisions hereof, including provisions for the issuance of refunding bonds as hereinabove authorized.

Amendment 620 ratified

Indebtedness by State for Forensic Sciences Laboratories and Education Facilities.

The State of Alabama is authorized to become indebted for the purpose of providing, equipping and improving facilities in the State for use as forensic laboratories and education facilities for the provision of instruction and research in the field of forensic sciences and in evidence of the indebtedness so incurred to sell and issue bonds, in addition to all other bonds of the State, not exceeding \$17,500,000 in aggregate principal amount. Said bonds shall be direct general obligations of the State and the full faith and credit and taxing power of the State are hereby pledged to the prompt and faithful payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon. The proceeds from the sale of said bonds are hereby appropriated and shall be used exclusively for the purpose of paying the expenses incurred in the sale and issuance thereof and for payment of the costs of the construction, alteration, improvement, remodeling, renovation, modernization, enlargement and equipment of buildings and related facilities, including parking areas and ramps, roadways, sewers, curbs, and gutters, including the purchase of sites therefor, for use as forensic sciences laboratories and educational facilities for the provision of instruction and research in the field of

forensic sciences. None of the proceeds derived from the sale of the bonds may be used to pay rents for the use of real or personal property or to make payments under any lease with option to purchase or similar contractual arrangement. Said bonds shall be issued by the State pursuant to appropriate resolutions adopted by the board of directors of Alabama Forensic Sciences Bond Authority, and the proceeds thereof shall be allocated by said authority for payment of the aforesaid costs in such amounts and manner as shall be authorized by act of the legislature.

The State of Alabama is further authorized to become indebted and in evidence thereof to sell and issue one or more series of bonds to refund all or any of the bonds hereinabove authorized by this amendment in such principal amount or amounts (which may exceed the principal amount of the bonds being refunded) and in such manner as may be provided by law duly enacted by the legislature.

The aforesaid Authority is hereby vested with the power and authority to provide for the sale and terms of the bonds hereby authorized and the issuance thereof, subject to the approval Governor. The bonds may be sold, executed and delivered at any time and from time to time, may be in such forms, denominations, series and numbers, may be of such tenor and maturities, may bear such date or dates, may be payable in such installments and at such place or places, may bear interest at such rate or rates payable and evidenced in such manner, and may contain provisions for redemption at the option of the State to be exercised by said Authority at such date or dates prior to their maturity and upon payment of such redemption price or prices, all as shall be provided by the said Authority in the resolution or resolutions whereunder the bonds hereby authorized are issued. The principal of each series of bonds shall mature on such date in such amounts as shall be specified in the resolution or resolutions of the board of directors of the said Authority under which they are issued, the last of which installments shall mature not later than twenty-one years after the date of the bonds of the same series. All of the bonds (including refunding bonds) shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the said Authority, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest true interest cost to the State computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the said Authority is received all bids may be rejected.

The bonds shall be signed in the name of the State by the Governor and countersigned by the chairman of the said Authority and the Great Seal of the State of Alabama or a facsimile thereof shall be impressed, printed or otherwise reproduced thereon and shall be attested by the signature of the Secretary of State; provided that facsimile signatures of any or all of said officers may be reproduced on such bonds in lieu of their manually signing the same.

All bonds issued under the provisions of this amendment, together with the interest income thereon, shall forever be exempt from all taxation in the State, except inheritance, estate and gift taxes.

The proceeds from the sale of those bonds hereby authorized (other than refunding bonds), after the payment of all expenses of the sale thereof, shall be set apart in a special fund in the state Treasury to be designated "The Forensic Sciences Facilities Improvement Fund," and such proceeds shall be temporarily invested until needed and disbursed, together with income derived from the investment and reinvestment thereof, on order of the aforesaid Authority solely for the purposes, hereinabove described, for which said bonds are authorized to be issued. Proceeds and said income so disbursed may be combined with monies derived from other sources or otherwise provided by State institutions in accomplishing said purposes in such manner as said Authority shall direct, but the provision or existence of matching funds from the federal government or other entities or persons shall not be a prerequisite to the issuance of any bonds hereunder or to the disbursement of any proceeds thereof or any income earned on such proceeds.

The Alabama Forensic Sciences Bond Authority shall, to the extent possible and practical, utilize businesses and companies in all aspects of the bond and construction portions of this amendment that reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the state.

No further authorizations from the legislature shall be a prerequisite to the validity of any bonds issued hereunder. However, the legislature shall enact appropriate legislation implementing the provisions hereof, including provisions for the issuance of refunding bonds as hereinabove authorized.

[1]

Amendment 622 ratified

Alabama Religious Freedom Amendment.

SECTION I. The amendment shall be known as and may be cited as the Alabama Religious Freedom Amendment.

SECTION II. The Legislature makes the following findings concerning religious freedom:

- (1) The framers of the United States Constitution, recognizing free exercise of religion as an unalienable right, secured its protection in the First Amendment to the Constitution, and the framers of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, also recognizing this right, secured the protection of religious freedom in Article I, Section 3.
- (2) Federal and state laws "neutral" toward religion may burden religious exercise as surely as laws intended to interfere with religious exercise.
- (3) Governments should not burden religious exercise without compelling justification.
- (4) In *Employment Division v. Smith*, 494 U.S. 872 (1990), the United States Supreme Court virtually eliminated the requirement that the government justify burdens on religious exercise imposed by laws neutral toward religion.
- (5) The compelling interest test as set forth in prior court rulings is a workable test for striking sensible balances between religious liberty and competing governmental interests in areas ranging from public education (pedagogical interests and religious rights, including recognizing regulations necessary to alleviate interference with the educational process versus rights of religious freedom) to national defense (conscription and conscientious objection, including the need to raise an army versus rights to object to individual participation), and other areas of important mutual concern.
- (6) Congress passed the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, 42 U.S.C., § 2000bb, to establish the compelling interest test set forth in prior federal court rulings, but in *City of Boerne v. Flores*, 117 S.Ct. 2157 (1997), the United States Supreme Court held the act unconstitutional stating that the right to regulate was retained by the states.

SECTION III. The purpose of the Alabama Religious Freedom Amendment is to guarantee that the freedom of religion is not burdened by state and local law; and to provide a claim or defense to persons whose religious freedom is burdened by government.

SECTION IV. As used in this amendment, the following words shall have the following meanings:

- (1) **DEMONSTRATES.** Meets the burdens of going forward with the evidence and of persuasion.
- (2) **FREEDOM OF RELIGION.** The free exercise of religion under Article I, Section 3, of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.
- (3) **GOVERNMENT.** Any branch, department, agency, instrumentality, and official (or other person acting under the color of law) of the State of Alabama, any political subdivision of a state, municipality, or other local government.
- (4) **RULE.** Any government statute, regulation, ordinance, administrative provision, ruling guideline, requirement, or any statement of law whatever.

SECTION V. (a) Government shall not burden a person's freedom of religion even if the burden results from a rule of general applicability, except as provided in subsection (b).

(b) Government may burden a person's freedom of religion only if it demonstrates that application of the burden to the person:

- (1) Is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest; and
 - (2) Is the least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest.
- (c) A person whose religious freedom has been burdened in violation of this section may assert that violation as a claim or defense in a judicial, administrative, or other proceeding and obtain appropriate relief against a government.

SECTION VI. (a) This amendment applies to all government rules and implementations thereof, whether statutory or otherwise, and whether adopted before or after the effective date of this amendment.

(b) Nothing in this amendment shall be construed to authorize any government to burden any religious belief.

(c) Nothing in this amendment shall be construed to affect, interpret, or in any way address those portions of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution permitting the free exercise of religion or prohibiting laws respecting the establishment of religion, or those provisions of Article I, Section 3, of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, regarding the establishment of religion.

SECTION VII. (a) This amendment shall be liberally construed to effectuate its remedial and deterrent purposes.

(b) If any provision of this amendment or its application to any particular person or circumstance is held invalid, that provision or its application is severable and does not affect the validity of other provisions or applications of this amendment.

Amendment 623 ratified

Trust Funds for Continuing Benefit of Certain Cities.

Part I. As used in this amendment, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(a) **AUTHORIZED CITY.** Any city in which the voters have authorized the establishment of one or more trust funds in the manner provided in this amendment, notwithstanding Section 94 of this Constitution.

(b) **AUTHORIZED INVESTMENT.** Any investment authorized by law for the investment of any of the trust funds of either the Teachers' Retirement System of Alabama or the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama.

(c) **AUTHORIZING ORDINANCE.** An ordinance of an authorized city adopted in accordance with this amendment.

(d) **CITY.** Any city with a population of 150,000 or more according to the latest federal decennial census.

(e) **GOVERNING BODY.** The city council, city commission, or other legislative body authorized under general law to adopt ordinances for the operation and governance of a city.

(f) **INVESTMENT POLICY.** A written statement setting forth the mode and manner for investing the assets of a trust fund in authorized investments, establishing benchmarks and criteria for measuring investment performance and compliance with the investment policy, and specifying a requirement for the preparation and publication of periodic reports on investment performance and investment policy compliance.

(g) **TRUST FUND.** A fund established pursuant to this amendment.

Part II. The governing body of any authorized city may establish by ordinance one or more trust funds for the continuing benefit of the authorized city and its citizens which shall be funded and administered in accordance with the ordinance and this amendment.

Part III. The authorizing ordinance shall include the following provisions:

(a) The amount and source of funds to be initially set aside in the trust fund.

(b) The conditions of expenditure of the principal of or earnings on the assets of the trust fund, or any other conditions, which conditions may include a request by the mayor, approval by any specified number of members of the governing body of the authorized city greater than a simple majority of the members, or any other conditions.

(c) An investment policy for the trust fund.

(d) Provision for the custody of the assets of the trust fund by the finance director of the authorized city, or a bank, savings association or trust company with a place of business in Alabama, which is organized and existing under the laws of this state, any other state of the United States, or the United States and which is authorized pursuant to the laws of this state or the United States, to conduct, and is conducting in this state, the business of a trust company, or with respect to a bank or savings association, the business of making loans and taking deposits, selected in a manner specified in the authorizing ordinance.

(e) Any other provisions, not inconsistent with this amendment, as may be deemed appropriate by the governing body.

Part IV. An authorizing ordinance once adopted may be subsequently amended only as proposed in an ordinance adopted by the governing body, approved by the mayor, and approved by a majority of the qualified electors of an authorized city voting at an election called for such purpose. Approval by a majority of the qualified electors shall not be required for an amendment to an authorizing ordinance for the sole purpose of providing for the deposit of additional funds or authorized investments into a previously established trust fund. An authorized city may call and pay the expenses of elections for the purpose of considering amendments to an authorizing ordinance.

Part V. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of a city who vote thereon vote in favor of the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted to them for approval, the governing body may establish one or more trust funds as provided in this amendment. In the event this amendment is approved and a majority of the qualified electors of a city who vote thereon vote against the adoption of this amendment when it is submitted to them for approval, the authority to establish one or more trust funds as provided herein shall not be given unless the question of authority to establish trust funds is again submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of a city and voted in the affirmative by a majority of those voting at the election. Each such election shall be ordered, held, canvassed, and may be contested in the same manner as is provided by law applicable to the city for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds. In the event the authority to establish trust funds is defeated, subsequent elections for the approval of the authority may be held again, but no election shall be held within one year of any previous election. Once authority to establish trust funds has been approved, no further election shall be required thereon.

Part VI. The authority and powers conferred by this amendment are intended to be in addition to, and not in derogation of, authority and powers otherwise provided by law.

Part VII. This amendment is intended to supersede any conflicting constitutional provisions or statutes. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Legislature may enact laws supplemental to this amendment and in furtherance of the purposes and objectives thereof, provided that those laws are not inconsistent with the express provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 624 ratified

Promotion of Economic Development in Marengo County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development of Marengo County, Marengo County and each municipality having its corporate limits located wholly in the county, other provisions of law or this constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one or more of such governmental entities, without an election, full and continuing power to do all of the following:

- (1) To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind.
- (2) To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision (1) above, to any person, firm, association, or corporation.
- (3) To promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
- (4) To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
- (5) To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding 50 percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease, or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision (1)

or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or any such municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.

(6) To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the county or any such municipality may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the Judge of Probate or the Secretary of State, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county or any such municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized shall be conclusive, and no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further. The bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences or indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the county or any such municipality for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county or any such municipality under Section 224 or 225 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither the county nor any such municipality shall be subject to the provisions of Section 94 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. This amendment shall be self-executing, but notwithstanding any contrary provisions of Section 104 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, the Legislature shall have the right and power by general, special, or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth. No such special or local act shall be subject to the provisions of Section 106 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

Any actions authorized in this Amendment to be taken by the county or any such municipality which have been taken subsequent to January 1, 1998, are hereby ratified, approved, and confirmed.

Amendment 625 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Bibb County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed Sheriff of Bibb County, or any elected or appointed Bibb County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and other elected or appointed Bibb County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Bibb County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit. All costs associated with the purchase of prior service credit as prescribed in Section 36-27-6.1, Code of Alabama 1975, shall be the responsibility of the official making the purchase.

Amendment 626 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Autauga County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

(a) For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Autauga County official" shall mean any person holding an office that entitles the person to participate in a supernumerary program or any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official.

(b) An elected or appointed Autauga County official may not assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in that supernumerary program, may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Autauga County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Elected or appointed Autauga County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office and must make the election within one year of the effective date of this amendment.

Amendment 627 ratified

Annexation in Baldwin County.

In Baldwin County, the Legislature may not enact a local law annexing to a municipality any territory that is separated from the annexing municipality by a body of water or separated from the annexing municipality by an interstate highway and not contiguous and connected to the municipality by a publicly owned and maintained underpass, overpass, or exchange allowing toll-free two-way access to and from the annexing municipality unless the annexation is subject to approval at a referendum election in the territory to be annexed.

Amendment 628 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Bibb County.

In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized in Bibb County, the Bibb County Commission may impose by resolution of the commission an additional fee in an amount not to exceed thirty-five dollars (\$35) to be assessed and taxed as costs on each civil case and on each criminal case, including traffic cases, but excluding small claims cases, filed in the circuit court, district court, or any municipal court in Bibb County, as well as an additional fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5) for the service of a pleading or other document in connection with any action or case. These fees shall not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the case are waived.

The additional fees when collected by the clerks or their collection officers of the courts shall be paid into the General Fund of Bibb County to be used by the Bibb County Commission for the planning, designing, construction, financing, furnishing, equipping, and operation of a new county jail. The Bibb County Commission may set and adjust by resolution the fees within the limits authorized by this amendment based on the needs associated with the county new jail.

Amendment 629 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Calhoun County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

(a) For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall mean any person holding an office that entitles the person to participate in a supernumerary program or any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official.

(b) A mayor, sheriff, or elected or appointed Calhoun County official may not assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every mayor, sheriff, or elected or appointed Calhoun County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Calhoun County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office and must make the election within one year of the effective date of this amendment.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b), the county commission may negotiate terms of any contract with a sheriff, mayor, or elected or appointed official who under this amendment will be eligible to participate in the Employees' Retirement System.

Amendment 630 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Cherokee County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Cherokee County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Cherokee County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Cherokee County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Cherokee County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Cherokee County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Cherokee County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 631 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Clarke County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected Clarke County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established the particular supernumerary program. Any elected Clarke County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. An elected Clarke County official holding office at the effective date of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service

credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the elected county official has served in the current office; provided, however, the elected county official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For purposes of this amendment, the term "elected Clarke County official" shall mean any person elected to a full-time Clarke County office, and shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, board of education member, any official elected from a judicial circuit, or any official who is allowed by law to participate in any other retirement system.

Amendment 632 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Cleburne County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Cleburne County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Cleburne County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Cleburne County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Cleburne County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Cleburne County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Cleburne County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 633 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Coffee County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

(a) For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall mean any person holding an office that entitles the person to participate in a supernumerary program or any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official.

(b) An or elected or appointed Coffee County official may not assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Coffee County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Coffee County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office and must make the election within one year of the effective date of this amendment.

Amendment 634 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Conecuh County.

In addition to any court costs or fees now or hereafter authorized, and notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution, including without limitation Sections 96, 104, and 105, there shall be an additional forty dollars (\$40) fee assessed and taxed as costs on each civil and criminal case, excluding small claims, filed in circuit court, district court, or any municipal court in Conecuh County, as well as a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5) for the service of all pleadings and other documents in connection with any such action or case. The fees may not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the cases are waived. The additional fees, when collected by the clerks or other collection officers of the courts, shall be paid into the General Fund of Conecuh County to be used by the county commission for the planning, designing, construction, financing, and operation of a new county jail and the planning, design, repair, renovation, financing, and operation of the existing county courthouse. When the costs of the new county jail and the renovated county courthouse have been fully paid or when the debt service on any indebtedness incurred by the county commission to finance or refinance the costs have been retired, whichever occurs later, the additional fees authorized by this amendment shall continue to be collected in all cases and shall be used to pay costs of the operation, upkeep, and maintenance of a new county jail and the renovated county courthouse. This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 635 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Conecuh County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed Sheriff of Conecuh County, or any elected or appointed Conecuh County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and other elected or appointed Conecuh County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Conecuh County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit. All costs associated with the purchase of prior service credit as prescribed in Section 36-27-6.1, Code of Alabama 1975, shall be the responsibility of the official making the purchase.

Amendment 636 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Covington County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed Sheriff of Covington County, or any elected or appointed Covington County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and other elected or appointed Covington County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Covington County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in

the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit. All costs associated with the purchase of prior service credit as prescribed in Section 36-27-6.1, Code of Alabama 1975, shall be the responsibility of the official making the purchase.

Amendment 637 ratified

Commission Authorized to Levy Ad Valorem Tax for Fire Protection in DeKalb County.

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes levied, the DeKalb County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1998, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located in DeKalb County, excluding taxable property located within the city limits of Fort Payne, at a rate of three mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property. The proceeds of the tax levied pursuant to this amendment shall be paid into the county general fund and distributed for the benefit of fire protection only.

(b) Within 30 days of payment into the county general fund, the county commission shall pay the funds to the DeKalb County Association of Fire Departments, Incorporated. The county association shall divide quarterly the funds into equal shares. One share shall be distributed among all eligible volunteer fire departments, collectively, one share shall be distributed to the Alabama Forestry Commission, and two shares shall be distributed to the DeKalb County Association of Fire Departments. Of the two shares distributed to the county association, one share may be used for administrative duties, the other share may be used for fire protection in those areas not covered by a fire department, excluding the City of Fort Payne. The county commission and the county association may jointly establish rules regarding the transfer, investing, accounting, and handling of the funds.

(c) Funds paid to eligible volunteer fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services, including training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. An eligible volunteer fire department shall mean a volunteer fire department located in DeKalb County that is certified under the guidelines of the Alabama Forestry Commission, has at least an ISO class 9 rating, and is a member in good standing of the DeKalb County Association, Incorporated. The funds may not be expended for salaries, food, drink, social activities, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the eligible volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15th of each year, each eligible volunteer fire department and the Alabama Forestry Commission shall file a form with the county association detailing the expenditures of all funds during the previous 12 months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department and the Alabama Forestry Commission.

(d) The Alabama Forestry Commission's share of these funds collected shall be used in DeKalb County only. The funds shall be used for buildings and purchase of equipment. The funds shall not be expended for salaries.

(e) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible volunteer fire department, any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the county association.

(f) The personnel of volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission shall not be considered as employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission.

Amendment 638 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Elmore County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Elmore County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Elmore County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Elmore County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 639 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Franklin County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Franklin County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Franklin County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Franklin County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 640 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Geneva County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Geneva County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Geneva County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Geneva County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 641 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Lee County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

In Lee County, no person first taking public office after the effective date of this amendment may assume a supernumerary office. Persons holding a public office in the county may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama in a separately funded unit or separately funded units if the provisions governing the participation for those persons are the same as for other regular employees participating in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama.

A person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is serving as a supernumerary official in Lee County, or has made an election to become a supernumerary official, or is making contributions to a supernumerary program, or is otherwise entitled to participate in the supernumerary program established by statute may continue to serve or participate in the supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment, according to the terms and conditions of the law which established the supernumerary program, notwithstanding the fact that the person may be reelected after the effective date of this amendment to the public office he or she is holding on the effective date of this amendment or to another office covered by the supernumerary program in which he or she is participating. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service.

Amendment 642 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Lee County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, the Lee County Commission and the City Council of the City of Opelika, any other provision of law or of this Constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one another, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop such land for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve such sites or projects.
- (2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or the City of Opelika, as applicable, all or any part of any site or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or any municipality therein, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.
- (3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of Lee County or the City of Opelika.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Lee County nor the City of Opelika shall be subject to Sections 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by Lee County or by the City of Opelika, including specifically any industrial development board incorporated under Chapter 54, Article 4, Title 11 of the Code of Alabama 1975, and any industrial development authority incorporated or reincorporated under Chapter 92A, Title 11 of the Code of Alabama 1975, is validated and the powers granted to such board or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

Neither Lee County nor the City of Opelika shall lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto: (i) the action proposed to be

taken by Lee County or the City of Opelika is approved at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or city, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by such governing body that the expenditure of public funds for such purpose will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose, notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities; and (ii) at least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county or in the city, as the case may be, describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by such action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the city proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value. For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a grant of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

Amendment 643 ratified

Planning and Zoning Regulations of Municipalities Located in Limestone County.

In Limestone County, no planning or zoning regulation of a municipality located wholly or partially within Limestone County shall extend beyond the corporate limits of the municipality.

Amendment 644 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Limestone County.

The Limestone County Commission may, by resolution duly adopted and spread upon its minutes, fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of the courts in Limestone County to secure the funds necessary to finance the construction, renovation, and operation of a county jail.

Amendment 645 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Limestone County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Limestone County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Limestone County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Limestone County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 646 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Marengo County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development of Marengo County, Marengo County Commission and each municipality having its corporate limits located wholly in the county, other provisions of law or this constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one or more of such governmental entities, without an election, full and continuing power to do all of the following:

- (1) To purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind.
- (2) To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision (1) above, to any person, firm, association, or corporation.
- (3) To promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
- (4) To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
- (5) To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding 50 percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease, or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision (1) or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may be issued upon the full faith and credit of the municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
- (6) To create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the municipality may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the Judge of Probate or the Secretary of State, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon any such municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized shall be conclusive, and no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further. The bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences or indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the county or any such municipality for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county or any such municipality under Section 224 or 225 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither the county nor any such municipality shall be subject to the provisions of Section 94 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. This amendment shall be self-executing, but notwithstanding any contrary provisions of Section 104 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, the Legislature shall have the right and power by general, special, or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth. No such special or local act shall be subject to the provisions of Section 106 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

Any actions authorized in this Amendment to be taken by the municipality which have been taken subsequent to January 1, 1998, are hereby ratified, approved, and confirmed.

Amendment 647 ratified

Employees Subject to Authority of Personnel Board of Marshall County.

Effective the first day of the sixth month after the date of the election on the ratification of this amendment, employees of the Office of the Sheriff of Marshall County, except for the chief deputy, are subject to the authority of the Personnel Board of Marshall County, or its successor.

Amendment 648 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Mobile County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected Mobile County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Any elected Mobile County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. An elected Mobile County official holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected Mobile County official" shall mean any person elected to a full-time Mobile County office, and shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, any official elected from a judicial circuit, or any official who is allowed by law to participate in any other retirement system.

Amendment 649 ratified

Commission Authorized to Levy Ad Valorem Tax for Fire Protection in Pickens County.

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes levied, the Pickens County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1998, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property, located in Pickens County at a rate of three mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property. The proceeds of the tax levied pursuant to this amendment shall be paid into the county general fund and distributed for the benefit of fire protection only.

(b) Within 30 days of payment into the county general fund, the county commission shall pay the funds to the Pickens County Volunteer Firefighters' Association. The county association shall divide the funds equally among all eligible volunteer fire departments, collectively, and the Pickens County Volunteer Firefighters' Association at each bimonthly meeting of the county association. The county association may establish rules regarding the transfer, investing, accounting, and handling of the funds.

(c) Funds paid to eligible volunteer fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services, including training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. An eligible volunteer fire department shall mean a volunteer fire department located in Pickens County that is certified under the guidelines of the Alabama Forestry Commission, shall have at least an ISO class 9 rating, and is a member in good standing of the Pickens County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. The funds may not be expended for salaries, food, drink, social activities, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the eligible volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15th of each year, each department shall file a form with the county association detailing the expenditures of all funds during the previous 12 months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department.

(d) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible volunteer fire department, any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the county association.

(e) The personnel of eligible volunteer fire departments shall not be considered as employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of eligible volunteer fire departments.

Amendment 650 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Pickens County.

In addition to any court costs or fees now or hereafter authorized, and notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution, including without limitation Sections 96, 104, and 105, there shall be an additional twenty-five dollars (\$25) fee assessed and taxed as costs on each civil and criminal case, excluding small claims, filed in circuit court, district court, or any municipal court in Pickens County, as well as a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5) for the service of all pleadings and other documents in connection with any such action or case. The fees may not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the cases are waived. The additional fees, when collected by the clerks or other collection officers of the courts, shall be paid into the General Fund of Pickens County to be used by the county commission for the planning, designing, construction, financing, and operation of a new county jail. This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation. On the first day of the month after the retirement of the debt to finance the construction of a new county jail, the court cost fee authorized pursuant to this amendment shall expire and this amendment shall be repealed.

Amendment 651 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Randolph County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Randolph County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Randolph County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Randolph County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Randolph County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Randolph County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Randolph County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 652 ratified

Commission Authorized to Levy Ad Valorem Tax for Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services in St. Clair County.

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes levied, the St. Clair County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1997, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located in St. Clair County at a rate of two mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property, the proceeds of which shall be paid into an expendable fire protection trust fund in the county treasury and allocated therefrom for fire protection and emergency medical services.

(b) Within 30 days of payment into the fire protection trust fund of the proceeds from the additional tax levied pursuant to (a), each eligible fire department in the county shall make a requisition to the county commission for a share of the tax proceeds in the fund. The county commission shall divide the funds equally among the eligible fire departments of St. Clair County.

(c) Funds allocated to eligible fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection and emergency medical services including day to day operations, training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. All expenditures shall be documented with the county commission. An eligible fire department means a fire department located in St. Clair County which is certified under the guidelines of the Alabama Forestry Commission. Any tax proceeds allocated for fire protection and emergency medical services under this amendment may not be expended for salaries, food, drink, social activities, or fundraising activities. After receiving funds, the fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15th of each year, each fire department shall file a form with the county commission detailing the expenditures of all funds during the previous 12 months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The St. Clair County Fire and Emergency Medical Service Association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department.

(d) The fire protection trust fund provided for in subsection (a) shall be audited by the State Department of Examiners of Public Accounts when the county is audited.

(e) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible fire department, any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred back to the fire protection trust fund to be allocated to the remaining eligible fire departments.

(f) Personnel of eligible fire departments shall not be considered as employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of volunteer fire and emergency medical services departments.

Amendment 653 ratified

Commission Authorized to Levy Ad Valorem Tax for Fire Protection in Sumter County.

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes levied, the Sumter County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1 after the effective date of this amendment, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property, located in Sumter County at a rate of three mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property. The proceeds of the tax levied pursuant to this amendment shall be paid into the county general fund and distributed for the benefit of fire protection only.

(b) Within 30 days of payment into the county general fund, the county commission shall pay the funds to the Sumter County Volunteer Firefighters' Association. The county association shall divide the funds equally among all eligible volunteer fire departments collectively, and the Alabama Forestry Commission at each bimonthly meeting of the county association. The county commission and the county association may jointly establish rules regarding the transfer, investing, accounting, and handling of the funds.

(c) Funds paid to eligible volunteer fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services, including training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. An eligible volunteer fire department shall mean a volunteer fire department located in Sumter County that is certified under the guidelines of the Alabama Forestry Commission, shall have at least an ISO class 9 rating, and is a member in good standing of the Sumter County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. The funds may not be expended for salaries, food, drink, social activities, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the eligible volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15th of each year, each department and the Alabama Forestry Commission shall file a form with the county association detailing the expenditures of all funds

during the previous 12 months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department and the Alabama Forestry Commission.

(d) The Alabama Forestry Commission's share of the funds collected shall be used in Sumter County only. The funds shall be used for buildings and purchase of equipment. The funds shall not be expended for salaries.

(e) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible volunteer fire department, any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the county association.

(f) The personnel of eligible volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission shall not be considered as employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of eligible volunteer fire departments and the Alabama Forestry Commission.

Amendment 654 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Talladega County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

(a) For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall mean any person holding an office that entitles the person to participate in a supernumerary program or any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official.

(b) A mayor, sheriff, or elected or appointed Talladega County official may not assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every mayor, sheriff, or elected or appointed Talladega County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Talladega County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office and must make the election within one year of the effective date of this amendment.

(c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b), the county commission may negotiate terms of any contract with a sheriff, mayor, or elected or appointed official who under this amendment will be eligible to participate in the Employees' Retirement System.

Amendment 655 ratified

Employees Subject to Authority of Walker County Civil Service Board.

Effective the first day of the sixth month after the ratification of this amendment, all employees of the Office of the Sheriff of Walker County are subject to the authority of the Walker County Civil Service Board, or its successor.

Amendment 656 ratified

Procedure for Removal of Board, Commission, Authority, or Utility Member in Walker County.

In Walker County, the appointing authority of any municipal or county board, commission, or authority may remove for cause any member of the board, commission, public authority, or utility appointed by the appointing authority after a hearing before the appointing authority by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Amendment 657 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Washington County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed official of Washington County may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Any elected or appointed Washington County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Any elected or appointed official of Washington County holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed official, including the sheriff, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 658 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Winston County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed official of Winston County may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Any elected or appointed Winston County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Any elected or appointed official of Winston County holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed official, including the sheriff, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 659 ratified

Election of City Boards of Education.

The Legislature by local law may provide in any municipality with a city board of education for the conducting of an authorizing referendum election regarding changing the city board of education to an elected city board of education. The Legislature by local law may authorize the governing body of any municipality with a city board of education, upon a recorded majority vote of the governing body, to call and conduct an authorizing referendum election regarding changing the city board of education of that municipality to an elected city board of education.

If a majority of the qualified electors voting in an authorizing referendum election called in either of the preceding manners vote in favor of an elected city board of education, the Legislature, from time to time, by local law may provide for the election of a city board of education in that municipality. Such local law or laws may include, but are not limited to, providing for termination of the terms of office of members of the existing city board of education; the composition of the city board of education; initial and succeeding terms of office, including staggered terms; election

districts and at-large membership; qualifications; powers, duties, and responsibilities; vacancies; and compensation.

Any general law, municipal classification law, or local law providing for or authorizing an elected city board of education in any municipality enacted within the last 1,095 days prior to the ratification date of this amendment is validated and confirmed. Any local referendum conducted pursuant to such general law, municipal classification law, or local law, or any combination of such laws, in which a majority of the qualified electors of the municipality voting voted in favor of an elected city board of education, is also validated and confirmed and that local referendum is considered as an authorizing referendum election for purposes of this amendment.

Notwithstanding Acts 97-679 and 97-616 of the 1997 Regular Session, initial elections for the members of the Tuscaloosa City Board of Education shall occur at the regularly scheduled municipal elections in the year 2001. Public hearings shall be held by the legislative delegation and amendments may be prepared and enacted by the Legislature which are deemed necessary and appropriate by the local delegation for any local legislation, including Acts 97-679 and 97-616 of the 1997 Regular Session, which are validated and confirmed by this amendment.

The results of any authorizing referendum election called pursuant to this amendment shall be reported to the State Board of Education which shall maintain a continuing record of those results for public inspection.

It is the intent of the Legislature that this amendment supersede any other provision of this constitution which may be construed as being in conflict with this amendment.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, this proposed amendment shall not apply to any municipality with a population exceeding 125,000 according to the most recent federal census.

Amendment 660 ratified

Baldwin County Judicial Commission.

All vacancies in the office of judge of the circuit court and the office of judge of the district court holding in Baldwin County shall be filled in the manner and for the time as herein provided.

The Baldwin County Judicial Commission is created for the purpose of nominating to the Governor persons for appointment to a vacancy. The commission shall be composed of five members. The members of the commission shall be one person who is a member of the Alabama State Bar nominated by the Baldwin County Bar Association, the presiding circuit judge holding in Baldwin County, one member selected by the Baldwin County Commission, one member selected by the Baldwin County Mayors' Association where at least two thirds of the members are in attendance at the meeting where the selection is made, and one member who is not a member of the Legislature selected by the Baldwin County Legislative Delegation selected by random selection as designed by the members of the Alabama House of Representatives and the Alabama Senate who represent Baldwin County.

All members of the commission shall reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding in Baldwin County.

Only the member selected by the Baldwin County Bar Association and the presiding circuit judge holding in Baldwin County may be a member of the Alabama State Bar. The member of the commission who is required to be a member of the Alabama State Bar shall be elected by the members of the bar who are regularly licensed and qualified to practice law in this state and who reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding in Baldwin County. The Executive Committee of the Baldwin County Bar Association, or its successor body in that capacity, shall make rules, not inconsistent with this amendment, for the election of the member of the commission required to be a member of the Alabama State Bar. The executive committee shall certify in writing to the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County the name of the person elected as member of the commission by these members of the bar.

The presiding circuit judge holding in Baldwin County shall certify in writing to the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County the remaining names of the persons selected as members of the commission.

The terms of office of all members of the commission shall be six years. In event that an initial appointment or vacancy is not filled in 30 days, the vacancy shall be filled by the members of the Baldwin County Legislative Delegation residing in Baldwin County within 10 days. A vacancy in the office of a member of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the member was originally chosen.

The Judge of Probate of Baldwin County shall record all certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original certificates. Forthwith upon his or her receipt and recordation of every certificate, the judge of probate shall send to the Governor a certified copy of every certificate.

No member of the commission shall be eligible for nomination to the Governor for appointment as judge of the circuit court or the district court during the term of office of the commission member.

The members of the commission shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their services as members. No member of the commission other than the member required to be a judge of the circuit court shall hold any public office, and no member of the commission shall hold any official position in any political party.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of judge of the circuit court or the office of judge of the district court holding in Baldwin County, the commission shall nominate within 30 days to the Governor three persons having the qualifications for the office. If the commission fails to nominate three names during the 30-day period, the names shall be selected by the members of the Baldwin County Legislative Delegation residing in the county within 10 days. The names of all persons considered for nomination shall be available for review by the public and shall be deemed a public record. The Governor shall appoint to the office in which the vacancy exists one of the three persons so nominated for the office. If the Governor fails to make an appointment from the list within 30 days from the date it is presented to the Governor, the appointment shall be made by the Chief Justice or the acting Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from the same list. The appointee shall hold the office until the next general election for any state officer held at least six months after the vacancy occurs and until a successor is elected and qualified. At the general election, the judicial office shall be filled for a full term of office to commence on the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the general election.

Amendment 661 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Autauga County.

In addition to any court costs or fees now or hereafter authorized, and notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution, including without limitation Sections 96, 104, and 105, there shall be an additional forty dollars (\$40) fee assessed and taxed as costs on each civil and criminal case, excluding small claims, filed in circuit court, district court, or any municipal court in Autauga County, as well as a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5) for the service of all pleadings and other documents in connection with any such action or case. The fees may not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the cases are waived. The additional fees, when collected by the clerks or other collection officers of the courts, shall be paid into the General Fund of Autauga County to be used by the county commission for the planning, designing, construction, financing, and operation of a new county jail and the planning, design, repair, renovation, financing, and operation of the existing county courthouse. When the costs of the new county jail and the renovated county courthouse have been fully paid or when the debt service on any indebtedness incurred by the county commission to finance or refinance the costs have been retired, whichever occurs later, the additional fees authorized by this amendment shall continue to be collected in all cases and shall be used to pay costs of the operation, upkeep, and maintenance of a new county jail and the renovated county courthouse. This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 662 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 212

Amendment No. 212

The legislature shall have power to levy and provide for the collection of taxes for state purposes on taxable income of corporations, from whatever source derived, for the calendar year 1963, or for any fiscal year beginning in the calendar year 1963, and each year thereafter, at a rate not exceeding five percent. However, the rate shall be six and one-half percent on taxable income of corporations for the calendar year 2001, or for any fiscal year beginning in the calendar year 2001, and each year thereafter. All federal income taxes paid or accrued within the taxable year by corporations shall always be deductible in computing income taxable under the income tax laws of this state, provided that in the case of foreign corporations the amount of federal income tax deductible shall be in proportion to income derived from sources within Alabama, to be determined in accordance with such laws as the legislature may enact. The increase in the corporate income tax rate to six and one-half percent provided by this amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 663 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Chambers County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Chambers County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Chambers County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Chambers County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Chambers County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Chambers County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Chambers County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 664 ratified

Election of Board of Education of City of Anniston.

The Legislature, by local act, may provide for the manner of selection of the members of the Board of Education of the City of Anniston in Calhoun County and may provide further for the operation of the board.

Amendment 665 ratified

Election of City Boards of Education - Population Exceeding 125,000

I. The members of the city board of education of any municipality in the state with a population exceeding 125,000 shall be elected by the qualified electors of the municipality in which the city board of education is located.

II. This amendment shall apply to a municipality with a population exceeding 125,000 if, at the time this amendment is submitted to a statewide vote, a majority of the qualified electors voting on the amendment in the respective municipality vote in favor of the amendment.

III. Upon the application of this amendment to a respective municipality, either at the time of the ratification of this amendment or at a later time, the Legislature shall, by local law, provide for the dissolution of any existing nonelected city board of education in an applicable municipality and for the date the elected city board of education shall be constituted. The existing city board of education shall continue to function until the date of dissolution. Additionally, the Legislature, by local law, may provide for the termination of the terms of office of members of an existing city board of education; the composition of the elected city board of education; initial and succeeding terms of office, including staggered terms; election districts and at-large membership; qualifications; powers, duties, and responsibilities; vacancies; and compensation.

IV. If a municipality comes within the application of this constitutional amendment after the date of ratification of this constitutional amendment, the provisions of this constitutional amendment shall only apply to that municipality if such provisions are approved by a majority vote of the qualified electors of the municipality voting at a special referendum called and conducted pursuant to local law, adopted from time to time by the Legislature.

Amendment 666 ratified

County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Trust Fund; Alabama Capital Improvement Trust Fund.

Section I. The Legislature finds that the capital improvements and technology required by many governmental programs could be more efficiently funded through the establishment of a special trust fund dedicated to funding such improvements. Additionally, municipal and county governments require assistance in the funding of capital improvements. In order to meet these requirements, it is necessary and prudent to redistribute a portion of the Oil and Gas Capital Payments now being paid into the Alabama Trust Fund under Amendment No. 450 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. Accordingly, this amendment establishes the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund and the Alabama Capital Improvement Trust Fund to be administered in accordance with the provisions of this amendment. Finally, the Legislature finds that it is necessary and desirable to issue general obligations bonds for the purposes of (i) making substantial capital improvements to the state dock facilities at the Port of Mobile, (ii) promoting economic development and industrial recruitment in the state, (iii) providing local government match monies required to issue federal grant revenue bonds for road and bridge improvements and (iv) providing funds to municipal governments for infrastructure improvements.

Section II. As used in this amendment, the following words and phrases shall have the following respective meanings:

"Alabama Trust Fund" means the irrevocable, permanent trust fund created by Amendment No. 450 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

"Alabama Capital Improvement Trust Fund" means one of the special trust funds created by this amendment.

"Capital Improvements" means capital outlay projects that include the planning, designing, inspection, purchasing, construction, reconstruction, improvement, repair or renovation of permanent buildings, docks, structures and sites therefor for the executive, legislative or judicial branches of state government. The term "Capital Improvement" shall also mean the construction or improvement of roads and bridges in the highway system; payment of debt service on the bonded indebtedness issued by the State of Alabama or any public corporation or authority of the State of Alabama; funding economic development and industrial recruitment activities; and the procurement of technical equipment, including computer and telecommunications equipment, required for the operation of any governmental entity.

"County and Municipal Capital Improvement Trust Fund" means one of the special trust funds created by this amendment.

"Docks Improvements" means the acquisition, development, construction, improvement, expansion and modernization of the state docks facilities (including, without limitation, cargo handling facilities) at the Port of

Mobile.

"Docks Improvement Costs" means all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the Capital Improvements, including, without limitation, the following:

- (a) The costs of acquiring, constructing, installing and equipping Docks Improvements, including all obligations incurred for labor and to contractors, subcontractors, builders and materialmen.
- (b) The costs of acquiring land or rights in land and any costs incidental thereto, including recording fees.
- (c) The costs of contract bonds and of insurance of all kinds that may be required or necessary during the acquisition, construction or installation of Docks Improvements.
- (d) The costs of architectural and engineering services, including test borings, surveys, environmental mitigation, supervision of construction and the like with respect to Docks Improvements.
- (e) The costs of acquiring and installing fixtures and equipment, excavation, removal and demolition of structures, and provisions for drainage, stormwater retention, installation of utilities, and similar facilities, and paving.
- (f) Interest accruing with respect to General Obligation Bonds for a period of up to two years after the issuance of such General Obligation Bonds.
- (g) All costs, expenses and fees incurred in connection with the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, including, without limitation, all legal, accounting, financial, printing, recording, filing and other fees and expenses.
- (h) The costs for obtaining bond insurance, letters of credit, or other forms of credit enhancement or liquidity facilities.
- (i) All other costs of a nature comparable to or required in connection with those described.
- (j) Reimbursement to any person of any of the foregoing costs incurred by such person either for its own account, or for the account of the State of Alabama and without regard to when incurred.

"Economic Development Costs" means the costs and expenses incurred or to be incurred by the state in connection with economic development projects and the recruitment of industrial prospects to the state including, without limitation, site preparation and infrastructure improvements, the costs of training and educating workers in the state and acquiring and constructing training facilities in the state, together with the costs, expenses and fees incurred in connection with the issuance of General Obligation Bonds for such purposes and the costs for obtaining bond insurance and other forms of credit enhancement on General Obligation Bonds issued for such purposes, and the reimbursement to any person of any of the foregoing costs incurred by such person either for its own account or for the account of the State of Alabama, its agencies or authorities.

"Fiscal Year" means the period beginning October 1 and ending September 30 of the following calendar year.

"General Fund" means the general fund in the State Treasury of the State of Alabama.

"General Obligation Bonds" means bonds, including refunding bonds, to be issued by the State of Alabama for the purpose of financing Docks Improvements Costs, Economic Development Costs, Local Government Match Funds and Municipal Infrastructure Costs, as provided in this amendment.

"Local Government Match Funds" means the monies required to be provided by the State of Alabama as a condition to the issuance of federal grant revenue bonds for road and bridge improvements, together with the costs, expenses and fees incurred in connection with the issuance of General Obligation Bonds for such purposes and the costs of obtaining bond insurance and other forms of credit enhancement on General Obligation Bonds for such purposes.

"Municipal Infrastructure Costs" means the cost of acquiring and constructing municipal infrastructure improvements through the Alabama Department of Transportation, together with the costs, expenses and fees incurred in connection with the issuance of General Obligation Bonds for such purposes and the costs of obtaining bond insurance and other forms of credit enhancement on General Obligation Bonds for such purposes.

"Oil and Gas Capital Payment" means any payment (including any royalty payment) received by the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof as all or part of the consideration for the sale, leasing or other disposition by the

state or any agency or instrumentality thereof of any right to explore and drill for or to produce oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals in any area on the water side of the high water mark of Mobile Bay or in any other offshore area and shall include any revenue by the state from federal oil and gas leases off the coast of Alabama. Any royalty or other payment, with the exception of any taxes heretofore or hereafter levied, that is based upon or determined with respect to, the production of oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals and that is paid to the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof regardless of the time of such payment shall be considered an oil and gas capital payment.

"Realized Capital Gains" means gains from the sale or exchange of assets of the Alabama Trust Fund, other than fixed income assets, to the extent they exceed losses from the sale of such assets. The amount of gain or loss on the sale of an asset shall be determined by subtracting from the proceeds of selling the asset its fair market value as of the end of the immediately preceding fiscal year, or, in the case of the fiscal year in which this amendment is ratified, its fair market value as of the first business day following ratification of this amendment.

"Trust Income" means the Trust Income as defined in Amendment Numbers 450 and 488 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

"Unrealized Capital Gains" means the excess of the fair market value of the Alabama Trust Fund on the last day of the fiscal year over the fair market value of the Trust Fund on the last day of the immediately preceding fiscal year. The fair market value of the Trust Fund on the last day of a fiscal year shall be determined without including the Trust Income for the fiscal year; realized capital gains for the fiscal year; or the fair market value of fixed income assets. For the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2001, the fair market value of the assets on September 30, 2002, shall be determined without regard to the fair market value on the date of transfer of the assets transferred from the Alabama Heritage Trust Fund.

Section III. Distributions of Trust Income and capital gains earned by the Alabama Trust Fund shall be made annually in accordance with the following:

(a) In any fiscal year in which the Trust Income exceeds \$60,000,000, ten percent (10%) of the Trust Income shall be distributed to the Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund created in Section 11-66-4, Code of Alabama 1975, and ten percent (10%) of the Trust Income shall be distributed to the County Government Capital Improvement Fund created in Section 11-29-4, Code of Alabama 1975. The Director of Finance shall certify such amounts to the State Comptroller, who shall make the required distributions not later than April 15 of the following fiscal year. The distributions provided for in this section shall be in lieu of and not in addition to the distributions required by Sections 11-29-5 and 11-66-5, Code of Alabama 1975. The remainder of the Trust Income shall be paid into the General Fund, except as provided by Amendment 543 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. Provided, however, the fiscal year following the first fiscal year that the Forever Wild Land Trust receives fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) from the trust income of the Alabama Trust Fund, one-fourth (1/4) of one percent of the trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund shall be allocated to the Alabama Senior Services Trust Fund. This allocation shall increase each fiscal year by one-fourth (1/4) of one percent of the trust income earned from the Alabama Trust Fund; provided, however, that in no event shall such trust income paid to the Alabama Senior Services Trust Fund exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000) in any one fiscal year.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution, within 30 days following the end of each fiscal year, the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Trust Fund may transfer up to seventy-five percent (75%) of the realized capital gains for such fiscal year. The amount distributed shall be divided as follows: ten percent (10%) to the County Government Capital Improvement Fund created in Section 11-29-4, Code of Alabama 1975, and ten percent (10%) to the Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund created in Section 11-66-4, Code of Alabama 1975, and the remainder of such realized capital gains shall be paid into the General Fund, except that a portion of such realized capital gains shall be distributed in the same manner as and deemed to be a part of trust income for purposes of the distributions required under Sections 7 and 13 of Amendment 543 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution, within 30 days following the end of each fiscal year, the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Trust Fund may transfer up to seventy-five percent (75%) of the unrealized capital

gains for such fiscal year. The amount distributed shall be divided as follows: ten percent (10%) to the County Government Capital Improvement Fund created in Section 11-29-4, Code of Alabama 1975, and ten percent (10%) to the Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund created in Section 11-66-4, Code of Alabama 1975, and the remainder of such unrealized capital gains shall be paid into the General Fund except that a portion of such unrealized capital gains shall be distributed in the same manner as and deemed to be a part of trust income for purposes of the distributions required under Sections 7 and 13 of Amendment 543 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

Section IV. Beginning on October 1 immediately following the ratification of this amendment, 35% of all Oil and Gas Capital Payments paid into the Alabama Trust Fund in any fiscal year shall be transferred by the State Treasurer to the special trust funds created by this amendment in the following manner: (a) an amount equal to seven percent (7%) of all Oil and Gas Capital Payments received by the Alabama Trust Fund during the preceding fiscal year shall be paid into the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Trust Fund; and (b) an amount equal to twenty-eight percent (28%) of all Oil and Gas Capital Payments received by the Alabama Trust Fund during the preceding fiscal year shall be paid into the Alabama Capital Improvement Trust Fund.

Section V. (a) Funds in the Alabama Capital Improvement Trust Fund shall be invested by the Board of Trustees in such kinds of investments as are authorized for the investment of the Alabama Trust Fund. All income of such funds (determined in the same manner as Trust Income of the Alabama Trust Fund) shall be deposited into the General Fund.

(b) Funds in the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Trust Fund shall be invested by the Board of Trustees in such kinds of investments as are authorized for the investment of the Alabama Trust Fund. All income of such fund (determined in the same manner as Trust Income of the Alabama Trust Fund) shall be deposited into the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Trust Fund subject to distribution pursuant to Section VI.

(c) The Board of Trustees shall determine from time to time the asset allocation of investments in the Alabama Trust Fund and shall determine the annual amount of Realized and Unrealized Capital Gains to be transferred to the General Fund. The Secretary-Treasurer of The Retirement Systems of Alabama shall be the initial manager of 50 percent of the assets, and financial institutions and other corporate entities with general trust powers shall be the initial manager or managers of 50 percent of the assets in the Alabama Trust Fund, subject to guidelines provided by the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees shall have the power to appoint another person or persons to manage all or any portion of the assets in the Alabama Trust Fund upon a two-thirds vote of the Board of Trustees.

Section VI. On April 1 of each year, the State Comptroller shall distribute one-half of all Trust Income earned during the preceding fiscal year from the investment of funds contained in the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Trust Fund to the Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund created by Section 11-66-4, Code of Alabama 1975, and one-half of said Trust Income to the County Government Capital Improvement Fund created by Section 11-29-4, Code of Alabama 1975. Distributions of Trust Income to the Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund shall be administered in accordance with Section 11-66-6, Code of Alabama 1975. Distributions of Trust Income to the County Government Capital Improvement fund shall be administered in accordance with Section 11-29-6, Code of Alabama 1975.

Section VII. Funds in the Alabama Capital Improvement Trust Fund may be appropriated for Capital Improvements only upon the certification of the Governor, based upon the recommendation of the Director of Finance, that funds are needed for particular Capital Improvements. The Governor's certification for such Capital Improvements shall be contained in his or her budgets for the operation of state government submitted annually to the Legislature. Legislative appropriations from this Fund that are in excess of those contained in the Governor's certification must be accompanied by legislative findings of fact explaining the appropriations that differ from or are in excess of those certified by the Governor. The foregoing notwithstanding, the Legislature may appropriate funds from this trust fund for Capital Improvements upon a recorded majority vote of each house.

Section VIII. The State of Alabama is authorized to become indebted and to sell and issue its interest-bearing General Obligation Bonds, in addition to all other bonds of the state, in an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$350 million. The General Obligation Bonds issued pursuant to this amendment shall be general obligations of the State, and the full faith and credit of the State are hereby irrevocably pledged for the prompt and faithful payment of the principal, interest and redemption premium (if any) on the General Obligation Bonds.

Section IX. The Governor, the Director of Finance, the Commissioner of Revenue, the Chairman of the Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund Committee and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means General Fund Committee are hereby constituted a Bond Commission with full authority, except as herein specified or limited, to determine the terms and conditions of the General Obligation Bonds and to provide for the sale and issuance thereof. No member of the Bond Commission shall receive compensation in any form for any services performed by him or her in and about his or her duties as a member or officer of the Bond Commission. The Bond Commission shall meet at the call of the Governor, who is hereby designated its chairman. Three members of the Bond Commission (at least one of which shall be the Chairman of the Senate Finance and Taxation-General Fund Committee or the Chairman of the Ways and Means-General Fund Committee) shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and all proceedings of the Bond Commission shall be reduced to writing, recorded in a substantial record book and filed with the Director of Finance, who is hereby designated as the Secretary of the Bond Commission and who shall keep the records of the proceedings of the Bond Commission.

Section X. The proceeds of the General Obligation Bonds shall be paid into the State Treasury, shall be kept continually invested pending the expenditure thereof, and shall, together with the income derived from the investment and reinvestment thereof (including income derived from the investment and reinvestment of previously derived income), be retained in one or more separate accounts of the State Treasury until expended for the purposes authorized in this amendment and in the manner provided by law. The proceeds of such General Obligation Bonds, together with the investment income derived from said proceeds, shall be used solely for the purpose of paying Docks Improvement Costs, Economic Development Costs, Local Government Match Funds and/or Municipal Infrastructure Costs. Not more than \$50 million of the proceeds of such General Obligation Bonds shall be spent for local government match funds and not more than \$15 million of such proceeds shall be spent for municipal infrastructure costs.

Section XI. There is hereby appropriated for the payment of the General Obligation Bonds such monies out of the Alabama Capital Improvement Fund as are necessary to pay principal of, interest on and redemption premium (if any) on the General Obligation Bonds. Monies in the Alabama Capital Improvement Trust Fund are also hereby appropriated for the payment of principal of, interest on and redemption premium (if any) on bonds authorized to be issued pursuant to Amendments Nos. 618, 619 and 620 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

Amendment 667 ratified

Section 102 Annulled.

Article IV, Section 102 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, is hereby annulled and set aside.

Amendment 668 ratified

Distribution of Alabama Trust Fund Income.

(a) For the purposes of this amendment, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1. FISCAL YEAR. The fiscal year of the state as may from time to time be provided by law.
 2. COUNTY GOVERNMENT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND. The fund created in Section 11-29-4, Code of Alabama 1975.
 3. MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND. The fund created in Section 11-66-4, Code of Alabama 1975.
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4. THE ALABAMA TRUST FUND OR TRUST FUND. The fund created by Amendment 450 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

5. TRUST INCOME. The net income received by the state, subsequent to the transfer of the initial trust capital by the State Treasurer to the board of trustees of the trust fund, from the investment and reinvestment of all assets of the trust fund, determined in accordance with the provisions of Amendment 450 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. Trust income does not include income which become part of the trust capital of the trust fund, but for the purpose of this amendment shall include the amounts allocated to the Forever Wild Land Trust Fund as provided in Section 7(d) of Amendment 543 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

(b) Beginning October 1 of the fiscal year immediately following ratification of this amendment, in addition to all other appropriations heretofore or hereafter made, there is hereby annually appropriated from the State General Fund to the county government capital improvement fund and to the municipal government capital improvement fund each an amount equal to at least 10 percent of the trust income from the Alabama Trust Fund at the time as the trust income received by the state in the preceding fiscal year equals or exceeds sixty million dollars (\$60,000,000) as calculated pursuant to Amendment 450 and Section 7(d) of Amendment 543 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. No funds shall be appropriated in any fiscal year for which in the previous fiscal year trust income received by the state was less than sixty million dollars (\$60,000,000).

(c) The county government capital improvement fund appropriation shall be distributed to the several counties of the state and shall be paid on April 15 of the fiscal year for which each annual appropriation is made as follows:

Part of the funds to be paid to counties that is equal to 45.45 percent of the total of that portion shall be allocated equally among the 67 counties of the state; and the entire residue of the portion to be paid to counties, being an amount equal to 54.55 percent of that portion, shall be allocated among the 67 counties of the state on the basis of the ratio of the population of each county to the total population of the state according to the then next preceding federal decennial census.

(d) The municipal government capital improvement fund appropriation shall be distributed to the incorporated municipalities of the state and shall be paid on April 15 of the fiscal year for which each annual appropriation is made as follows:

(1) Each incorporated municipality in the state with a population of less than 1,000 shall receive one thousand dollars (\$1,000); each incorporated municipality in the state with a population of 1,000 or more shall receive two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500).

(2) The residue of the portion to be paid to the incorporated municipalities in the state shall be distributed among the incorporated municipalities in the state on the basis of the ratio of the population of each municipality incorporated to the total population of all the incorporated municipalities in the state according to the then next preceding federal decennial census.

(e) The county government capital improvement fund and the municipal county government capital improvement fund shall continue in existence until and unless extinguished by an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

(f) The State Comptroller shall make all allocations of funds and shall make the distribution and payments thereof pursuant to the allocations provided for in this amendment. All funds allocated to the county government capital improvement fund and to the municipal government capital improvement fund shall only be expended for any purposes as are now or hereafter authorized by general act of the Legislature.

Amendment 669 ratified

Levy and Collection of District School Tax.

The provision contained in Section 2 of Amendment No. 3 to this constitution relating to district school taxes and providing that no district school tax shall be voted upon or collected except in those counties that are levying and collecting not less than a three-mill special county school tax is hereby repealed. Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution or any law to the contrary, the levy of a countywide tax shall not be required as a condition precedent for the levy and collection of any district school tax in any school district in the state.

Amendment 670 ratified

Amendment to Amendment No. 161. Board of Trustees of Auburn University.

Section 1. Auburn University shall be under the management and control of a board of trustees. The board of trustees shall consist of one member from each of the congressional districts in the state as the same were constituted on the first day of January, 1961, one member from Lee County, two at-large members both of whom shall be a resident of the continental United States, the state superintendent of education serving on the date this amendatory language is ratified, who shall serve until leaving the office of superintendent, one additional at-large member who shall be a resident of the continental United States, and who shall succeed the current State Superintendent of Education on the board of trustees immediately upon the superintendent leaving office, and the governor, who shall be ex officio president of the board.

Appointment of the initial two at-large members shall be made by the Governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. Otherwise, the trustees from each congressional district, from Lee County, and all subsequent at-large trustees, including the at-large position created upon the vacating of office of the current State Superintendent of Education, shall be appointed by the appointing committee created herein, by and with the advice and consent of the senate. The appointment of members to fill a vacated position with a partially expired term of office shall also be made by the appointing committee as provided herein.

A board of trustees appointing committee is established composed of the following members:

The President Pro Tem of the Board of Trustees of Auburn University or the designee of the President Pro Tem. The designee shall be a member of the Board of Trustees of Auburn University.

A member of the Board of Trustees of Auburn University selected by the board of trustees.

Two members of the Auburn Alumni Association Board of Directors, who are not current employees of Auburn University, selected by the Auburn Alumni Association Board of Directors.

The Governor or a designee of the Governor who is an alumnus of Auburn University but who is not a current member of the Auburn Board of Trustees nor a current member of the Auburn Alumni Association Board of Directors nor a current employee of Auburn University.

The Governor, or the designee of the Governor, shall serve as chairperson of the appointing committee. If the chairperson fails to call a meeting within 90 days prior to the expiration of the term of a sitting board member or within 30 days following the creation of a vacancy by death, resignation, or other cause, a majority of the committee, in writing, may call a meeting giving at least 10 days notice. In the absence of the chairperson or another member designated by the chairperson to preside, the majority of the committee shall choose its own chairperson.

When appropriate, the appointing committee shall meet to address the appointment of any of the following:

A person to fill the at-large position on the Board of Trustees of Auburn University created upon the vacating of office by the current State Superintendent of Education.

Persons to fill an expired or soon-to-be expired term of office of any member of the Board of Trustees of Auburn University, including the two at-large positions initially appointed by the Governor.

Persons to fill the remainder of a partially expired term of office of any position on the Board of Trustees of Auburn University which has been vacated by reason of death, resignation, or other cause, including the two at-large positions initially appointed by the Governor.

The appointing committee, by majority vote, shall appoint an individual to fill the respective position on the board of trustees. The committee shall ensure that appointments are solicited from all constituencies, are inclusive, and reflect the racial, gender, and economic diversity of the state. A person may not be appointed to the Board of Trustees of Auburn University while serving on the appointing committee.

A trustee shall hold office for a term of seven years, and may serve no more than two full seven-year terms of office. Appointment and service for a portion of an unexpired term shall not be considered in applying the two-term limit.

Each member of the board of trustees as constituted on the date this amendatory language is ratified may serve the remainder of his or her current term and shall be eligible, if otherwise qualified, to serve for no more than two additional seven-year terms.

No person shall be appointed as a member of the board of trustees after having reached 70 years of age.

Of the two persons initially appointed by the Governor to serve in the at-large positions, one shall be appointed to serve an initial term of four years and one shall be appointed to serve an initial term of seven years. Thereafter, successors to these positions, who shall be appointed by the appointing committee, shall serve terms of office of the same duration as other members. These initial terms shall be considered as full terms in applying the two-term limit.

One more than half of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day until a quorum is present.

A term shall begin only upon confirmation by the Senate. A member may continue to serve until a successor is confirmed, but in no case for more than one year after completion of a term.

No trustee shall receive any pay or emolument other than his or her actual expenses incurred in the discharge of duties as such.

No employee of Auburn University shall be eligible to serve as a member of the board of trustees.

The appointing committee, or the Governor, in regard to the two initial at-large appointments, shall submit the name of the persons selected for appointment to the Secretary of the Senate, who shall inform the Senate of the receipt of such submission. If the Senate is in regular session at that time, the submission shall be made by the conclusion of the next legislative day following the appointment. If the Senate is not in regular session at the time of appointment, the submission shall be made before the commencement of the next regular session.

If the entire Senate, by a majority vote, confirms the submission, the appointee shall immediately assume office. An appointee may not begin service prior to Senate confirmation.

If the submission is not confirmed by the entire Senate by a majority vote by the conclusion of the legislative session, the submission shall be considered rejected.

A submission to the Senate may be withdrawn at any time by the Governor in regard to the two initial at-large appointments made by the Governor. A submission to the Senate may be withdrawn at any time by the appointing committee in regard to appointments made by the committee.

Upon the rejection of a submission or the withdrawal of a submission, the appointment and confirmation process specified in this amendment shall commence anew.

The same name may be submitted to the Senate for the same position on the board more than one time.

Upon the expiration of a term of office, a member of the board of trustees shall continue to serve until a successor is appointed pursuant to this amendment, is confirmed by the entire Senate by majority vote, and assumes office. If a successor is not confirmed by the conclusion of the regular session in which one or more names for the position were initially submitted, the former holder of the position may continue to serve until a successor is appointed and confirmed, but in no case shall this continuation be longer than one year after completion of the term of office.

If any position on the board of trustees becomes vacant during a term of office by reason of death, resignation, or other cause, a person shall be appointed by the appointing committee to fill the remainder of the unexpired term of office pursuant to the procedure provided for other appointments made by the appointing committee. The position shall be considered vacant until a person is confirmed by a majority vote of the entire Senate.

Section 2. Section 266 of article 14 of the Constitution of Alabama 1901 is hereby repealed.

Amendment 671 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Clay County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Clay County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Clay County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system, and shall be treated as an employee of the county. Clay County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Clay County official" shall include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Clay County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Clay County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Act No. 99-320 of the 1999 Regular Session is hereby repealed.

Amendment 672 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Greene County.

The Legislature, by general or local law, may fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Greene County and provide for their distribution.

Amendment 673 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Lowndes County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Lowndes County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Lowndes County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Lowndes County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 674 ratified

Bingo Games in Lowndes County.

(a) The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in The Town of White Hall that is located in Lowndes County, subject to any resolution or ordinance by the town council. The town council shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the licensing and operation of bingo games, within its respective jurisdictions provided, however, the town council shall insure compliance pursuant to any ordinance and the following provisions:

(1) No person under the age of 18 years shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, nor shall any person under the age of 19 years be permitted to conduct or assist in the operation of any game of bingo.

(2) No bingo license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless the organization shall have been in existence for at least two years immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license.

(3) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises are leased, the rate of rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games.

(4) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization. No nonprofit organization shall pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game.

(5) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by another person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating the bingo game.

(6) Prizes given by any nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value set by regulations.

(7) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition thereof, shall take any expense for the operation of a bingo game except as permitted by law.

(b) The town council may provide for the implementation of this amendment by the adoption of any resolution or ordinance as provided heretofore.

(8) Any person who violates the regulations provided under the provisions of this amendment shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor upon the first conviction under this amendment and any subsequent violation shall be a Class A misdemeanor.

Amendment 675 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Sumter County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Sumter County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Sumter County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Sumter County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed official, but shall

not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 676 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Bullock County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

An elected or appointed Bullock County official not currently serving as such an official who is elected or appointed after the effective date of this amendment may not assume a supernumerary office. Any person who, on the ratification of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Bullock County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Bullock County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served as a county official. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 677 ratified

Water Works and Sewer Board of the City of Anniston.

The Water Works and Sewer Board of the City of Anniston, Alabama, shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of seven members to be appointed as follows: Four members shall be appointed by the governing body to the City of Anniston and three members shall be appointed by the Calhoun County Legislative Delegation. Those persons serving on such board of directors on the effective date of this amendment shall continue to hold office until the expiration of their current terms. Act 95-497, 1995 Regular Session, is hereby ratified, approved, validated, and confirmed as of the date of its enactment any provision or provisions of this constitution of the contrary notwithstanding, and all actions heretofore taken by the City of Anniston, the Calhoun County Legislative Delegation and the Water Works and Sewer Board of the City of Anniston, Alabama, pursuant to the provisions of Act 95-497, are hereby ratified, approved, validated, and confirmed. This amendment shall be self executing, and no amendment to the Certificate of Incorporation of said Water Works and Sewer Board shall be necessary to implement the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 678 ratified

Promotion of Industry, Trade, and Economic Development in Chambers County.

The Legislature, by general, local, or special law, may provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority, and financing of a public corporation empowered or intended to assist or aid in any way Chambers County or any municipality therein in promoting industry, trade, and economic development of Chambers County and each municipality situated in the county, and the Legislature may grant the corporation all powers, rights, privileges, exemptions, and authority as the Legislature considers necessary or desirable for the furtherance and accomplishment of the purposes of the public corporation.

Amendment 679 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Chilton County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development of Chilton County, the Chilton County Commission and the city council of each municipality located in the county, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one or more of such governmental entities, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind.
- (2) Lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give and convey any such property described in subdivision (1) above, to any person, firm, association, or corporation.
- (3) Promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
- (4) Become a stockholder in any corporation, association, or company.
- (5) Lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
- (6) Become indebted and to issue and sell bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding 50 percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease, or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision (1) or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or any such municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
- (7) Create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the county or any such municipality may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the Judge of Probate or the Secretary of State, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county or any such municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized shall be conclusive, and no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further. The bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences or indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the county or any such municipality for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county or any such municipality under Section 224 or Section 225 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither the county nor any such municipality shall be subject to the provisions of Section 94 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. This amendment shall be self-executing, but notwithstanding any contrary provisions of Section 104 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, the Legislature may by general, special, or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth. No such special or local act shall be subject to the provisions of Section 106 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to confer upon the Chilton County Commission or the City Council of any municipality located in the county, or any public authority created pursuant to this amendment, the authority to purchase, construct, lease, control or otherwise acquire or operate telecommunications facilities, cable facilities or electric generating, transmission or distribution facilities, lines or equipment.

Amendment 680 ratified

Special Property Tax in Chilton County; Repeal of Amendment No. 402.

The Chilton County Commission may levy and collect a special property tax, in addition to all other taxes heretofore provided by law, not exceeding four mills on each dollar's worth of taxable property outside the corporate limits of any incorporated municipality in the county, as assessed for state taxation during the preceding year; except that the special property tax shall not exceed two and one-half mills on property used for the generation of electric energy, including hydroelectric projects licensed by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or any predecessor or successor agency. The proceeds of the special property tax shall be used exclusively for fire, medical, and emergency services in areas outside the incorporated municipalities of Chilton County.

The tax assessor of Chilton County shall assess the tax herein provided, and the tax collector of Chilton County shall collect the tax, in the same manner and method that other ad valorem taxes are collected. The proceeds of the tax shall be distributed to the Chilton County Commission to be distributed by the commission, in equal shares, to all of the rural fire departments in the county that have and maintain an Insurance Services Office (ISO) Public Protection Classification of 9 or lower and that protect areas outside the incorporated municipalities of Chilton County. Each department receiving proceeds from the tax shall maintain a separate account for the tax proceeds and shall furnish, at its own expense, an audit of the account to the Chilton County Commission yearly.

The tax shall be collected, starting the first month after approval by the qualified electors of Chilton County, and shall be levied in perpetuity. Qualified electors include only those who reside outside the incorporated municipalities of Chilton County. The passage of this amendment shall render null and void Amendment No. 402 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, beginning on the first day of the first month after this amendment is approved by the qualified electors and proclaimed ratified.

Amendment 681 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Clay County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Clay County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Clay County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Clay County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Clay County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Clay County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Clay County official. The words do not include a judge, legislator, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 682 ratified

Promotion of Industry, Trade, and Economic Development in Clay County.

The Legislature, by general, local, or special law, may provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority, and financing of a public corporation empowered or intended to assist or aid in any way Clay County or any municipality therein in promoting industry, trade, and economic development of Clay County and each municipality situated in the county, and the Legislature may grant the corporation all powers, rights, privileges, exemptions, and authority as the Legislature considers necessary or desirable for the furtherance and accomplishment of the purposes of the public corporation.

Amendment 683 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Dale County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed Sheriff of Dale County, or any other elected or appointed Dale County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program for Dale County may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and other elected or appointed Dale County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Dale County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 684 ratified

Real Estate License Taxes in Etowah County.

(a) In order to allow for the orderly and efficient collection of municipal business license taxes in Etowah County with respect to corporations, firms, brokers, agents, and others in the business of buying, selling, leasing, or representing others in the purchase, sale, or lease of real property in Etowah County, the Legislature may, by local law, provide for the imposition and collection of taxes as follows:

(1) Any city or municipality within Etowah County may fix and collect license taxes pursuant to Sections 11-51-90 and 11-51-91, Code of Alabama 1975, for any business, trade, or profession relating to the buying, selling, or renting of real estate on commission in Etowah County if the licensee maintains its principal place of business in the corporate limits or police jurisdiction of that city or municipality.

(2) Effective January 1 following the ratification of this amendment and each year thereafter, in addition to the taxes, if any, imposed under subdivision (1) above, every corporation, firm, broker, agent, or other person or entity engaged in the business of buying, selling, managing, leasing, or renting of real estate on commission in Etowah County shall pay an annual business license tax at a rate to be set by the Legislature for the privilege of engaging in that business in every other city or municipality in Etowah County. The tax shall be collected by the License Commissioner of Etowah County and shall be distributed by the License Commissioner of Etowah County to each city or municipality within Etowah County on a pro rata basis based on population. The License Commissioner of Etowah County shall be entitled to an administrative fee for administering this tax at a rate to be set by the Legislature. The fee shall be subtracted from the license tax.

(3) Effective January 1 following the ratification of this amendment and each year thereafter, except for the license taxes permitted or mandated under subdivisions (1) and (2) above, no other privilege license tax or any other fee or tax shall be imposed under Sections 11-51-90 and 11-51-91, Code of Alabama 1975, or any other law by any city or municipality within Etowah County on corporations, firms, brokers, agents, or other persons or entities engaged in the business of buying, selling, managing, leasing, or renting of real estate on commission in Etowah County.

(b) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Etowah County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act, and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 685 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Greene County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Greene County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Greene County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Greene County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 686 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Hale County.

In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized in Hale County, the Hale County Commission may impose by resolution of the commission an additional fee in an amount not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50) to be assessed and taxed as costs on each civil case and on each criminal case, including domestic relations and traffic cases, but excluding small claims cases, filed in the circuit court, district court, or any municipal court in Hale County. These fees shall not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the case are waived.

The additional fees when collected by the clerks or their collection officers of the courts shall be paid into the General Fund of Hale County to be used by the commission for the planning, designing, construction, financing, furnishing, equipping, and operation of a new county jail and for general county purposes.

Amendment 687 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Henry County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Henry County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in as supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Henry County official

may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Henry County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current offices; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 688 ratified

Crime of prostitution in Jefferson County.

- (a) This amendment shall apply only to the portions of Jefferson County outside the corporate limits of a municipality.
- (b) For the purpose of this constitutional amendment, the term "prostitution" shall mean the commission by a person of any natural or unnatural sexual act, deviate sexual intercourse, or sexual contact for monetary consideration or other thing of value.
- (c) No person in the portion of the county outside the corporate limits of a city shall commit an act of prostitution as defined in subsection (b).
- (d) No person shall solicit, compel, or coerce any person to have sexual intercourse or participate in any natural or unnatural sexual act, deviate sexual intercourse, or sexual contact for monetary consideration or other thing of value.
- (e) No person shall agree to engage in sexual intercourse, deviate sexual intercourse, or sexual contact with another or participate in the act for monetary consideration or other thing of value and give or accept monetary consideration or other thing of value in furtherance of the agreement.
- (f) No person shall knowingly do any of the following:
 - (1) Cause or aid a person to commit or engage in prostitution.
 - (2) Procure or solicit patrons for prostitution.
 - (3) Provide persons or premises for prostitution purposes.
 - (4) Receive or accept money or other thing of value pursuant to a prior agreement with any person whereby he or she participates or is to participate in the proceeds of any prostitution activity.
 - (5) Operate or assist in the operation of a house of prostitution or a prostitution enterprise.
- (g) It shall be unlawful for any bellhop, elevator operator, desk clerk, servant, or employee of a hotel, motel, inn, boardinghouse, apartment house, or any lodging place of like kind for the purpose of or in furtherance of unlawful sexual misconduct or prostitution to:
 - (1) Conduct any person to the room of any guest or occupant of the place.
 - (2) Carry any note or message to or from a person, a guest, or occupant of the place.
- (h) It shall be unlawful for the owner or manager of any hotel, motel, inn, boardinghouse, apartment house, or any lodging place or like kind to employ a person who has been convicted of aiding or abetting prostitution.
- (i) Each violation is a Class A misdemeanor.

Amendment 689 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Lamar County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

An elected or appointed Lamar County official not currently serving as such an official who is elected or appointed after the effective date of this amendment may not assume a supernumerary office. Any person who, on the ratification of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Lamar County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Lamar County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served as a county official. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, including the county coroner, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 690 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Lauderdale County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Lauderdale County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Lauderdale County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Lauderdale County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include the sheriff and any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 691 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Lawrence County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Lawrence County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Lawrence County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Lawrence County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Lawrence County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Lawrence County in any

representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Lawrence County official. The words do not include a judge, legislator, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 692 ratified

Bingo Games in Limestone County.

(a) The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in Limestone County, subject to any resolution or ordinance by the county commission. The county commission may promulgate rules and regulations for the licensing and operation of bingo games, within its respective jurisdictions. The governing body shall insure compliance pursuant to any ordinance and the following:

(1) No person under the age of 19 years shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, nor shall any person under the age of 19 years be permitted to conduct or assist in the operation of any game of bingo.

(2) No bingo license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless the organization shall have been in existence for at least three years in the county immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license.

(3) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises are leased, the rate of rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games.

(4) No nonprofit organization shall enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization. No nonprofit organization shall pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game.

(5) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by another person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating the bingo game.

(6) Prizes given by any nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value set by the Legislature by local law during any bingo session during any calendar week.

(7) No person or organization, by whatever name or composition thereof, shall take any expense for the operation of a bingo game except as permitted by law.

(b) The Legislature may, by local law, provide for the implementation of this amendment, including, but not limited to, the imposition of criminal penalties for violations of this amendment or the local legislation.

"Amendment" 693

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Amendment 694 ratified

Employees Subject to Authority of Personnel Board of Madison County.

Effective the first day of the sixth month after ratification of this amendment, employees of the Office of the Sheriff of Madison County, except for the chief deputy, shall be under the authority of the Personnel Board of Madison County. The provisions of this amendment shall not affect the liability of the employees of the office of the Sheriff of Madison County.

Amendment 695 ratified

Marion County Agriculture and Exhibit Center Authority.

(a) There is hereby created and established the Marion County Agriculture and Exhibit Center Authority which shall consist of seven members to be appointed as follows:

- (1) One member appointed by the member of the Marion County Commission representing District One.
- (2) One member appointed by the member of the Marion County Commission representing District Two.
- (3) One member appointed by the member of the Marion County Commission representing District Three.
- (4) One member appointed by the member of the Marion County Commission representing District Four.
- (5) One member appointed by the member of the Marion County Commission representing District Five.
- (6) One member appointed by the state Senator representing Marion County.
- (7) One member appointed by the members of the House of Representatives representing Marion County.

(b) The authority shall oversee the construction, management, maintenance, and control of any structure or facility constructed as a center for promoting cattle, horses, and livestock and for agricultural, educational, and civic exhibits. Vacancies on the authority shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments are made. Members of the authority shall serve without compensation. The authority shall hold at least one annual meeting.

(c) The authority is authorized to do the following:

- (1) To locate the exhibition center upon the site selected by the Marion County Commission.
- (2) To acquire by purchase, rent, lease agreement, or otherwise the necessary facilities and to provide it with necessary equipment, furnishings, landscaping, and related facilities, including parking areas and ramps, roadways, sewers, curbs, and gutters.
- (3) To enter into contracts and cooperative agreements with the local, state, and federal governments, agencies of the governments, private individuals, corporations, associations, and other organizations as the authority may deem necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this amendment, the contracts and agreements to include leases to provide for industries.
- (4) To accept public or private gifts, grants, and donations.
- (5) To acquire property by purchase, lease, or gift.
- (6) To sell, convey, transfer, lease, or donate any property, franchise, grant, easement, license, or lease or interest therein which it may own and to transfer, assign, sell, convey, or donate any right, title, or interest which it may have in any lease, contract, agreement, license, or property.
- (7) To invest any funds that the authority may determine are not presently needed in the operation of its properties in bonds of the United States of America, bonds of the state, bonds of any county or municipality, and interest-bearing bank deposits.
- (8) To employ personnel as may be necessary to accomplish the purposes of this amendment. The personnel employed by the authority shall serve at the pleasure of the authority. The authority shall fix the compensation of the personnel and the compensation shall be paid from any funds of the authority. The authority shall designate the duties of the personnel.
- (9) To make rules and regulations as the authority may deem necessary and desirable to provide for the operation, management, and control of the facility.
- (10) To perform other acts necessary or incidental to the accomplishment of the purposes of this act, and other acts, including, but not limited to, the employment of legal and accounting assistance, whether or not specifically authorized in the act, and not otherwise prohibited by law.

(d) The county commission may transfer property to the authority for planning for present and future purposes of the authority.

Amendment 696 ratified

Polling Places in Marshall County.

Every polling place in Marshall County shall be open for voting on election day for any local, state, or national election at 7:00 A.M. and shall not close until 7:00 P.M. and shall remain open for voting for not less than 12 consecutive hours. The Marshall County Commission shall provide funds from the county general fund for any additional compensation needed for poll workers required to work the extended hours required by this amendment.

Amendment 697 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Monroe County.

The Legislature, from time to time, may fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court in Monroe County and provide for the distribution of any additional revenue.

Amendment 698 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Perry County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Perry County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Perry County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Perry County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person elected to represent the county in any representative body of the state and any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 699 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Pike County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Pike County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Pike County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Pike County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Pike County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Pike County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Pike County official. The words do not include a judge, legislator, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 700 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Pike County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

(a) In Pike County, no mayor or elected or appointed public official may assume a supernumerary office after the ratification date of this amendment. Any person who, on the ratification date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every mayor or elected or appointed public official in Pike County may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. A mayor or elected or appointed public official holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed public official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Pike County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed public official. The words do not include a judge, a member of a city governing body, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

(b) Act 99-407 of the 1999 Regular Session is repealed.

Annotations

[1] Evidently Amendment 621 doesn't exist. This may be a website error, but their URI scheme is so random as to defy attempting verification. This may be due to "Amendment" 587", which was accedentially added to the Constitution and then removed by the Secrerary of State. Note that this means you CANNOT determine the number of amendments by looking at the last one, you must subtract 1 from that number to account for this.

[2] There does not appear to be an amendment 693! So you have to subtract TWO to get the right number!

Article Sources and Contributors

Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 601-700 *Source:* <http://en.wikisource.org/w/index.php?oldid=2778097> *Contributors:* Billinghamurst, Illy, 1 anonymous edits

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Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 701-800

Amendment 701 ratified

Promotion of Industry, Trade, and Economic Development in Randolph County.

The Legislature, by general, local, or special law, may provide for the creation, incorporation, organization, operation, administration, authority, and financing of a public corporation empowered or intended to assist or aid in any way Randolph County or any municipality therein in promoting industry, trade, and economic development of Randolph County and each municipality situated in the county, and the Legislature may grant the corporation all powers, rights, privileges, exemptions, and authority as the Legislature considers necessary or desirable for the furtherance and accomplishment of the purposes of the public corporation.

Amendment 702 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Russell County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Russell County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Russell County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Russell County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 703 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Tallapoosa County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Tallapoosa County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Tallapoosa County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Tallapoosa County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official

elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 704 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Chilton County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed Sheriff of Chilton County, or any elected or appointed Chilton County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and other elected or appointed Chilton County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Chilton County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit. All costs associated with the purchase of prior service credit as prescribed in Section 36-27-6.1, Code of Alabama 1975, shall be the responsibility of the official making the purchase.

Amendment 705 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Marion County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed Sheriff of Marion County, or any elected or appointed Marion County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and other elected or appointed Marion County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Marion County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person elected to represent Marion County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Marion County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit. All costs associated with the purchase of prior service credit as prescribed in Section 36-27-6.1, Code of Alabama 1975, shall be the responsibility of the official making the purchase.

Amendment 706 ratified

Education First Amendment

Section I. This amendment shall be entitled the "Education First Amendment."

Section II. As used in this amendment, the following terms shall be given the following respective meanings:

(1) "Motor Fuel Tax" means a privilege or license tax levied upon every person, firm, or corporation selling, delivering, or withdrawing from storage or keeping in storage for sale or delivery in the county, any gasoline, naphtha, or other liquid motor fuels, or any device or substitutes therefor, commonly used in internal combustion engines, including diesel oil, tractor fuel, gas oil, distillate or liquefied gas, kerosene, jet fuel, or any substitutes or devices therefor, when sold, distributed, stored, or withdrawn from storage in the corporate limits of the City of Mobile and the City of Prichard for use in the operation of any motor vehicle upon the highways, but not including "kerosene oil," "fuel oil," or "crude oil" commonly used for lighting, heating, or industrial purposes, in an amount equal to two cents (\$.02) per gallon sold, delivered, withdrawn from storage, or kept in storage for sale or delivery. Provided, however, that the fuel tax herein provided for shall not be levied or paid on the sale of such motor fuels in interstate commerce, or to the federal government or any agency of the federal government, or to the State of Alabama, or to any incorporated municipality for municipal purposes, or to the county commission for county purposes, or to the board of school commissioners for the use or purposes of such board, or for use in operating or propelling tractors used exclusively for agricultural purposes, or for use in operating or propelling commercial fishing boats, or to such motor fuels which are withdrawn from storage for delivery only to a point or points outside the county, when the distributor or seller of such motor fuels prepares and files with the revenue commissioner of the county written statements sworn and subscribed to showing the name and address of the person and to whom such motor fuels are or have been delivered by the distributor or seller, the volume and kind of such motor fuels and the dates of such withdrawals, and the point or points outside the county to which the motor fuels are delivered, or are to be delivered. Where any excise tax which may be levied hereby upon the sale, use, distribution, storage, or withdrawal from storage of such motor fuels shall have been paid to the revenue commissioner of the county by any person, firm, or corporation, such payment shall be sufficient, the intent being that the tax shall be paid but once.

(2) "Property Tax" means an ad valorem tax on the value of taxable property, as assessed for state taxation during the preceding tax year; provided, however, that such tax shall not be levied and assessed against any private passenger automobiles or motor trucks of the type commonly known as "pickups" or "pickup trucks" owned and operated by an individual for personal or private use and not for hire, rent, or compensation.

(3) "Sales and Use Tax" means a privilege or license tax levied on account of business activities, in an amount determined by application of applicable rates against gross sales or gross receipts, or an excise tax on storage, use, or other consumption of tangible personal property, as the case may be, which shall parallel, except for the rate of the tax, the state sales and use taxes levied pursuant to Chapter 23, Title 40, of the Code of Alabama 1975, as the same may be amended from time to time; provided, that in the event of the repeal of the statutes imposing the state sales and use taxes, the sales and use tax levied hereunder shall apply to and be imposed upon every person upon whom, had it not been for such repeal, the state sales and use taxes would have been levied.

Section III. In addition to all other taxes now or hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, there is hereby levied and shall be collected a tax, the proceeds of which shall be used exclusively for public school purposes in Mobile County, including, without limitation, the payment of the principal of and interest on bonds, warrants, or other evidences of indebtedness issued for public school purposes. The taxes levied hereunder shall be determined as provided in Section 4 of this amendment and shall be:

(1) With respect to the areas of Mobile County within the corporate limits of the Cities of Mobile and Prichard, either (but not both) of the following:

a. a property tax at the rate of 12 mills on each \$1 on property located within the corporate limits of the City of Mobile and the City of Prichard in Mobile County; or

b. a property tax at the rate of 8 mills on each \$1 on all property located within the corporate limits of the City of Mobile and the City of Prichard in Mobile County and an additional motor fuel tax in such jurisdictions at the rate of two cents (\$.02) per gallon.

(2) With respect to the areas of Mobile County outside the corporate limits of the Cities of Mobile and Prichard, either (but not both) of the following:

a. a property tax at the rate of 12 mills on each \$1 on property located outside the corporate limits of the City of Mobile and the City of Prichard in Mobile County; or

b. a property tax at the rate of 4 mills on each \$1 on all property located outside the corporate limits of the City of Mobile and the City of Prichard in Mobile County and a sales and use tax at the rate of one-half percent (.5%) on account of business activities in areas of Mobile County outside the City of Mobile and the City of Prichard.

Section IV. The taxes levied hereunder shall be determined by referendum to be held in Mobile County simultaneously with the referendum on the approval of this amendment. The question shall be submitted to the qualified voters of Mobile County, in a referendum separate from and in a position on the ballot immediately following the proposition on the approval of this amendment, in the following form:

Question (1) "If the Education First Amendment is approved by the voters, which of the following taxes to be levied for public school purposes do you favor? Vote for one.

"___ FOR a property tax at the rate of 12 mills on each \$1 on all property located within the corporate limits of the City of Mobile and the City of Prichard in Mobile County; or

"___ FOR a property tax at the rate of eight mills on each \$1 on all property located within the corporate limits of the City of Mobile and the City of Prichard in Mobile County and an additional motor fuel tax at the rate of two cents (\$.02) per gallon in those jurisdictions."

The foregoing question shall be submitted to and voted on only by the electors residing in the Cities of Mobile and Prichard in Mobile County.

Question (2) "If the Education First Amendment is approved by the voters, which of the following taxes to be levied for public school purposes do you favor? Vote for one.

"___ FOR a property tax at the rate of 12 mills on each \$1 on all property located outside the corporate limits of the City of Mobile and the City of Prichard in Mobile County; or

"___ FOR a sales and use tax at the rate of one-half percent (.5%) in all areas located outside the corporate limits of the Cities of Mobile and Prichard in Mobile County and a special ad valorem tax at the rate of four mills on each \$1 on property located in all areas of the county outside the corporate limits of the Cities of Mobile and Prichard."

The foregoing question shall be submitted to and voted on only by the electors residing in areas outside the corporate limits of the Cities of Mobile and Prichard in Mobile County.

The taxes shall be levied upon approval of this amendment and in accordance with the results of the referenda provided for in this section. Failure of a person to vote on such question shall not affect the vote of that person on the question of the approval of this amendment. Likewise, the vote cast or the failure of a voter to vote on the approval of this amendment shall not affect his or her vote on the foregoing questions.

The judge of probate shall develop the two separate ballots to be submitted to each group of voters.

Section V. Any property tax levied hereby shall be levied each year, without limit as to time, effective with the tax year commencing October 1, 2000, which tax is due and payable October 1, 2001; provided, that if this amendment is approved and proclaimed ratified later than September 30, 2001, it shall be effective with the first tax year as to which taxes become payable after the date it is proclaimed ratified. Except as to the exemption from such tax as provided in Section 2, such tax shall be assessed and collected in the same manner as all other ad valorem taxes with respect to property in Mobile County. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any property annexed into the corporate limits of the City of Mobile or the City of Prichard shall not be subject to the 12-mill or eight-mill additional ad valorem

tax levied pursuant to the proposition in question (1) in Section 4 for a period of five years after annexation. During that five years, such property shall be subject to the same amount of ad valorem tax as is levied on property located outside the corporate limits of the City of Mobile and the City of Prichard.

Section VI. Any sales and use tax levied hereby shall be without limit as to time and shall be effective at the beginning of the third month following the month in which this amendment is proclaimed ratified. Any sales and use tax levied hereunder shall be administered and collected by the governing body of Mobile County or by such other officials to whom such duties may be delegated by the governing body of Mobile County from time to time. Any procedure or provision involving the State Department of Revenue which is incorporated herein by reference to the statutes imposing the state sales and use taxes shall be deemed to apply, with respect to the sales and use tax levied hereby, to the officer charged with the duty of administering and collecting such tax by the governing body of Mobile County. The governing body of Mobile County is hereby authorized to take such action as shall be necessary and appropriate to provide for the administration and collection of any sales and use tax levied hereby, including, without limitation, provisions for the making of returns or reports, the contents of returns or reports, collection and payment of taxes, keeping of records, penalties, assessments, and notices and examinations of taxpayers and their books, but all such provisions shall be parallel to the corresponding procedures with respect to the state sales and use taxes to the extent practicable. The proceeds of such tax, net of costs of collection, shall be paid to the Board of School Commissioners of Mobile County or its successors.

Section VII. Any motor fuel tax levied hereby shall be effective at the beginning of the third month following the month in which this amendment is proclaimed ratified.

Section VIII. The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and authorization from or any other action by the Legislature or the governing body of Mobile County shall not be a prerequisite to the levy or collection of the taxes provided for herein or the use of the proceeds thereof for public school purposes in Mobile County.

Section IX. The actions and authority conferred by this constitutional amendment, specifically including, without limitation, the tax or taxes levied hereby and the method of determining the tax or taxes to be levied, are in all things validated and confirmed, any provision or provisions of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, or any other laws of the state to the contrary notwithstanding, and to the extent that the provisions of this amendment may be inconsistent with provisions of any other provision or provisions of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, or any other laws of the state, the provisions of this amendment shall control.

Amendment 707 ratified

Home Rule in Shelby County.

Section 1. Home rule.

(a) Except as herein provided, the Shelby County Commission may adopt ordinances, resolutions, or regulations relating to its property, affairs, and county government for which no provision has been made by general law and which is not inconsistent with this Constitution or any local law enacted by the Alabama Legislature. Notwithstanding the general grant of power in the preceding sentence, the Shelby County Commission may not establish or levy any new tax or raise revenue except as authorized by this constitution or by general or local law enacted by the Legislature of the State of Alabama.

(b) The Shelby County Commission may fix the salary, compensation, expenses, and other benefits and terms of employment of those employed by the Shelby County Commission except for those subject to the jurisdiction of the Shelby County Law Enforcement Personnel Board, and establish and maintain retirement or pension systems, insurance, workers' compensation, hospitalization, and medical benefits for those employees. The Shelby County Commission shall employ a county manager and other professional staff as it deems appropriate to be authorized and directed to perform any applicable management and administrative function associated with the management of county property and services.

Section 2. Supplementary powers.

(a) The Shelby County Commission, in addition to, and supplementary of, all powers possessed by or conferred upon Shelby County or otherwise provided by general law, may by ordinance or resolution exercise the following powers, provide and regulate the following services, activities, programs, and facilities related thereto, and establish and provide for civil penalties for violation of its ordinances, rules, and regulations applicable thereto:

- (1) Police and fire protection.
- (2) Garbage and solid waste collection and disposal.
- (3) Public health facilities and services, including hospitals, ambulance and emergency rescue services, and control of dangerous animals and animal nuisances.
- (4) Public street and road construction and maintenance, including curbs, sidewalks, street lights, and devices to control the flow of traffic.
- (5) Parks, recreational areas, programs, and facilities.
- (6) Storm water and sanitary sewage collection and disposal systems.
- (7) Development, storage, treatment, purification, and distribution of water.
- (8) Public housing, public buildings, and parking facilities.
- (9) Public transportation.
- (10) Libraries, archives, and arts and sciences programs and facilities.
- (11) Economic development and tourism initiatives, developments, and projects.
- (12) Adoption of codes, including building, housing, plumbing, and electrical codes for the protection of the public.
- (13) Litter, trash, and rubbish regulation and control on or adjacent to public roads, streets, or highways, or on or in public buildings, public parks, and public properties.

(b) Unless otherwise provided by an act of the Legislature in effect upon ratification of this amendment or unless otherwise provided by general law, Shelby County may not exercise any of the powers listed in subsection (a) or provide any service listed therein inside the corporate limits of any municipality or within any other territory in which a municipality or an instrumentality of a municipality is authorized by an act of the Legislature to exercise the power or provide those services, or within any other county, except by contract with the municipality, municipal instrumentality, or county affected.

Section 3. Eminent domain.

The Shelby County Commission may exercise the power of eminent domain as is authorized by general law.

Section 4. Liability.

The Legislature may waive or limit the liability of Shelby County by law.

Section 5. Debt limitation.

The debt incurred by Shelby County, including debt incurred on behalf of any special district, may never exceed 10 percent of the assessed value of all taxable property within Shelby County.

Section 6. The Legislature of the State of Alabama, by local law, may provide criminal penalties for violations of certain activity and certain conduct in Shelby County if the activity or conduct involves the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the county or involves any of the following:

- (1) Litter, trash, and rubbish regulation and control on or adjacent to public roads, streets, or highways or on or in public buildings, public parks, or public properties.
 - (2) Control of public nuisances caused by noise levels or noxious odors, or substances.
 - (3) The use and control of public parks, lands, buildings, equipment, and real or personal property.
 - (4) Control of dangerous animals and animal nuisances.
-

Section 7. The Legislature, by local law, shall provide for the combination of the county offices of tax assessor and tax collector into one elected position of County Property Tax Commissioner.

Section 8. The powers granted to the Shelby County Commission by this amendment shall not be construed to extend to any matters which the Legislature by general law has heretofore preempted by operation of law, nor shall the powers be construed to extend to any of the following matters:

- (1) Action affecting any elective county office, the salaries thereof, or the personnel thereof, except the personnel subject to the jurisdiction of the Shelby County Commission.
- (2) Action affecting the composition, form, procedure for election or appointment, compensation, and expenses and allowances in the nature of compensation of the Shelby County Commission.
- (3) Action defining any criminal offense or providing for criminal punishment beyond that authorized by local or general law or by the Alabama Constitution.
- (4) Action extending the power of regulation over any business activity regulated by the Alabama Public Service Commission beyond that authorized by local or general law or by the Constitution.
- (5) Action affecting the exercise of the power of eminent domain.
- (6) Action affecting any court or the personnel thereof.
- (7) Action affecting any public school system.
- (8) Action affecting pari-mutuel betting or any pari-mutuel betting facility.
- (9) Action affecting in any manner the property, affairs, boundaries, revenues, powers, obligations, indebtedness, or government of a municipality.
- (10) Action affecting the private or civil law governing private or civil relationships, except as is incident to the exercise of an independent governmental power.

Section 9. The Legislature, by local law, may provide for the implementation and administration of the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 708 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Shelby County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Shelby County official or sheriff may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Shelby County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system, and shall be treated as an employee of the county. Shelby County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Shelby County official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Shelby County official. The words do not include a judge, county commissioner, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 709 ratified

Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account.

Section I. As used in this amendment, the following words and phrases shall have the following respective meanings:

"Alabama Trust Fund" means the irrevocable, permanent trust fund created by Amendment No. 450 to the Constitution of Alabama 1901.

"Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account" means the special account created by this amendment.

"Oil and Gas Capital Payment" means any payment (including any royalty payment) received by the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof as all or part of the consideration for the sale, leasing or other disposition by the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof of any right to explore and drill for or to produce oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals in any area on the water side of the high water mark of Mobile Bay or in any other offshore area and shall include any revenue by the state from federal oil and gas leases off the coast of Alabama. Any royalty or other payment, with the exception of any taxes heretofore or hereafter levied, that is based upon or determined with respect to the production of oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals and that is paid to the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof, regardless of the time of such payment, shall be considered an oil and gas capital payment.

Section II. (a) Within thirty days following ratification of this constitutional amendment there shall be created within the Alabama Trust Fund the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account. Upon creation, the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account shall be credited with Oil and Gas Capital Payments previously transferred into the Alabama Trust Fund up to an amount equal to six percent of the Education Trust Fund appropriations for fiscal year 2002. Once established, no further amounts from the Alabama Trust Fund may be credited to the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account except repayments as provided in subsection (b) below. Funds from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account may be withdrawn only to prevent proration of the appropriations for the public schools, public colleges and universities, public schools for the deaf and blind, including all appropriations to the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, public schools for the mentally ill and retarded, and other entities established by general statute for public school students from the Education Trust Fund subject to the following limitations. For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002 funds may not be withdrawn from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account unless legislation is enacted during the 2001 4th Special Session of the Legislature which increases Education Trust Fund revenues and reduces Education Trust Fund expenditures by a combined amount of \$160 million as certified by the Legislative Fiscal Officer to the Legislature at the same time as the certifications pursuant to Section 16-13-281(c) are made. Beginning in the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2002 withdrawals from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account shall be limited to an amount necessary to reach the average of the estimated available revenue which is to be certified by the Finance Director and the Legislative Fiscal Officer at the same time as the certifications pursuant to Section 16-13-281(c) Code of Alabama 1975 are made. The Governor shall certify to the state comptroller and notify the Legislature that proration would occur in appropriations for the public schools, public colleges and universities, public schools for the deaf and blind, including all appropriations to the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, public schools for the mentally ill and retarded, and other entities established by general statute for public school students from the Education Trust Fund in accordance with this constitution. Upon the certification by the Governor, and after all other sources available to be used to offset proration have been utilized, withdrawals from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account may be made; however, withdrawals shall be limited to the amount of the anticipated proration and funds allotted only to the extent necessary to avoid proration of appropriations for the public schools, public colleges and universities, public schools for the deaf and blind, including all appropriations to the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, public schools for the mentally ill and retarded, and other entities established by general statute for public school students from the Education Trust Fund as limited by this section. In the event funds are withdrawn from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account an additional amount equal to twenty-five percent of the Education Trust Fund transfer amount shall be transferred from the Alabama Trust Fund to the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund.

(b) The Finance Director shall ensure that if during the fiscal year, receipts to the Education Trust Fund (net of the Education Trust Rainy Day Account payments) are sufficient to reduce proration of funds for the public schools, public colleges and universities, public schools for the deaf and blind, including all appropriations to the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, public schools for the mentally ill and retarded, and other entities established by general statute for public school students which has been declared and for which funds have been withdrawn, then the amount corresponding to the reduced proration percentage shall be transferred back to the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account within the Alabama Trust Fund within thirty days after the end of the fiscal year in which the withdrawals were made. Any amount transferred back to the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account shall necessitate a transfer of an additional amount equal to twenty-five percent of that amount from the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund into the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account within the Alabama Trust Fund.

(c) The Legislature may provide by statute for the replenishment of the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account within the Alabama Trust Fund from sources other than the Alabama Trust Fund or Oil and Gas Capital Payments. The earnings from the investment of funds due to the replenishment shall be deposited into the State General Fund.

(d) The allocations to the Alabama Capital Improvement Trust Fund and to the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund as provided in Amendment 666 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, shall not be diminished by the application of this amendment.

(e) The Legislature must provide for the replenishment of the account within five (5) years after withdrawal of any funds from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account pursuant to the provisions of this amendment. After the complete replenishment of the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account, any excess funds shall be designated to repay any lost interest earnings to the trust established under Amendment 543 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, due to any withdrawal from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account.

Amendment 710 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Lamar County.

In addition to any court costs or fees now or hereafter authorized, and notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution, including, without limitation, Sections 96, 104, and 105, there shall be an additional fee of one hundred dollars (\$100) in misdemeanor drug cases and an additional fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) in felony drug convictions assessed and taxed as costs on criminal cases filed in circuit court, district court, or any municipal court in Lamar County. The fees may not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the cases are waived. The additional fees, when collected by the clerks or other collection officers of the courts, shall be paid into the General Fund of Lamar County to be used by the county commission for the operation and maintenance of the canine unit in the office of the sheriff. This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 711 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 551

Amendment No. 551 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, is amended to read as follows:

The Legislature declares that all volunteer fire departments, including volunteer fire departments that have emergency medical technicians that are members, are organizations that are public in nature and serve to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Montgomery County.

In addition to all ad valorem taxes levied for fire protection, the Montgomery County Commission may levy and collect a special ad valorem tax, not to exceed five mills in any year on each dollar of assessed value of the property taxed, on property in the unincorporated area of Montgomery County for the purpose of providing fire protection in the unincorporated area of Montgomery County.

The tax provided in this act shall be levied, collected, administered, and enforced at the same time, in the same manner, and under the same requirements and laws as state ad valorem taxes. The officials collecting or assessing the tax shall be entitled to the same fees and compensation as are provided for collecting and assessing ad valorem taxes. The proceeds of the tax shall be paid into the county general fund. Within thirty days after payment into the county general fund, the Montgomery County Commission shall pay the funds to the Montgomery County Association of Volunteer Firefighters, hereafter referred to as the county association. The county association shall distribute the funds as follows:

- (1) 60 percent shall be divided equally among all eligible volunteer fire departments.
- (2) 30 percent shall be divided according to a percentage based upon the monies collected in a fire district compared to the total monies collected. The county association shall notify the Revenue Commissioner within 30 days after this act becomes operative of the designated fire districts. The boundaries of the fire districts may be rearranged at the discretion of the county association as they deem necessary, from time to time, to maximize fire protection services in the county.
- (3) Ten percent of the money shall be designated as discretionary fund of the county association to be used for any expenditure otherwise allowable under this act.

In order to be an eligible volunteer fire department for purposes of this act, a volunteer fire department shall be in good standing with the Montgomery County Association of Volunteer Firefighters.

Funds disbursed to eligible volunteer fire departments pursuant to this act shall be expended only for fire protection and emergency medical services, including but not limited to, training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, equipment, insurance, professional services, and dues. The funds shall not be expended for food, drink, social activities, or fund-raising activities. After receiving the funds, the volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds are properly expended. By September 15th of each year, the department shall file a report with the county association detailing the expenditure of all funds during the previous twelve months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall account for all unspent funds and whether unspent funds have been obligated. Unspent funds that have not been obligated which exceed the amount of total receipts paid to the department for the prior year from this tax shall be returned to the county association for redistribution equally among the other fire departments. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department. The copy of the year-end report shall be filed with the county commission and shall be audited by the Examiners of Public Accounts of the state on the same basis as county funds are audited.

Upon dissolution or abandonment of an eligible volunteer fire department, all remaining funds derived from this act or assets purchased with the funds derived from this act shall be transferred to the county association.

Prior to the levy of the fire protection tax in the unincorporated areas of county, there shall be submitted to the electors at a special election called for that purpose in the county, the question of whether the tax shall be levied. If a majority of the qualified electors within the unincorporated area of the county who vote at the election approve the tax, the tax shall be effective and levied. If a majority of the qualified electors within the unincorporated area of the county who vote at the election do not approve the tax, the tax shall not be effective and shall not be levied.

Elections on the question of the levy of a fire protection tax in the county may be held at any time and from time to time. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if at an election held after the ratification of this amendment the proposal to levy the tax so submitted is defeated, then the proposal may not be submitted at another election held in the county within two years from the last election held under this amendment.

Amendment 712 ratified

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services in Montgomery County.

- (a) This amendment shall not apply to the City of Montgomery in Montgomery County.
- (b) The governing body of any incorporated municipality in Montgomery County to which this amendment applies may levy and impose a special ad valorem tax, not to exceed five mills in any year, on each dollar of assessed value of the property taxed, on property in the incorporated area of municipality for the purpose of financing fire protection and emergency medical services within the boundaries of the municipality. Financing such services may include, but not be limited to, entering contracts for the services with existing fire departments, volunteer fire departments, and emergency medical service providers.
- (c) The Legislature by local law may provide for the administration, collection, and allocation of any revenues from the ad valorem taxes levied and imposed under this amendment so long as the allocations are made solely for fire protection and emergency medical services.

Amendment 713 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Montgomery County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, the Montgomery County Commission and the City Council of the City of Montgomery, any other provision of law or of this Constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one another, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop such land for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve such sites or projects.
- (2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or the City of Montgomery, as applicable, all or any part of any site or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or any municipality therein, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.
- (3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of Montgomery County or the City of Montgomery.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Montgomery County nor the City of Montgomery shall be subject to Section 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by Montgomery County or by the City of Montgomery, including specifically any industrial development board incorporated under Chapter 54, Article 4, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, and any industrial development authority incorporated or reincorporated under Chapter 92A, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, is validated and the powers granted to such board or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

Neither Montgomery County nor the City of Montgomery shall lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto: (i) the action proposed to be taken by Montgomery County or the City of Montgomery is at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or city, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by such governing body that the expenditure of public funds for such purpose will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose,

notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities; and (ii) at least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county or in the city, as the case may be, describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by such action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the city proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value. For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a grant of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

Amendment 714 ratified

Procedure for Ratification and Adoption of Proposed Constitution of Alabama.

Any proposed Constitution of Alabama adopted to replace the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, whether adopted by a constitutional convention pursuant to Section 286 or by any other constitutionally authorized method now in existence or subsequently adopted, shall become effective only if the proposed constitution is ratified by a majority of the qualified electors of the state voting on the question of such ratification.

Prior to the ratification election, the text of the proposed constitution shall be published in the same manner as the proclamation of the election. The proposed constitution shall be published on a separate sheet or sheets and circulated with the newspapers in which the proclamation is published. The Legislature may also provide for other methods of publishing the text of the proposed constitution.

The result of the election shall be made known by proclamation of the Governor. If the proposed constitution is ratified as provided in this amendment, it shall become effective on the first day of January following ratification, unless otherwise provided in the ratified constitution. If the ratified constitution provides otherwise, the effective date shall be as provided in the ratified constitution.

The Legislature shall provide for the notice, and procedures related to the election, canvassing, proclamation, and costs which are in conformity with this amendment. If proposed by convention, the election shall be held at the next general election not less than 90 days following adjournment of the convention at which it was proposed.

Amendment 715 ratified

Organization and Promotion of Sheep and Goat Industry.

The Legislature, by general law, may provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, improvement, marketing, use, and sale of sheep or goats. The Legislature may provide for the promotion of sheep and goats and their products by research, education, advertising, and other methods. The Legislature may provide means and methods for the financing of any promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby producers of sheep and goats may levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of sheep and goats for the financing of any promotional program or activity in cooperation with buyers, processors, dealers, distributors, and handlers of sheep and goats. The Legislature may make provisions for the nonpayment of assessments by sheep and goat producers and shall make provisions for the refund of assessments to any producer of sheep or goats who does not desire to participate in an assessment program. The Legislature shall provide for the collection, disbursement, distribution, or expenditure of assessments or charges authorized by this amendment and provide penalties for failure to make the collection and distribution of assessments. The Legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization for the promotion and betterment of sheep and goats and their products to administer and carry out any promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among producers of sheep and goats. The Legislature may provide the manner by which a referendum is held, including the procedure for application for approval to conduct the referendum, the appropriate action to be taken by the State Board of Agriculture and Industries on an application, the requirements and eligibility of the association or

organization which will conduct the referendum, the procedures for voting and eligibility to vote in the referendum, and the details of the conduct of the referendum. The Legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement, and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities as authorized by the Department of Agriculture and Industries and the State Board of Agriculture and Industries. The Legislature shall further provide a procedure for the association or organization to be bonded, for the examination and auditing of the association or organization, and for reasonably necessary rules and regulations to be adopted by the State Board of Agriculture and Industries to effectively carry out the intent and purposes of this amendment. Assessments, fees, or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority of this amendment are not to be considered a tax within the meaning of this constitution or any other provisions. Any uniformity requirements of this constitution shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon the sheep and goat industry.

Amendment 716 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Baldwin County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Baldwin County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Baldwin County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Baldwin County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 717 ratified

Employees Subject to Authority of Sheriff's Personnel Board in Baldwin County.

No later than the first day of the sixth month after ratification of this amendment, employees of the Office of the Sheriff of Baldwin County, except for the chief deputy, chief corrections officer, chief civil deputy, financial officer, and personnel officer, shall be under the authority of the Baldwin County Sheriff's Personnel Board. The provisions of this amendment shall not affect the liability of the employees of the Office of the Sheriff of Baldwin County.

Amendment 718 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Blount County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Blount County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Blount County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system; provided, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. Blount County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees'

Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, that costs associated with the purchase of prior service credit as prescribed in Section 36-27-6.1, shall be the responsibility of the official making the purchase. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 719 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Butler County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, Butler County and any municipality therein, any other provision of law or of this Constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one another, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop such land for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve such sites or projects.
- (2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or the municipality, as applicable, all or any part of any site or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or any municipality therein, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.
- (3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of Butler County or any municipality therein.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Butler County nor any municipality therein shall be subject to Section 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by Butler County or by any municipality therein, including specifically any industrial development board incorporated under Chapter 54, Article 4, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, and any industrial development authority incorporated or reincorporated under Chapter 92A, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, is validated and the powers granted to such board or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

Neither Butler County nor any municipality therein shall lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto: (i) the action proposed to be taken by Butler County or any municipality therein is at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or city, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by such governing body that the expenditure of public funds for such purpose will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose, notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities; and (ii) at least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county or in the city, as the case may be, describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by such action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the city proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value. For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a grant of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

Amendment 720 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 291.

Amendment No. 291 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, is amended to read as follows:

In addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, each school district in Calhoun county, except the school district comprising the city of Anniston, shall have the power to levy and collect for public school purposes in such district an annual special ad valorem tax on the taxable properties in such district at a rate not exceeding in any one year five mills on each dollar of the value of the said properties as the same shall be assessed for state taxation; provided that prior to the levy of any special tax authorized in this paragraph, there shall be submitted to the electors of the district in which the tax is proposed to be levied, at a special election called for that purpose in the said district, the question of whether the said tax or any part thereof shall be levied, the rate thereof, and the purpose thereof, and the said tax shall be authorized at such election by a majority of the qualified electors of the district voting at such election; provided further, that if a majority of the qualified electors of any of the said districts participating in the election on the ratification of this amendment shall vote for the ratification of this amendment, then the approval of this amendment as expressed by the vote in said district in favor of its ratification shall, of itself, authorize the levy and collection of the said special tax for public school purposes in that district and will become due and payable to the said district on the October 1 next following the date of the said election on the ratification of this amendment. Any tax previously levied and approved pursuant to this amendment and any and all taxes levied and approved pursuant to this Constitution and any other amendments thereto shall remain effective for an indefinite period of time until specifically repealed by law.

Elections on the question of the levy of a district tax under the provisions of this amendment may be held at any time and from time to time, provided, that if at any such election held after the ratification of this amendment the proposal to levy the tax so submitted should be defeated then the proposal may not be submitted at another election held in the same district within one year from the last election held under this amendment. Each such election held after the ratification of this amendment shall be called and held, the results declared, and the tax levied and collected in the same manner as now or hereafter provided by law in the case of school district taxes authorized by amendment III [3] to the Constitution of Alabama, except that no countywide tax shall be required as a condition precedent for a district tax under this amendment.

The funds arising from the district tax herein authorized to be levied in each school district shall be expended for the exclusive benefit of the school district in which such district tax is levied. Nothing in this amendment shall be deemed to prevent the consolidation of any two or more school districts in Calhoun county in accordance with the applicable provisions of general law.

Amendment 721 ratified

Extension of Special Ad Valorem Tax for Public Library Purposes in Chambers County.

(a) Subject to the succeeding provisions of this amendment, the governing body of Chambers County shall continue to levy and provide for the collection of the special county ad valorem tax authorized by Amendment 554 of this constitution at the existing rate of 20 cents (\$.20) on each one hundred dollars (\$100) of taxable property in the county for an additional 10 years commencing on October 1, 2003, and expiring on September 30, 2013.

(b) The proceeds from the ad valorem tax which shall continue to be levied under subsection (a) of this amendment shall continue to be used for public library purposes in Chambers County in the same manner prescribed in subsections (a) and (b) of Amendment 554 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, for the use of the ad valorem tax proceeds collected pursuant to Amendment 554.

(c) The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and no further referendum or action by the Legislature shall be a prerequisite to continuing the levy and collection of the tax herein authorized. The county governing body shall provide for the administration and collection of the tax.

Amendment 722 ratified

Civil Service Merit System for Certain Employees in Chilton County.

The Legislature, by local law applicable only in Chilton County, may provide for the establishment of a civil service merit system for employees of the Office of Sheriff of Chilton County, including deputy sheriffs, county law enforcement officers, radio operators, jailers, and any other support personnel who work for the sheriff, except for the chief deputy.

Amendment 723 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Coffee County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, the Coffee County Commission and the governing body of any city or municipality located within Coffee County, any other provision of law or of this Constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one another, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop such land for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve such sites or projects.
- (2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or any city or municipality located therein, as applicable, all or any part of any site or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or any municipality therein, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.
- (3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of Coffee County or any city or municipality located therein.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Coffee County nor any city or municipality located therein shall be subject to Section 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by Coffee County or by any city or municipality located therein, including specifically any industrial development board incorporated under Chapter 54, Article 4, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, and any industrial development authority incorporated or reincorporated under Chapter 92A, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, is validated and the powers granted to such board or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

Neither Coffee County nor any city or municipality located therein shall lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto: (i) the action proposed to be taken by Coffee County or any city or municipality located therein is at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or city, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by such governing body that the expenditure of public funds for such purpose will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose, notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities; and (ii) at least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county or in the city, as the case may be, describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by such action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the city proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of

value. For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a grant of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

Amendment 724 ratified

Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services in Coosa County.

The Legislature, from time to time, by local law may authorize the county governing body of Coosa County to levy and collect fees, annually not to exceed thirty dollars (\$30) on each residence and fifty dollars (\$50) on each business located within the county, for fire protection services and emergency medical care. The local law may provide for the distribution of the fees to volunteer fire departments and to emergency medical technicians who are members of volunteer fire departments, or provide for the distribution of the fees to an association of volunteer fire departments to be distributed by the association for the same purposes.

Amendment 725 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Covington County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development of Covington County, the Covington County Commission, and the city councils of each municipality located in the county having a population of over 1,500 based on the 2000 decennial census, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one or more of such governmental entities, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Purchase, construct, develop, equip, operate, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind.
- (2) Lease, sell for cash, or on credit, exchange, give, and convey any such property described in subdivision (1), to any person, firm, association, corporation or entity, public, or private, including, but not limited to, a duly authorized industrial development board or economic development commission or airport authority serving the county or any such municipalities.
- (3) Promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or business therein.
- (4) Become a stockholder or equity owner in any corporation, association, company, or entity.
- (5) Lend its credit or grant public moneys and things of value in aid of any individual, firm, association, corporation, or entity whatsoever.
- (6) Become indebted and issue and sell bonds, warrants, which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years, notes or other obligations, or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding 50 percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease, or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision (1) or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or any such municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
- (7) Create a public board, agency, authority, commission, corporation, or other entity having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the county or any such municipality may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the Secretary of State, or their respective successors in function, and delegate to such public board, agency, authority, commission, corporation, or other entity and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county or any such municipality.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Covington County nor the municipalities shall be subject to Sections 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by Covington County or by the municipalities, including specifically any industrial development board or authority, any economic development commission or authority, or any airport authority is validated and the powers granted to such board, commission, or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any such municipality, or to any agency, board, corporation, commission, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

Neither Covington County nor the municipalities shall lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto: (i) the action proposed to be taken by Covington County or any such municipality is approved at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or municipality, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by such governing body that the expenditure of public funds for such purpose will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose, notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities; and (ii) at least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county or in any such municipality, as the case may be, describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by such action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the municipality proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value. For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a granting of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences or indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized shall be conclusive, and no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further. The bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences or indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the county or any such municipality for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county or any such municipality under Section 224 or Section 225 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

This amendment shall be self-executing, but notwithstanding any contrary provisions of Section 104 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, the Legislature may by general, special, or local act adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth. No such special or local act shall be subject to the provisions of Section 106 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

Amendment 726 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Crenshaw County.

(a) In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized in Crenshaw County, and notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution, including, without limitation, Sections 96, 104, and 105, the Crenshaw County Commission may impose an additional fee in an amount not to exceed thirty-five dollars (\$35) on each civil and criminal case, including traffic cases, filed in the circuit court, district court, or any municipal court in Crenshaw County. These fees shall not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the case are waived.

(b) The additional fees, when collected by the clerks or other collection officers of the courts, shall be paid into the General Fund of Crenshaw County to be used by the county commission for the planning, designing, constructing, operating, furnishing, equipping, and financing of a county jail. The Crenshaw County Commission may set and adjust by resolution the fees within the limits authorized by this amendment based on the needs associated with the planning, designing, constructing, operating, furnishing, equipping, and financing of a county jail.

Amendment 727 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Crenshaw County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Crenshaw County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Crenshaw County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Crenshaw County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 728 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 637.

Amendment 637 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 is amended to read as follows:

(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes levied, the DeKalb County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1998, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located in DeKalb County, excluding taxable property located within the city limits of Fort Payne, at a rate of three mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property. The proceeds of the tax levied pursuant to this amendment shall be paid into the county general fund and distributed for the benefit of fire protection only.

(b) Within 30 days of payment into the county general fund, the county commission shall pay the funds to the DeKalb County Association of Fire Departments, Incorporated. At each quarterly meeting of the association, the funds shall be divided between all eligible volunteer fire departments and the DeKalb County Association of Fire Departments so that each volunteer fire department receives an equal share of the funds and the county association receives an amount equal to the total of three of the equal shares received by the volunteer fire departments. Of the three share total distributed to the county association, one-third or one share may be used for administrative duties, the other two-thirds or two shares may be used for fire protection services in those areas not adequately covered by a fire department or for additional fire service equipment purchases on a countywide basis, or both. The county commission and the county association may jointly establish rules regarding the transfer, investing, accounting, and handling of the funds, including but not limited to, any funds which have accrued since October 1, 1998, and have not been distributed as of the ratification date of this amendment.

(c) Funds paid to eligible volunteer fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services, including training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. An eligible volunteer fire department shall mean a volunteer fire department located in DeKalb County that is certified under the guidelines of the Alabama Forestry Commission, has at least an ISO class 9 rating, and is a member in good standing of the DeKalb County Association, Incorporated. The funds may not be expended for salaries, food, drink, social activities, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the eligible volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15th of each year, each eligible volunteer fire department shall file a form with the county association detailing the expenditures of all funds during the previous 12 months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department.

(d) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible volunteer fire department, any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the county association.

(e) The personnel of volunteer fire departments shall not be considered as employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of volunteer fire departments.

Amendment 729 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Henry County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development of Henry County, the Henry County Economic Development Authority, Incorporated, an Alabama nonprofit corporation, the Henry County Commission, and the city council of each municipality located in the county, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one or more of such governmental entities, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Purchase, construct, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind.
- (2) Lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give, and convey any such property described in subdivision (1), to any person, firm, association, or corporation.
- (3) Promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or business therein.
- (4) Become a stockholder in any corporation, association, or company.
- (5) Lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, to any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
- (6) Become indebted and issue and sell bonds, warrants, which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years, notes or other obligations, or evidences of indebtedness to a principal amount not exceeding 50 percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease, or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision (1) or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or any such municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
- (7) Create a public authority or corporation having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of the county or any such municipality may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the judge of probate or the Secretary of State, or their respective successors in function, and delegate to such public authority or corporation and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the county or any such municipality.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized shall be conclusive, and no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further. The bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences or indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the county or any such municipality for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county or any such municipality under Section 234 or Section 225 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither the county nor any municipality shall be subject to the provisions of Section 94 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. This amendment shall be self-executing, but notwithstanding any contrary provisions of Section 104 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, the Legislature may by general, special, or local act adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth. No such special or local act shall be subject to the provisions of Section 106 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

Nothing contained herein shall be deemed to confer upon the Henry County Commission or the City Council of any municipality located in this county, or any public authority created pursuant to this amendment, the authority to purchase, construct, lease, control or otherwise acquire or operate telecommunications facilities, cable facilities or electric generating, transmission or distribution facilities, lines, or equipment.

Amendment 730 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Jackson County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Jackson County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Jackson County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Jackson County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Jackson County in any representation body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 731 ratified

Amendment to Amendment No. 691.

Amendment 691 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, is amended to read as follows:

Amendment No. 691

No elected or appointed Lawrence County official, including the sheriff, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Lawrence County official, including the sheriff, may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Lawrence County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment, or any amendment thereto, shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Lawrence County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Lawrence County in any representative body of the state, including the sheriff, and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Lawrence County official. The words do not include a judge, legislator, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 732 ratified

Bingo Games in Town of White Hall.

(a) The operation of bingo games, including media bingo, for prizes or money by nonprofit organizations, which shall include the Town of White Hall or any agency thereof, for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in the Town of White Hall that is located in Lowndes County, subject to any resolution or ordinance by the town council. The town council shall have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for the licensing and operation of bingo games within its jurisdiction provided, however, the town council shall insure compliance pursuant to any ordinance and the following provisions:

(1) No person under the age of 18 years shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, nor shall any person under the age of 19 years be permitted to conduct or assist in the operation of any game of bingo.

(2) No bingo license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless the organization shall have been in existence for at least two years immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license.

(3) Bingo games shall be operated only on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. If the premises are leased, the rate of rental shall not be based on a percentage of receipts or profits resulting from the operation of bingo games unless such percentage is established by promulgated rules and regulations authorized by the town council.

(4) A nonprofit organization may enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization. No nonprofit organization shall pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game.

(5) A nonprofit organization shall not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by another person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating the bingo game.

(6) Prizes given by any nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value set by regulations.

(7) No tax shall be levied on any game permitted by this amendment, nor shall any person or organization, by whatever name or composition thereof, take any expense for the operation of a bingo game except as permitted by law.

(b) The town council may provide for the implementation of this amendment by the adoption of any resolution or ordinance as provided heretofore.

(c) The provisions of this amendment are complimentary and supplemental to any amendment heretofore ratified authorizing the operation of bingo games in the Town of White Hall located in Lowndes County.

(d) Any person who violates the regulations provided under the provisions of this amendment shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor upon the first conviction under this amendment and any subsequent violation shall be a Class A misdemeanor.

Amendment 733 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Marengo County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Marengo County official, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Marengo County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be

specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Marengo County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 734 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 592.

Amendment 592 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, is amended to read as follows:

Amendment No. 592

No elected or appointed Morgan County official, including the sheriff, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Morgan County official, including the sheriff, may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Morgan County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment, or any amendment thereto, shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 735 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Perry County.

The Legislature, by general or local law, may fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Perry County and provide for their distribution.

Amendment 736 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 507.

Amendment No. 507.

In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized to be collected in Russell County, the County Commission of Russell County may assess a fee not to exceed thirty dollars (\$30.00) upon the privilege of filing an initial complaint in all civil and criminal cases filed in any court in the county, as well as a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5.00) for the service of all pleadings and other documents in connection with any action or case. All fees shall be paid into the county general fund and shall be applied exclusively for payment of the cost of the planning, construction, equipping, maintaining, and operating of the county jail, or for the payment of the principal of and interest on any bonds, warrants, or other obligations issued by or on behalf of the county to finance the costs of the jail, as well as the expenses of issuance of any bonds, warrants, or other obligations.

Amendment 736 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No. 507.

Amendment No. 507.

In addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized to be collected in Russell County, the County Commission of Russell County may assess a fee not to exceed thirty dollars (\$30.00) upon the privilege of filing an initial complaint in all civil and criminal cases filed in any court in the county, as well as a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5.00) for the service of all pleadings and other documents in connection with any action or case. All fees shall be paid into the county general fund and shall be applied exclusively for payment of the cost of the planning, construction, equipping, maintaining, and operating of the county jail, or for the payment of the principal of and interest on any bonds, warrants, or other obligations issued by or on behalf of the county to finance the costs of the jail, as well as the expenses of issuance of any bonds, warrants, or other obligations.

Amendment 737 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Russell County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, Russell County and any municipality therein, any other provision of law or of this Constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one another, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop such land for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve such sites or projects.
- (2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or the municipality, as applicable, all or any part of any site or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or any municipality therein, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.
- (3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of Russell County or any municipality therein.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Russell County nor any municipality therein shall be subject to Section 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by Russell County or by any municipality therein, including specifically any industrial development board incorporated under Chapter 54, Article 4, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, and any industrial development authority incorporated or reincorporated under Chapter 92A, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, is validated and the powers granted to such board or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

Neither Russell County nor any municipality therein shall lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto: (i) the action proposed to be taken by Russell County or any municipality therein is at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or city, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by such governing body that the expenditure of public funds for such purpose will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose, notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities; and (ii) at least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county or in the city, as the case may be,

describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by such action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the city proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value. For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a grant of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

Amendment 738 ratified

Council-Manager Form of Government in City of Talladega.

- (a) This amendment applies only to the City of Talladega in Talladega County.
- (b) The council-manager form of government shall become operative in the city on the first Monday in October following the next municipal election of the city council and mayor.
- (c) At the next municipal election and at municipal elections thereafter, a city council composed of five members elected from single-member districts and a mayor elected from the city at-large shall be elected. The five members of the council shall initially be elected from the same districts as the current city council. The mayor shall not serve on the council or participate in the adoption of ordinances or in other matters coming before the council.
- (d) The city council shall employ a city manager under the terms and conditions it shall provide. The current city clerk shall continue to serve until the position becomes vacant, but shall serve under the direction of the city manager.
- (e) The mayor shall serve on a part-time basis and shall be recognized as the head of the municipal government for all ceremonial purposes, but shall have no other administrative duties. The salary of the mayor shall be set by the council to reflect a part-time position.
- (f) Except as otherwise provided in this amendment, the city shall operate under the council-manager form of government as provided in Chapter 43A of Title 11, Code of Alabama 1975, or as otherwise provided by general law.
- (g) The city may exercise any powers granted to municipalities pursuant to general law.
- (h) The City of Talladega shall remain under the council-manager form of government unless this amendment is repealed.

Amendment 739 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Tallapoosa County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, Tallapoosa County and any municipality therein, any other provision of law or of this Constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one another, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop such land for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve such sites or projects.
 - (2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or the municipality, as applicable, all or any part of any site or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or any municipality therein, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.
 - (3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of
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Tallapoosa County or any municipality therein.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Tallapoosa County nor any municipality therein shall be subject to Section 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by Tallapoosa County or by any municipality therein, including specifically any industrial development board incorporated under Chapter 54, Article 4, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, and any industrial development authority incorporated or reincorporated under Chapter 92A, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, is validated and the powers granted to such board or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

Neither Tallapoosa County nor any municipality therein shall lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto: (i) the action proposed to be taken by Tallapoosa County or any municipality therein is approved at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or city, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by such governing body that the expenditure of public funds for such purpose will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose, notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities; and (ii) at least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county or in the city, as the case may be, describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by such action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the city proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value. For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a grant of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

Amendment 740 ratified

Polling Places in Tuscaloosa County.

Every polling place in Tuscaloosa County shall be open for voting on election day for any local, state, or national election at 7:00 A.M. and shall close at 7:00 P.M. The Tuscaloosa County Commission shall provide funds from the county general fund for any additional compensation needed for poll workers required to work the extended hours required by this amendment.

Amendment 741 ratified

Tuscaloosa County Judicial Commission.

(a) In Tuscaloosa County, all vacancies in the offices of judge of the circuit court and judge of the district court shall be filled in the manner and for the time as provided in this amendment. The Tuscaloosa County Judicial Commission is created for the purpose of nominating to the Governor persons for appointment to any vacancy in the office of judge of the circuit court and judge of the district court. The nine members of the commission shall consist of the following: One attorney primarily or substantially engaged in a plaintiff civil practice; one attorney primarily or substantially engaged in a defense civil practice; one attorney primarily or substantially engaged in a domestic relations practice; one attorney primarily or substantially engaged in a criminal defense practice; the District Attorney for Tuscaloosa County; the Presiding Judge of the Circuit Court of Tuscaloosa County; and three people who are not members of the Alabama State Bar. Each member shall reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the Circuit Court of Tuscaloosa County.

(b) Members of the commission shall be elected in the following manner:

- (1) At least 30 days prior to the Tuscaloosa County Bar Association meeting at which any Alabama State Bar member of the Tuscaloosa County Judicial Commission shall be elected, the Executive Committee of the Tuscaloosa County Bar Association shall provide notice of such election and a list of at least two nominees for each vacancy on the Tuscaloosa County Judicial Commission, except for the positions held by the District Attorney for Tuscaloosa County and the Presiding Judge of the Circuit Court of Tuscaloosa County, to all members of the Tuscaloosa County Bar Association. Any member may submit additional nominations in writing to the President or Secretary of the Tuscaloosa County Bar Association no later than 14 days after the date upon which the list of nominees was provided, specifying the position on the commission for which the nomination is made. All nominees shall be members in good standing of the Alabama and Tuscaloosa County Bar Associations and shall have been engaged in the active practice of law for at least five years.
 - (2) After the 14-day period for nominations has passed, the Tuscaloosa County Bar Executive Committee shall certify each nominee who meets the criteria for election to the commission.
 - (3) The names of all nominees certified by the executive committee for each vacant position shall be provided to all members of the Tuscaloosa County Bar Association at least seven days prior to the announced date of the election. The standing rules and regulations of the Tuscaloosa County Bar Association shall govern the election process during the bar association meeting.
 - (4) The members of the commission who are not members of the state bar shall be selected by a majority of the Tuscaloosa County Legislative Delegation. At least 14 days prior to any meeting for the selection of the members to the commission who are not members of the state bar, the Presiding Judge of the Circuit Court of Tuscaloosa County shall notify the Chair of the Tuscaloosa County Legislative Delegation and all members of the Tuscaloosa Legislative Delegation of the need for a meeting to select candidates for the commission. The Chair of the Tuscaloosa County Legislative Delegation shall also notify the members of the legislative delegation and the presiding circuit court judge of the circuit of the time and location of the meeting. At the meeting, the senators and representatives shall select the members to be appointed to the commission. The Chair of the Tuscaloosa Legislative Delegation shall certify in writing to the Secretary of the Tuscaloosa County Bar Association the name of the individuals selected.
 - (c) The Secretary of the Tuscaloosa County Bar Association shall certify in writing to the Tuscaloosa County Judge of Probate the names of the members of the commission. The judge of probate shall record all certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original certificates. Upon receipt of the certificate of election, the judge of probate shall send a certified copy to the Governor.
 - (d) The terms of office of the appointed members of the commission shall be six years. The length of each term shall be designated by the Executive Committee of the Tuscaloosa County Bar Association. Any vacancy on the Tuscaloosa County Judicial Commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the member was originally chosen.
 - (e) No member shall receive any salary or other compensation for services. No member of the commission, other than the Tuscaloosa County District Attorney and the Presiding Judge of the Circuit Court of Tuscaloosa County shall hold any elected office nor shall any member hold any official position in any political party.
 - (f) If, after the ratification of this amendment, a vacancy occurs in Tuscaloosa County in the office of judge of the circuit court or judge of the district court, the commission shall submit to the Governor within 45 days after the vacancy occurs a slate of three persons who are qualified for the office. The nominations shall be made only by the concurrence of a majority of the members of the commission. The presiding judge of the circuit court shall certify the three nominees to the Governor, who shall appoint one to the office in which the vacancy exists. If the Governor fails to make an appointment from the submitted list within 60 days from the date of submission, the commission shall submit a new list as provided in this section to the Governor.
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Amendment 742 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Wilcox County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Wilcox County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed sheriff and every elected or appointed Wilcox County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Wilcox County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 743 ratified

Bingo Games in Greene County.

For purposes of this amendment, the following words have the following meanings:

1. BINGO. That specific kind of game commonly known as bingo in which prizes are awarded on the basis of designated numbers or symbols on a card or electronic marking machine conforming to numbers or symbols selected at random.
2. EQUIPMENT. The receptacle and numbered objects drawn from it, the master board upon which such objects are placed as drawn, the cards or sheets bearing numbers or other designations to be covered and the objects used to cover them or electronic card marking machines, and the board or signs, however operated, used to announce or display the numbers or designations as they are drawn.
3. NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION. A bona fide religious, educational, service, senior citizens', fraternal, or veterans' organization which operates without profit to its members and which either has been in existence continuously as such an organization for a period of three years or is exempt from taxation by virtue of having been classified as a tax exempt nonprofit organization by the Internal Revenue Service, United States Government. This term includes a volunteer fire department and a volunteer rescue squad.

Bingo games for prizes or money may be operated by a nonprofit organization in Greene County. The sheriff shall promulgate rules and regulations for the licensing, permitting, and operation of bingo games within the county. The sheriff shall insure compliance with such rules or regulations and all of the following:

- (1) No person under the age of 19 years shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, nor shall any person under the age of 19 years be permitted to conduct or assist in the operation of any game of bingo.
- (2) Bingo games shall be operated exclusively on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game. Such location shall be specified in the application of the nonprofit organization.
- (3) A nonprofit organization may not enter into any contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization. A nonprofit organization may not pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game.
- (4) A nonprofit organization may not lend its name or allow its identity to be used by another person or entity in the operating, promoting, or advertising of a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating the bingo game.

(5) All equipment shall be stamped or clearly marked in letters no less than one-half inch in height and one-fourth inch in width (except for the letter "I") with the name of the nonprofit organization using the equipment. A nonprofit organization or other person or entity may not use equipment marked with the name of another nonprofit organization.

(6) Prizes given by any nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) in cash or gifts of equivalent value during any bingo session .

(7) A nonprofit organization may not advertise bingo except to the extent and in the manner authorized by rule of the sheriff. If the sheriff allows a nonprofit organization to advertise bingo, the nonprofit organization shall indicate in the advertisement the purposes for which the net proceeds will be used by the nonprofit organization.

(8) A nonprofit organization shall display its bingo license conspicuously at the location where the bingo game is conducted.

(9) The sheriff shall determine by regulation the days of operation during any calendar week and the hours of operation.

A violation of this amendment is a Class A misdemeanor as specified by general law.

Amendment 744 ratified

Bingo Games in Macon County.

The operation of bingo games for prizes or money by nonprofit organizations for charitable, educational, or other lawful purposes shall be legal in Macon County. The sheriff shall promulgate rules and regulations for the licensing and operation of bingo games within the county. The sheriff shall insure compliance pursuant to any rule or regulation and the following requirements:

(1) No person under the age of 19 years shall be permitted to play any game or games of bingo, nor shall any person under the age of 19 years be permitted to conduct or assist in the operation of any game of bingo.

(2) No bingo license shall be issued to any nonprofit organization, unless the organization shall have been in existence for at least three years in the county immediately prior to the issuance of the permit or license.

(3) Bingo games may be operated on the premises owned or leased by the nonprofit organization operating the bingo game.

(4) A nonprofit organization may enter into a contract with any individual, firm, association, or corporation to have the individual or entity operate bingo games or concessions on behalf of the nonprofit organization. A nonprofit organization may pay consulting fees to any individual or entity for any services performed in relation to the operation or conduct of a bingo game.

(5) A nonprofit organization may lend its name or allow its identity to be used by another person or entity in the operating or advertising of a bingo game in which the nonprofit organization is not directly and solely operating the bingo game.

(6) Prizes given by any nonprofit organization for the playing of bingo games shall not exceed the cash amount or gifts of equivalent value set by rule or regulation during any bingo session during any calendar week.

Amendment 745 ratified

Costs and Charges of Court in 24th Judicial Circuit.

Section I. In the 24th Judicial Circuit, consisting of Fayette County, Lamar County, and Pickens County, in addition to any court costs and fees now or hereafter authorized in cases in the circuit and district courts, an additional fee of five dollars (\$5) shall be charged and collected by the clerk of the court on each case filed in the circuit.

Section II. The clerk of the respective court shall collect the fee in the same manner as other costs in the court and shall remit the fee to the West Alabama Children's Advocacy Center on a monthly basis to be used by the center for abuse victims in the circuit.

Section III. If the boundaries of the 24th Judicial Circuit change, the filing fee imposed by this amendment shall remain in effect for the Counties of Fayette, Lamar, and Pickens, unless altered by a subsequent amendment to this constitution.

Amendment 746 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Calhoun County.

The Legislature, from time to time, may fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court in Calhoun County and may authorize the Calhoun County Commission to fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of court, including booking fees, in Calhoun County. The Legislature may provide or may allow the Calhoun County Commission to provide for the distribution of any additional revenue. Any local act authorized in this amendment which has been previously enacted prior to the ratification of this amendment shall be ratified, approved, and confirmed.

Amendment 747 ratified

Validation of ad valorem tax for school purposes in Calhoun County.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, or the laws of the State of Alabama to the contrary notwithstanding, the levy and collection in each year of each ad valorem tax for public school purposes or educational purposes in Calhoun County, Alabama, and in any municipality located, in whole or in part, in Calhoun County, Alabama, and in any school tax district located in Calhoun County, Alabama, which tax was approved by a majority vote of the appropriate electorate prior to October 1, 2002, and which was being levied and collected for the tax year that began on October 1, 2002, is hereby:

(a) Authorized, ratified, validated, and confirmed from and after the date of the initial levy of such tax regardless of any statutory or constitutional defects, mistakes, errors, or ambiguities in the authorization or levy thereof or the election thereon, or in any act of the Legislature with respect thereto; and

(b) Continued and extended beginning with the levy and collection of such tax for the tax year next succeeding the tax year initially established for the final levy and collection of such tax and continuing for each tax year thereafter without limit as to time.

Amendment 748 ratified

Economic Development in Crenshaw County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, the Crenshaw County Commission and the governing body of any municipality located therein, any other provision of law or of this Constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one another, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop such land for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve such sites or projects.
- (2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or the municipality, as applicable, all or any part of any site or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or the municipality, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.
- (3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of Crenshaw County or the municipality.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Crenshaw County nor the municipality shall be subject to Section 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by Crenshaw County or by the municipality, including, specifically, any industrial development board incorporated under Chapter 54, Article 4, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, and any industrial development authority incorporated or reincorporated under Chapter 92A, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, is validated and the powers granted to such board or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

Crenshaw County or any municipality located therein shall neither lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto: (i) The action proposed to be taken by Crenshaw County or the municipality is at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or municipality, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by such governing body that the expenditure of public funds for such purpose will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose, notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities; and (ii) at least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county or in the municipality, as the case may be, describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by such action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the municipality proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value. For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a grant of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

Amendment 749 ratified

Board of Education in Russell County.

Section I. The Russell County Board of Education shall be composed of seven members. Six of the members shall be elected by a majority of the respective qualified electors of six separate single-member districts, designated Place #1 to Place #6, inclusive, which shall be the same as the districts established by the Legislative Reapportionment Office in the document titled RUSSELL BOE 7 DISTRICTS PLAN 3, dated February 25, 2002. Only the qualified electors residing in a particular district may vote for the member representing that district. The seventh member shall be elected by a majority of the qualified electors of the county at-large, designated Place #7. Elections shall be conducted and the members shall take office in the same manner as currently provided by law.

Section II. (a)(1) A candidate for election as a district member of the board shall be a resident of the single-member district which he or she seeks to represent on the board for at least one year immediately preceding the deadline date for qualifying as a candidate, and shall reside in that district during the entire term of office.

(2) A candidate for election as an at-large member of the board shall be a resident of the county for at least one year immediately preceding the deadline date for qualifying as a candidate, and shall reside in the county during the entire term of office.

(3) A member appointed to fill a vacancy on the board pursuant to general law shall be a resident of the county, and a resident of the district of the vacating member, where applicable.

(b)(1) The member elected in Place #3 and the member elected in Place #6 shall be elected at the general election in November 2006, and every six years thereafter.

(2) The member elected in Place #1 and the member elected in Place #7 shall be elected at the general election in November 2008, and every six years thereafter.

(3) The member elected in Place #2, the member elected in Place #4, and the member elected in Place #5 shall be elected at the general election in November 2010, and every six years thereafter.

(4) Members serving on the board upon the ratification of this amendment, including those members elected at the general election in November 2004 pursuant to Act 82-322, 1982 Regular Session (Acts 1982, p. 434), shall continue to serve on the board until the term for which they were originally elected expires. Such persons shall assume office at the same time as currently provided by law.

(c) If the boundaries of a district change, or if redistricting places an incumbent district board member outside of his or her district, the member shall nevertheless continue to serve the remainder of the term to which he or she was elected.

(d) The board, by majority vote, may change the boundaries of the single member districts and shall reapportion the districts as required by law utilizing the principle of equal representation. Pursuant to this subsection, the board may provide for single member election districts or at-large membership districts, or both.

Section III. The Legislature, by local law, from time to time may provide for the election of the members of the Russell County Board of Education and may provide further for the operation of the board. Such local act or acts may include, but are not limited to, providing for termination of the terms of members of the existing county board of education; the composition of the county board of education; initial and succeeding terms of office, including staggered terms; qualifications; powers, duties, and responsibilities; vacancies; and compensation.

Section IV. The Russell County Board of Education shall take necessary steps to ensure this amendment complies with the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, before any election is conducted pursuant to this amendment.

Amendment 750 ratified

Economic Development in Baldwin County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, the Baldwin County Commission and the governing body of any municipality located therein, any other provision of law or of this Constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one another, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

- (1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop such land for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve such sites or projects.
- (2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or the municipality, as applicable, all or any part of any site or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or the municipality, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.
- (3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of Baldwin County or the municipality.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Baldwin County nor the municipality shall be subject to Section 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by Baldwin County or by the municipality, including, specifically, any industrial development board incorporated under Chapter 54, Article 4, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, and any industrial development authority incorporated or reincorporated under Chapter 92A, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, is validated and the powers granted to such board or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

Baldwin County or any municipality located therein shall neither lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto: (i) The action proposed to be taken by Baldwin County or the municipality is at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or municipality, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by such governing body that the expenditure of public funds for such purpose will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose, notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities; and (ii) at least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county or in the municipality, as the case may be, describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by such action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the municipality proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value. For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a grant of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

Amendment 751 ratified

Amendment of Amendment No.538

"Amendment No. 538

"Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama or amendments thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, the legislature by general or local law may provide for and authorize in Fayette County the incorporation of a public corporation as a political subdivision of the state to be named The Tom Bevill Reservoir Management Area Authority, for the development of that portion of North River in Fayette County and within the boundaries of The Tom Bevill Reservoir Management Area, its tributaries and watershed area, for the purposes of water conservation and supply, dam construction and reservoir development, for industrial development, flood control, navigation, irrigation, public recreation and related purposes. Any such law may provide for the composition of the board of directors of the authority and specify the powers and duties of the authority and its board of directors, may authorize the authority to investigate the resources of The Tom Bevill Reservoir Management Area, and to determine and implement the requirements for its full development and control, and to carry out a unified comprehensive program of resource development, together with other powers to effectuate the foregoing objective, may authorize the authority to acquire land and interests in land by purchase, construction, lease, condemnation or otherwise, and to hold, manage and sell such land and interests therein, may make provisions respecting the establishment and revision of rates, fees and charges for services rendered by the authority, may provide for the issuance by the authority for any of its corporate purposes of interest-bearing revenue bonds and notes payable solely out of the revenues of the authority or out of the revenues of any particular facilities and other property of the authority, without regard to the specific facilities and other property with respect to which such bonds and notes may have been issued, may provide further for certain taxes, may provide that such bonds and notes shall constitute negotiable instruments, may provide that such bonds and notes may be secured by a pledge of the revenues from which they are payable, by contracts binding the authority for the proper application of its revenues and the proceeds of such bonds and notes and by a nonforeclosable mortgage or deed of trust or statutory mortgage lien on the facilities and other property out of the revenues from which such bonds and notes are payable, and may provide that bonds and notes of the authority may be issued under a trust indenture, may provide for constructive notice of any such statutory mortgage lien, may authorize and make provisions respecting the assumption by the authority of obligations respecting facilities and other property acquired by the authority, may provide for the use of the proceeds of bonds and notes issued by the authority and provide for the refunding by the issuance of bonds and notes of the authority of bonds and notes theretofore issued or obligations theretofore assumed by it, may provide that bonds and notes issued and contracts entered into by the authority pursuant to the act shall not constitute or create a debt of the state or of any county, municipality or other political subdivision of the state, may authorize the Fayette County commission and the municipalities located within Fayette County to contribute money to the authority, without the necessity of an election and with or without consideration therefor, may exempt from all taxation in this state, the authority, its property, corporate activities, income, revenues, bonds and notes, the income from its bonds and notes, and conveyances, leases and mortgages and deeds of trust to which the authority is a party, and exempt the authority from payment of certain charges to judges of probate, it grants to the authority the power to levy and collect within the boundaries of the management area certain excise taxes, sales taxes, and ad valorem taxes, may provide that the authority shall have zoning power within the boundaries of the management area, may provide that the authority shall be exempted from regulation and supervision by the public service commission and the state department of finance, may provide for the use of public roads in the state by the authority, and may provide for certain annual reports by the authority. Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution, the Tom Bevill Reservoir Management Area Authority may enter into contracts with and may accept grants from another authority organized pursuant to the laws of this state or federal laws and the contracts with or grants from another authority, including, but not limited to, any other authority authorized to issue general obligation bonds of this state, shall not constitute the extension of the state's credit in violation of Amendment No. 58 of the Constitution of 1901, or any other

provision of this constitution or the laws of this state."

Amendment 752 ratified

Promotion of Commercial Development in City of Hartselle, Morgan County.

(a) For the promotion of local commercial development, the City of Hartselle (City) shall have, in addition to all other powers from time to time vested in or granted to it by law, full and continuing power to perform the following:

(1) Purchase, construct, lease, and otherwise acquire, and to own and develop, commercial projects, including real and personal property, buildings, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind whatsoever.

(2) Subject to succeeding provisions of this amendment, operate all or any part of any such project.

(3) Convey, whether by sale, lease, exchange, or otherwise, all or any part of any such project to any person, firm or corporation.

(4) Subject to succeeding provisions of this amendment, sell and issue, without any election, special or limited obligation bonds, warrants, notes, certificates of participation, or other securities of the City, for the purpose of financing the acquisition or construction of any such project, including particularly, but without limitation, the extension and installation of streets and roadways, utility services, and storm water sewers or other drainage facilities. In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, the City shall not be subject to the provisions of Section 94 of this Constitution, and neither the City nor the State of Alabama shall be subject to the provisions of Section 93 of this Constitution, in connection with the acquisition, ownership, development, operation, conveyance, or financing of any such commercial project.

(b) Nothing in this amendment shall, however, be construed to authorize the City to do any of the following:

(1) Acquire any property through the exercise of the power of eminent domain, whether for public use or for private use, otherwise than subject to, and in accordance with, all other applicable provisions of this Constitution and the general laws of the State.

(2) Operate any commercial or retail establishment, including, without limitation, any shopping center or similar facility suitable for use by two or more commercial enterprises engaged in any business, trade, profession, occupation, or activity, except that the City may operate restaurants, food and other concessions, and other incidental commercial or retail facilities, in connection with, and ancillary to, the operation by it of any of the facilities described in subsection (d).

(3) Provide electric utility service to any commercial project authorized hereunder, or within the boundaries of any "commercial development district," as defined in this amendment, except as may then be authorized by the general laws of the State.

(4) Construct or locate, or to authorize the construction or location of, any commercial project in violation of either the general laws of the state pertaining to municipal zoning and planning or any master plan or zoning regulation or plan then in effect in or for the City.

(c) Nothing in this amendment shall be construed either to exempt from state or local property taxation any real or personal property that is owned, or is treated for federal income tax purposes as being owned, by one or more individuals, partnerships, or for-profit corporations, and that is otherwise subject to such taxation under the general laws of the state, or to subject to state or local property taxation any real or personal property of the City that is otherwise exempt from taxation pursuant to either Section 91 or Section 217 of this Constitution.

(d) Any commercial project authorized hereunder shall be located entirely within the corporate limits of the City. Any such project may include any land or interest therein, any building or other improvement thereon, and all real and personal properties deemed necessary in connection therewith, whether or not now in existence, including, without limitation, any of the following:

(1) Any hotel, motel, conference center, meeting center, or convention facility, including, without limitation, facilities for meetings, auditoriums, exhibition halls, facilities for food preparation and serving, and facilities suitable for rental to persons engaged in any business, trade, profession, occupation, or activity, and administrative offices in connection therewith, but excluding specifically any home, apartment, town house, or condominium for residential purposes, and any public dormitory or student housing facility for any institution of higher learning.

(2) Any shopping center or similar facility suitable for use by two or more commercial enterprises engaged in any business, trade, profession, occupation, or activity.

(3) Any amusement park or entertainment facility, any recreational or athletic facility, and all buildings, facilities and improvements incident thereto or useful in connection therewith, including, without limitation, athletic fields, beaches, docks and marinas, and boating facilities.

(4) Any stadium, baseball field or park, arena, grandstand, auditorium, meeting hall, pavilion, amphitheater, or center for cultural entertainment, music, drama, exhibitions and exhibits, and any administrative building in connection therewith.

(5) Any infrastructure improvements of any sort, including, without limitation, parking facilities available for use in connection with any building, facility or property described hereinabove, electric, water, natural gas, and sanitary sewer utilities, storm water sewers and other drainage facilities, and public or private streets, roads, and parking facilities. It is expressly provided, however, that no commercial project authorized hereunder may include any facility or location for casino gambling or any other game of chance, or any facility or location for the conduct of any lottery or other similar enterprise, so long as such lottery or other enterprise is prohibited by other applicable law.

(d) Nothing in this amendment shall be construed to amend, modify, alter, or repeal the provisions of Amendment 599 to this Constitution, respecting the operation of bingo games in Morgan County.

(e) Prior to exercising any powers herein granted to the City with respect to a commercial project authorized hereunder, the governing body of the City, by ordinance or resolution, shall establish a "commercial development district" consisting of the site of such project and such geographic area contiguous thereto as may be described in such ordinance or resolution, and provide a legal description of the boundaries of such district; provided, that every such district shall be located entirely within the corporate limits of the City.

(f) Any securities issued under the authority of this amendment with respect to a commercial project authorized hereunder must be made payable solely out of, and shall be secured solely by a pledge of, (I) the amount by which (A) the proceeds of any municipal sales and use taxes collected by the City in each of its fiscal years, in or with respect to the commercial development district in which such project is situated, exceeds (B) the proceeds of such sales and use taxes collected by the City in or with respect to such district in the fiscal year of the City immediately preceding the fiscal year in which such district was established or such lesser portion of any such tax proceeds as may be specified by the governing body of the City in the proceedings of such governing body under which such securities are authorized to be issued.

No such securities, and no contract made by the City in connection with any commercial project authorized hereunder, whether or not such contract is made under the authority of this amendment, and whether or not any agreement or obligation for the payment of money under such contract is payable out of proceeds of the sales and use taxes, shall be considered indebtedness of the City within the meaning of Section 225 of this Constitution or bonds of the City within the meaning of either Section 222 or Section 104(17) of this Constitution.

(g) The City may apply the proceeds of any such securities for any or all of the following purposes:

(1) Pay costs of any project authorized hereunder.

(2) Fund any reserve fund established in connection with an issue of such securities if the City deems the establishment of such reserve fund to be necessary and desirable.

(3) Pay costs of obtaining credit enhancement for such securities.

- (4) Pay costs of issuing such securities.
- (5) Pay interest accruing on such securities prior to, during and for a period of not exceeding twelve months following the estimated completion of the acquisition or construction of such project.
- (6) With respect to any refunding securities issued pursuant to the provisions of this amendment, pay debt service on, and the redemption price of, any securities to be refunded.
- (h) The City may at any time and from time to time issue refunding securities for the purpose of refunding any other securities, including, without limitation, other refunding securities, issued pursuant to the provisions of this amendment and then outstanding, whether such refunding shall occur before, at or after the maturity of the securities to be refunded, and such refunding securities shall be governed by the provisions of this amendment as and to the same extent applicable to securities authorized hereinabove.
- (i) All securities issued by the City under the authority of this amendment shall be sold at public or private sale, as the governing body of the City may determine; provided, that refunding securities issued hereunder may be issued in exchange for the instruments evidencing the securities to be refunded or they may be sold and the proceeds thereof applied to the purchase, redemption or payment of such instruments.
- (j) This amendment shall be self-executing, and no further authorization from the Legislature shall be a prerequisite to the validity of any securities issued hereunder; but notwithstanding any contrary provision of either Section 104 or Section 105 of this Constitution, the Legislature shall have the power to enact general, special, or local laws supplemental hereto or in furtherance of the purposes hereof; provided, that no such special or local law shall be subject to the provisions of Section 106 of this Constitution.
- (k) Notwithstanding any contrary provision of either Section 284 of this Constitution or Amendment 555 to this Constitution if the election on the ratification of this amendment is held on the date specified in the act of the Legislature under which this amendment was proposed for ratification, and all other applicable requirements of this Constitution, including, without limitation, Amendment 555, with respect to such election are satisfied in accordance with their respective terms.

Amendment 753 ratified

Costs and Charges of Courts in Conecuh County.

- (a) In addition to any court costs or fees now or hereafter authorized, and notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution including, without limitation, Sections 96, 104, and 105, there shall be an additional forty dollars (\$40) fee assessed and taxed as costs on each civil and criminal case, excluding small claims, filed in circuit court, district court, or any municipal court in Conecuh County, as well as a fee not to exceed five dollars (\$5) for the service of all pleadings and other documents in connection with any such action or case. The fees may not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the cases are waived. The additional fees, when collected by the clerks or other collection officers of the courts, shall be paid into the General Fund of Conecuh County to be used by the county commission for the planning, designing, construction, financing, and operation of a new county jail . When the costs of the new county jail have been fully paid or when the debt service on any indebtedness incurred by the county commission to finance or refinance the costs have been retired, whichever occurs later, the additional fees authorized by this amendment shall continue to be collected in all cases and shall be used to pay costs of the operation, upkeep, and maintenance of a new county jail . This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.
- (b) All special court fees that the county has been authorized to collect and has in fact collected since April 1998, for any purpose, may be allocated retroactively to the purpose established in subsection (b).

Amendment 754 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Pickens County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Pickens County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Pickens County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Pickens County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include, subject only to express limitation, any person holding an office that entitles the person to participate in a supernumerary program and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, constable, legislator, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 755 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Tuscaloosa County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Tuscaloosa County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Tuscaloosa County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Tuscaloosa County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 756 ratified

Enforcement of Traffic Laws in Shelby County.

In Shelby County, the Legislature, by local law, may provide for the enforcement of traffic laws on private roads in private gated communities in the county.

Amendment 757 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Barbour County.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, the Barbour County Commission and the governing body of any municipality located therein, any other provision of law or of this Constitution notwithstanding, shall have, independently or in cooperation with one another, full and continuing power to do any of the following:

(1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop such land for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve such sites or projects.

(2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or the municipality, as applicable, all or any part of any site or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or the municipality, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.

(3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of Barbour County or the municipality.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither Barbour County nor the municipality shall be subject to Section 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by Barbour County or by the municipality, including, specifically, any industrial development board incorporated under Chapter 54, Article 4, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, and any industrial development authority incorporated or reincorporated under Chapter 92A, Title II of the Code of Alabama 1975, is validated and the powers granted to such board or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

Barbour County or any municipality located therein shall not lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto: (i) The action proposed to be taken by Barbour County or the municipality is at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or municipality, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by such governing body that the expenditure of public funds for such purpose will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose, notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities; and (ii) at least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in a newspaper or newspapers having a general circulation in the county or in the municipality, as the case may be, describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by such action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the municipality proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value. For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a grant of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

Amendment 758 ratified

Jurisdiction of Judge of Probate in Shelby County.

The Judge of Probate of Shelby County may exercise equity jurisdiction concurrent with that of the circuit court in cases originally filed in the Probate Court of Shelby County if the judge of probate is licensed to practice law in the State of Alabama. In any case subject to this amendment, the judge of probate shall possess the power and authority of a circuit court judge trying the case and the case shall be treated in all respects in the same manner as a case filed in circuit court. The Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure shall apply in the cases except as otherwise specifically provided by law. This amendment is self-executing, but the Legislature may enact additional laws to implement this amendment if needed.

Amendment 759 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Certain Counties.

For the promotion of local economic and industrial development, the governing body of Baldwin, Bullock, Coffee, Coosa, Dallas, Etowah, Geneva, Houston, Jefferson, Lawrence, Macon, Marengo, Mobile, Morgan, Talladega, Madison, Shelby, and Tuscaloosa counties and of each municipality situated in said counties, other provisions of law or this Constitution notwithstanding, shall each have, independently or in cooperation with one or more of such governmental entities in such counties, full and continuing power (a) to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire, land, or to utilize land heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and to improve and develop such land for use as industrial site, or industrial park, projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas and utilities to serve said projects, and (b) to lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county, or of municipality exercising such power, all, or any part of, any such project to any person, firm or corporation, public or private, including to any industrial development board or authority heretofore or hereafter created by any such county or municipality therein, for the purpose of the constructing, or developing thereon, by such purchaser or lessees, and the equipping and operating of, industrial, transportation, distribution, warehouse or research facilities, and of office and other facilities auxiliary to the foregoing. Nothing herein shall authorize the counties named, or any municipality there, to construct residential or any other buildings for the purpose of lease or sale.

In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither the governing bodies of the counties named hereinabove, nor of any municipality situated in said counties to which this amendment is or becomes applicable, shall be subject to the provisions of sections 93 or 94 of the Constitution of Alabama, as amended. The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing and the powers granted hereby may be exercised as alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the governing body of such counties, or of any municipality therein, or to any agency, board, or authority created or approved thereby pursuant to this Constitution or the laws of this state.

The names and addresses of all parties involved in conveyances of land herein provided, and the amount of any monies paid or received, shall be published in the newspaper in the county with the largest circulation.

This amendment shall not be construed to grant any power of eminent domain in addition to that which may be provided otherwise by statute heretofore or hereafter enacted by the legislature of Alabama; nor shall this amendment be construed to affect the annexation statutes heretofore or hereafter enacted by said legislature.

Furthermore, no county or municipality shall sell any real property acquired under the authority hereof for a price less than its actual purchase and development cost of such property, unless:

- (a) The price be approved at a public meeting of the governing body of such county or municipality; and
- (b) At least fourteen (14) days prior to such public meeting at which such price is approved by such governing body, it has published notice in the newspaper with the largest circulation in the county in which the property is located stating (1) the acreage proposed to be sold, (2) the section or sections or subdivisions of record in which the property is located, (3) the price per acre at which sale is proposed to be made, and (4) the place where a map of the property can be examined by the public; and
- (c) The price thus approved is no less than the price advertised as aforesaid; provided, however, that should any real property be acquired for any purpose authorized by this amendment by eminent domain pursuant to other legislative authority as aforesaid, such property shall not be sold, in any event, for less than the price determined and paid pursuant to the orders of the court in such condemnation proceedings. Provided further, that no municipality shall acquire real property in unincorporated areas without a prior consent thereto as expressed in a resolution by the county governing body. Provided further, that no county or municipality shall acquire real property which is located in another county or municipality without such other county's or municipality's prior consent thereto as expressed in a resolution by its governing body. Nothing in the provisions of this constitutional amendment shall be construed to

allow construction of dormitories or other type housing on or off university or college campuses.

Amendment 760 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Hale County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Hale County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Hale County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Hale County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 761 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Etowah County.

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development in Etowah County and any Municipality Located Therein.

(a) For the promotion of local economic and industrial development within Etowah County and any municipality located therein, any other provisions of law or the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 notwithstanding, the county and any municipality located therein shall have, without an election, full and continuing power to do any or all of the following:

- (1) To purchase, construct, lease or otherwise acquire real property, plants, buildings, factories, works, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind.
- (2) To lease, sell for cash or on credit, exchange, give, transfer, or convey any such property described in subdivision (1) above to any person, firm, association, or corporation.
- (3) To promote local industrial, commercial, or agricultural development and the location of new industries or businesses therein.
- (4) To lend its credit or to grant public moneys and things of value in aid of, or to any individual, firm, association, or corporation whatsoever.
- (5) To become indebted and to issue and sell interest-bearing bonds, warrants (which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years), notes or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness, to a principal amount not exceeding 50 percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein, as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease, or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision (1) or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. Such obligations or evidences of indebtedness may be issued upon the full faith and credit of Etowah County or such municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.
- (6) To create a public authority, corporation, agency, or board having such powers, managed and governed by such board or governing body and subject to such limitations as the governing body of Etowah County or such municipality may impose, by approving and filing a certificate to that effect in the office of the Judge of Probate of Etowah County or the Secretary of State, or their respective successors in function, and to delegate to such public authority, corporation, agency, or board and its board or governing body all powers and authority conferred in this

amendment upon the governing body of Etowah County or such municipality.

(7) To delegate all powers and authority conferred in this amendment upon the governing body of Etowah County or such municipality to an existing public authority, corporation, agency, or board having similar powers to those provided herein, which public authority, corporation, agency, or board is managed and governed by a board or governing body and is subject to such limitations as the governing body of Etowah County or such municipality may have imposed or, subsequent to the ratification of this amendment, may impose.

(b) The powers granted in this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and are not in derogation of, the powers otherwise granted by law or the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to the governing body of Etowah County or such municipality, or to any public authority, corporation, agency, or board created or approved thereby pursuant to the laws of this state and the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, and nothing in this amendment shall be deemed to have repealed any powers of the governing body of Etowah County or such municipality or any such public authority, corporation, agency, or board that have previously been granted to the governing body of Etowah County or such municipality or any such public authority, corporation, agency, or board including, without limitation, those contained within Amendment No. 429 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

(c) The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized shall be conclusive, and no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further. The bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences or indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of Etowah County or such municipality for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of Etowah County or such municipality under Section 224 or Section 225 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

(d) In carrying out the purposes of this amendment, neither the governing body of Etowah County, such municipality, nor any public authority, corporation, agency, or board delegated the powers set forth herein, shall be subject to the provisions of Section 93 or Section 94 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901. This amendment shall be self-executing, but notwithstanding any contrary provisions of Section 104 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, the Legislature shall have the right and power by general, special, or local act to adopt laws supplemental to this amendment or in furtherance of the purposes and objectives hereinabove set forth. No such general, special, or local act shall be subject to the provisions of Section 106 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901.

Amendment 762 ratified

Amendment to Amendment No. 648.

Amendment No. 648 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, is amended to read as follows:

"Amendment No. 648.

"No elected Mobile County official, including the sheriff, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Any elected Mobile County official, including the sheriff, may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. An elected Mobile County official holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected Mobile County official" shall mean any person elected to a full-time Mobile County office, including the sheriff, and shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, any official elected from a judicial circuit, or any official who is allowed by law to

participate in any other retirement system."

Amendment 763 ratified

Amendment to Amendment No. 718. Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Blount County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

Amendment No. 718.

"No elected or appointed Blount County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Blount County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system; provided, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. Blount County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, that costs associated with the purchase of prior service credit as prescribed in Section 36-27-6.1, shall be the responsibility of the official making the purchase. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit."

Amendment 764 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Monroe County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No person elected or appointed sheriff, or any elected or appointed Monroe County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff and elected or appointed Monroe County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Monroe County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. The sheriff at the time of ratification of this amendment shall not be prohibited from receiving the benefits of vested contributions made prior to his or her election if he or she chooses the supernumerary program. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 765 ratified

Amendment to Amendment No. 649.

Amendment 649 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, is amended to read as follows:

"(a) In addition to all other ad valorem taxes levied, the Pickens County Commission may levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year beginning October 1, 1998, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property, located in Pickens County at a rate of three mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property. The proceeds of the tax levied pursuant to this amendment shall be paid into the county general fund and distributed for the benefit of fire protection only.

"(b) Within 30 days of payment into the county general fund, the county commission shall pay the funds to the Pickens County Volunteer Firefighters' Association. The county association shall divide the funds equally among all eligible volunteer fire departments, collectively, and the Pickens County Volunteer Firefighters' Association at each bimonthly meeting of the county association. The county association may establish rules regarding the transfer, investing, accounting, and handling of the funds.

"(c) Funds paid to eligible volunteer fire departments shall only be expended for fire protection services, including training, supplies, buildings, capital improvements, and equipment. An eligible volunteer fire department shall mean a volunteer fire department located in Pickens County that is certified under the guidelines of the Alabama Forestry Commission, shall have at least an ISO class 9 rating, and is a member in good standing of the Pickens County Association of Volunteer Fire Departments. The funds may not be expended for salaries, food, drink, social activities, or fund-raising activities. After receiving funds, the eligible volunteer fire departments shall keep accurate records to verify that the funds were properly expended. By September 15th of each year, each department shall file a form with the county association detailing the expenditures of all funds during the previous 12 months and setting out a schedule of all proposed projects. The filing shall also account for all unspent funds and whether the unspent funds have been obligated. The county association shall supply the accounting forms to each eligible volunteer fire department.

"(d) Upon dissolution or abandonment of any eligible volunteer fire department, any remaining funds shall, after all indebtedness has been satisfied, be transferred to the county association.

"(e) The personnel of eligible volunteer fire departments shall not be considered as employees, servants, or agents of the county and the members of the county commission and the employees of the county shall not be liable in either their official capacity or in a private capacity for the actions of the personnel of eligible volunteer fire departments."

Amendment 766 ratified

Organization and Promotion of Shrimp and Seafood Industry.

The Legislature, by general law, may provide for the promotion of the production, distribution, improvement, marketing, use, and sale of shrimp and seafood. The Legislature may provide for the promotion of shrimp and seafood and shrimp and seafood products by research, education, advertising, and other methods, and the Legislature is further authorized to provide the means and methods for the financing of any promotional activity by prescribing a procedure whereby producers of shrimp and seafood by referendum among such producers levy upon themselves and collect assessments, fees, or charges upon the sale of shrimp and seafood for the financing of any promotional program or activity in cooperation with buyers, processors, dealers, distributors, and handlers of shrimp and seafood. The Legislature may make provisions for the nonpayment of assessments by shrimp and seafood producers and shall make provisions for the refund of assessments to any handler of shrimp or seafood who does not desire to participate in an assessment program.

The Legislature shall provide for the collection, disbursement, distribution, or expenditure of assessments or charges authorized hereunder and provide penalties for failure to make collection and distribution of assessments. The Legislature shall provide for the designation of a nonprofit association or organization for the promotion and

betterment of shrimp and seafood products to administer and carry out such promotional program which shall include the conducting of elections or referendums among producers of shrimp and seafood. The Legislature may provide the manner by which the referendum is held, including the procedure for application for approval to conduct the referendum, the appropriate action to be taken by the State Board of Agriculture and Industries on an application, and the requirements and eligibility of the association or organization which will conduct the referendum. The Legislature shall further provide for the deposit, withdrawal, disbursement, and expenditure by the designated association of any funds received subject to the supervision and control of the activities as authorized herein by the Department of Agriculture and Industries and the State Board of Agriculture and Industries. The Legislature shall further provide a procedure whereby the association or organization is bonded, for the examination and auditing of the association or organization, and for reasonably necessary rules and regulations to be adopted by the State Board of Agriculture and Industries to effectively carry out the intent and purposes herein enumerated. Assessments, fees, or other charges collected as authorized by any legislative act adopted under authority hereof shall not be considered as a tax within the meaning of this constitution and shall be satisfied by the application of the program upon shrimp or seafood.

Amendment 767 ratified

Conecuh County Reservoir Management Area Authority.

Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama or amendments thereto to the contrary notwithstanding, the legislature by general or local law may provide for and authorize in Conecuh County the incorporation of a public corporation as a political subdivision of the state to be named the Conecuh County Reservoir Management Area Authority, for the development of that portion of Murder Creek in Conecuh County and within the Conecuh County Reservoir Management Area, its tributaries and watershed area, for the purposes of water conservation and supply, dam construction and reservoir development, for industrial development, flood control, navigation, irrigation, public recreation and related purposes. The law may provide for the composition of the board of directors of the authority and specify the powers and duties of the authority and its board of directors, may provide for the boundaries and authorize the authority to investigate the resources of the Conecuh County Reservoir Management Area, and to determine and implement the requirements for its full development and control, and to carry out a unified comprehensive program of resource development, together with other powers to effectuate the foregoing objective, may authorize the authority to acquire land and interests in land by purchase, construction, lease, condemnation, or otherwise, and to hold, manage, and sell land and interests therein, may make provisions respecting the establishment and revision of rates, fees, and charges for services rendered by the authority, may provide for the issuance by the authority for any of its corporate purposes of interest-bearing revenue bonds and notes payable solely out of the revenues of the authority or out of the revenues of any particular facilities and other property of the authority, without regard to the specific facilities and other property with respect to which the bonds and notes may have been issued, may provide further for certain taxes, may provide that the bonds and notes shall constitute negotiable instruments, may provide that the bonds and notes may be secured by a pledge of the revenues from which they are payable, by contracts binding the authority for the proper application of its revenues and the proceeds of such bonds and notes and by a nonforeclosable mortgage or deed of trust or statutory mortgage lien on the facilities and other property out of the revenues from which the bonds and notes are payable, and may provide that bonds and notes of the authority may be issued under a trust indenture, may provide for constructive notice of any statutory mortgage lien, may authorize and make provisions respecting the assumption by the authority of obligations respecting facilities and other property acquired by the authority, may provide for the use of the proceeds of bonds and notes issued by the authority and provide for the refunding by the issuance of bonds and notes of the authority of bonds and notes theretofore issued or obligations theretofore assumed by it, may provide that bonds and notes issued and contracts entered into by the authority pursuant to the act shall not constitute or create a debt of the state or of any county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state, may authorize the Conecuh County Commission and the municipalities located within Conecuh County to contribute money to the authority, without the

necessity of an election and with or without consideration therefor, may exempt from all taxation in this state, the authority, its property, corporate activities, income, revenues, bonds and notes, the income from its bonds and notes, and conveyances, leases, and mortgages and deeds of trust to which the authority is a party, and exempt the authority from payment of certain charges to judges of probate, may grant to the authority the power to levy and collect within the boundaries of the management area certain excise taxes, sales taxes, and ad valorem taxes, may provide that the authority shall have zoning power within the boundaries of the management area, may provide that the authority shall be exempt from regulation and supervision by the Public Service Commission and the state Department of Finance, may provide for the use of public roads in the state by the authority, and may provide for certain annual reports by the authority. Notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution, the Conecuh County Reservoir Management Area Authority may enter into contracts with and may accept grants from another authority organized pursuant to the laws of this state or federal laws and the contracts with or grants from another authority, including, but not limited to, any other authority authorized to issue general obligation bonds of this state, shall not constitute the extension of the state's credit in violation of Amendment No. 58 of the Constitution of 1901, or any other provision of this constitution or the laws of this state.

Amendment 768 ratified

Amendment to Amendment No. 631. Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Clarke County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

Amendment No. 631.

"No elected Clarke County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established the particular supernumerary program. Any elected Clarke County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. An elected Clarke County official holding office at the effective date of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the elected county official has served in the current office; provided, however, the elected county official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For purposes of this amendment, the term "elected Clarke County official" shall mean any person elected to a Clarke County office, and shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, board of education member, any official elected from a judicial circuit, or any official who is allowed by law to participate in any other retirement system."

Amendment 769 ratified

Alabama Foreign Trade Investment Zone in City of Tuskegee, Macon County.

(a) The governing body of the City of Tuskegee in Macon County, Alabama, by a majority vote thereof at a regularly scheduled meeting of the governing body, may establish an Alabama Foreign Trade Investment Zone within the city as a special tax district for the purpose of importing duty free and quota free articles eligible under the United States General System of Preferences and the Africa Growth and Opportunities Act to enhance economic development and job opportunities within the City of Tuskegee and Macon County. The governing body of the City of Tuskegee shall specify that the value of land and improvements within the tax district shall be assessed for ad valorem tax purposes by the appropriate county tax officials according to a single site valuation system where land and improvements on the land are valued together rather than separately and taxed at a uniform rate. The proceeds of any revenue collected pursuant to this amendment shall be used by the special tax district for infrastructure creation, improvements, or redesign.

(b) The Legislature may provide by local law for the implementation and administration of the special tax district authorized by this amendment and may further provide for the abolition of the tax district upon the adoption of a resolution by a majority vote of the city governing body calling for the tax district to be abolished.

Amendment 770 ratified

Bonds for Land and Capital Improvements in Mobile County.

In addition to all other bonds authorized under the amendment to the Constitution known as Amendment 18, as previously amended, and as it may hereafter be amended, Mobile County may at any time and from time to time issue its bonds for the acquisition and improvement of land and for acquisition, construction, installation, and equipping, or any of them, of capital improvements in said county. Such capital improvements may include any type of capital projects the acquisition, improvement, construction, installation, and equipping of which is within the powers of the county. Provided, that any bonds may be issued hereunder only after a majority of the qualified electors of said county voting at an election called for that purpose by the governing body of said county shall have voted in favor of the issuance of such bonds. Each such election shall be called, held, conducted, and canvassed, and notice thereof shall be given, in the manner provided by the general laws of Alabama respecting elections on the issue of bonds by counties, as such laws may exist at the time such election is called; provided, that prior to the holding of any election hereunder, the governing body of Mobile County shall cause to be prepared engineering maps, plans and reports respecting the proposed work on any capital improvements and shall adopt a resolution containing a brief description, including the name if any, of each proposed item of construction or improvement, a statement of the location and, as to any road project, the length, of each such item and of the estimated cost thereof, and a statement of the total amount of the bonds proposed to be issued for all work of construction or improvement described in said resolution, and shall cause said resolution to be published in a newspaper published in the county one time not less than thirty days before such election. Any number of items of construction or improvement may be described in one resolution; and the question of the issuance of bonds and the levy and collection of said tax with respect to all of the work described in each resolution shall be submitted to the voters in one single proposition at any election held hereunder. Any number of such resolutions may be adopted on the same day, and any number of propositions may be submitted to the voters on the same day. The adoption of any such resolution prior to the ratification of this amendment, and the submission of any one or more propositions for approval by the voters of the county on the same day on which this amendment is presented for ratification, is hereby ratified and approved.

The bonds issued hereunder shall be general obligations of Mobile County secured by a pledge of its full faith and credit, and in addition thereto, the governing body of said county shall in the proceedings providing for the issuance of such bonds specially pledge for payment of the principal thereof and the interest thereon, so much of the special tax authorized by Amendment 18, as such amendment has been amended from time to time, as may be necessary to pay said principal and interest at their respective maturities. Each such pledge of the special tax made for the benefit of the bonds issued hereunder shall be on a parity with all valid pledges of said special tax theretofore or thereafter made for the benefit of bonds issued hereunder or under any other constitutional amendment, to such extent as shall not impair the obligations of any then existing valid pledges. Except as herein otherwise provided, all bonds issued hereunder shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of Alabama respecting the sale, execution, issuance, and redemption of bonds by counties, as such laws may exist at the time of the delivery of such bonds.

Bonds may be issued under this amendment in one or more series and may be sold at either public or private sale in such manner, at such price or prices and at such time or times as may be determined by the governing body of the county to be most advantageous. The principal of each series of bonds issued under this amendment shall mature not later than thirty (30) years after the date of the bonds of that series and otherwise may mature in such amounts during each fiscal year without regard to the limitations set forth in the amendment to the Constitution known as Amendment 152; provided, that the maturities of each series of bonds issued under this Amendment shall be

arranged so that the aggregate amount of principal and interest that will mature in any one fiscal year with respect to that series of bonds, and also all other bonds theretofore issued by the county and then outstanding that are payable out of or secured by a pledge of the aforesaid special tax, shall not exceed the amount of the proceeds collected from the special tax during the then next preceding tax year. Except as herein otherwise provided, all bonds issued under this amendment shall be issued in accordance with, and shall be subject to, the provisions of the general laws of the state existing at the time of the issuance of such bonds respecting the sale, execution, issuance and redemption of bonds by counties. The indebtedness evidenced by the bonds issued under this amendment or under any other amendment to the Constitution which are payable out of or are secured by a pledge of the special tax shall be in addition to and shall not be charged against the limitation on the indebtedness of the county provided for in Section 224 of the Constitution.

The total principal amount of bonds at any time issued hereunder, when added to the principal amount of all then outstanding bonds theretofore issued hereunder and of all the outstanding bonds theretofore issued under any other constitutional amendment that are payable from or secured by the said special tax, shall not exceed six and one-half per centum (6 1/2%) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property situated in said county, as assessed for state taxation for the then preceding state tax year. The limitation of six and one-half per centum (6 1/2%) of the assessed value of taxable property in the county, hereinabove provided for, is applicable only to the amount of bonds that may be outstanding immediately following the delivery of each series of bonds issued hereunder and shall not restrict the total amount of bonds that may be from time to time issued hereunder.

So long as the principal of or interest on any of the bonds issued under this amendment remains unpaid, the governing body of the county shall continue the levy of the aforesaid special tax at such rate as may be sufficient to pay the said principal and interest at their respective maturities; provided, that the total rate of said special tax that may be levied and collected for payment of the said bonds and all other bonds payable out of or secured by a pledge of said special tax shall not exceed the rate at which the county may levy the special tax as fixed under the amendment to the Constitution known as Amendment 447, except to the extent that the said rate may be increased pursuant to provisions of this Constitution hereafter adopted.

The provisions of this amendment shall be self-executing, and the enactment of local legislation shall not be a prerequisite to the taking of any action hereunder by the said county and its governing body; and no local legislation at any time adopted with respect to this amendment shall be effective, and all such local legislation is hereby repealed.

Amendment 771 ratified

Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Madison County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

No elected or appointed Madison County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Madison County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Madison County officials holding office at the time of ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Madison County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Madison County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Madison County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 772 ratified

Promotion of Economic and Industrial Development by County Commission.

(a) The governing body of any county, and the governing body of any municipality located therein, for which a local constitutional amendment has not been adopted authorizing any of the following, shall have full and continuing power to do any of the following:

(1) Use public funds to purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire real property, buildings, plants, factories, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind, or to utilize the properties heretofore purchased or otherwise acquired, and improve and develop the properties for use as sites for industry of any kind or as industrial park projects, including, but not limited to, grading and the construction of roads, drainage, sewers, sewage and waste disposal systems, parking areas, and utilities to serve the sites or projects.

(2) Lease, sell, grant, exchange, or otherwise convey, on terms approved by the governing body of the county or the municipality, as applicable, all or any part of any real property, buildings, plants, factories, facilities, machinery, and equipment of any kind or industrial park project to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, including any industrial development board or other public corporation or authority heretofore or hereafter created by the county or the municipality, for the purpose of constructing, developing, equipping, and operating industrial, commercial, research, or service facilities of any kind.

(3) Lend its credit to or grant public funds and things of value in aid of or to any individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity, public or private, for the purpose of promoting the economic and industrial development of the county or the municipality.

(4) Become indebted and issue bonds, warrants which may be payable from funds to be realized in future years, notes, or other obligations, or evidences of indebtedness to a principal amount not exceeding 50 percent of the assessed value of taxable property therein as determined for state taxation, in order to secure funds for the purchase, construction, lease, or acquisition of any of the property described in subdivision (1) or to be used in furtherance of any of the other powers or authorities granted in this amendment. The obligations or evidences of indebtedness may be issued upon the full faith and credit of the county or any municipality or may be limited as to the source of their payment.

The recital in any bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness that they were issued pursuant to this amendment or that they were issued to provide funds to be used in furtherance of any power or authority herein authorized shall be conclusive, and no purchaser or holder thereof need inquire further. The bonds, warrants, notes, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness issued hereunder shall not be considered an indebtedness of the county or any municipality for the purpose of determining the borrowing capacity of the county or municipality under this Constitution.

(b) In carrying out the purpose of this amendment, neither the county nor any municipality located therein shall be subject to Section 93 or 94 of this Constitution. Each public corporation heretofore created by the county or by any municipality located therein, including specifically any industrial development board incorporated under Article 4 of Chapter 54 of Title 11 of the Code of Alabama 1975, and any industrial development authority incorporated or reincorporated under Chapter 92A of Title 11 of the Code of Alabama 1975, and the Shoals Economic Development Authority enacted under Act No. 95-512, 1995 Regular Session, are validated and the powers granted to the board or authority under its respective enabling legislation are validated notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Constitution. The powers granted by this amendment may be exercised as an alternative to, or cumulative with, and in no way restrictive of, powers otherwise granted by law to the county, or to any municipality, or to any agency, board, or authority created pursuant to the laws of this state.

(c) Neither the county nor any municipality located therein shall lend its credit to or grant any public funds or thing of value to or in aid of any private entity under the authority of this amendment unless prior thereto both of the following are satisfied:

(1) The action proposed to be taken by the county or municipality is approved at a public meeting of the governing body of the county or municipality, as the case may be, by a resolution containing a determination by the governing body that the expenditure of public funds for the purpose specified will serve a valid and sufficient public purpose, notwithstanding any incidental benefit accruing to any private entity or entities.

(2) At least seven days prior to the public meeting, a notice is published in the newspaper having the largest circulation in the county or municipality, as the case may be, describing in reasonable detail the action proposed to be taken, a description of the public benefits sought to be achieved by the action, and identifying each individual, firm, corporation, or other business entity to whom or for whose benefit the county or the municipality proposes to lend its credit or grant public funds or thing of value.

For purposes of the foregoing, any sale, lease, or other disposition of property for a price equal to the fair market value thereof shall not constitute the lending of credit or a grant of public funds or thing of value in aid of a private entity.

Nothing in this amendment shall authorize the county commission to own or operate a cable television system.

(d) This amendment shall have prospective application only. Any local constitutional amendments previously adopted and any local law enacted pursuant to such amendment shall remain in full force and effect.

Amendment 773 ratified

Repeal of Amendment 144.

Amendment 144 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, relating to Colbert County, is repealed.

Amendment 774 ratified

Sanctity of Marriage Amendment.

(a) This amendment shall be known and may be cited as the Sanctity of Marriage Amendment.

(b) Marriage is inherently a unique relationship between a man and a woman. As a matter of public policy, this state has a special interest in encouraging, supporting, and protecting this unique relationship in order to promote, among other goals, the stability and welfare of society and its children. A marriage contracted between individuals of the same sex is invalid in this state.

(c) Marriage is a sacred covenant, solemnized between a man and a woman, which, when the legal capacity and consent of both parties is present, establishes their relationship as husband and wife, and which is recognized by the state as a civil contract.

(d) No marriage license shall be issued in the State of Alabama to parties of the same sex.

(e) The State of Alabama shall not recognize as valid any marriage of parties of the same sex that occurred or was alleged to have occurred as a result of the law of any jurisdiction regardless of whether a marriage license was issued.

(f) The State of Alabama shall not recognize as valid any common law marriage of parties of the same sex.

(g) A union replicating marriage of or between persons of the same sex in the State of Alabama or in any other jurisdiction shall be considered and treated in all respects as having no legal force or effect in this state and shall not be recognized by this state as a marriage or other union replicating marriage.

Amendment 775 ratified

Blount County; Sheriff-Employees

Effective the first day of the sixth month after the date of the election on the ratification of this amendment, employees of the Office of the Sheriff of Blount County, except for the chief deputy and chief clerks, are subject to the authority of the Merit System Board of Blount County, or its successor.

Amendment 776 ratified

Amendment to Amendment No. 632. Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Cleburne County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

Amendment No. 632 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 3, Local Amendments, Cleburne County, Official Recompile of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

"Amendment No. 632.

" No elected or appointed Cleburne County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Cleburne County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Cleburne County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Cleburne County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Cleburne County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Cleburne County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 777 ratified

Amendment to Amendment No. 630. Phase-out of Supernumerary Programs in Cherokee County; Participation in Employees' Retirement System.

Amendment No. 630 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 3, Local Amendments, Cherokee County, Official Recompile of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

"Amendment No. 630.

" No elected or appointed Cherokee County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Cherokee County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Cherokee County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the

Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Cherokee County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent Cherokee County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Cherokee County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 778 ratified

Minimum ad valorem tax rate for general school purposes.

(a) There is hereby authorized and there shall be levied and collected for general public school purposes, for the ad valorem tax year commencing October 1, 2006, and for each ad valorem tax year thereafter, in each school district of the state, in addition to all other taxes, a special ad valorem school property tax at a rate equal to the difference between ten dollars on each one thousand dollars of taxable property in such district and the sum of the rates per thousand of all the ad valorem property taxes described in Section (b) hereof otherwise levied and collected for general public school purposes in such school district and required or permitted by the terms of this amendment to be taken into account for purposes of determining the rate of said tax. The County Commission or other like governing body of each county in the State is hereby directed to compute and determine annually the rate or rates of, and to levy and collect in and for the benefit of each school district within such county, the additional ad valorem property tax authorized hereby, in compliance with the provisions of this amendment. The proceeds from said tax shall not, any provisions of any law or of this constitution to the contrary notwithstanding, be subject to any fees, charges or commissions for assessment or collection by any person whatever, it being the intent hereof that the full amounts of the proceeds of said tax collected shall be used for general public school purposes.

(b) The following described ad valorem property taxes, to the extent the use of the proceeds thereof is not lawfully restricted, earmarked or otherwise designated for a purpose or purposes more particular than general public school purposes, now or hereafter levied and collected in each school district of the State, shall be taken into account annually in determining the rate of the tax required to be levied each year pursuant to the provisions of Section (a) of this amendment:

(1) countywide ad valorem property taxes levied and collected for public school or educational purposes under the provisions of Section 269 of, or Amendments 3 or 202 [§§269.01 through 269.04] to, the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 or any amendment thereto adopted subsequent to the adoption of this amendment similarly authorizing the levy of such taxes,

(2) countywide ad valorem property taxes levied and collected for public school or educational purposes,

(3) that portion, expressed as an ad valorem tax millage rate, of any local countywide ad valorem property tax or taxes levied and collected in any county of the state for general purposes that is paid or required to be distributed to or used for the benefit of the respective public school system or systems of the county to which the school district has reference, and that is designated by official action of the taxing authority levying the same as creditable for purposes of Section (a) of this amendment, provided that any such portion of such tax once so designated may not thereafter be designated for other than general school purposes and shall be recorded as a school tax that may be levied and collected without limit as to time,

(4) school district ad valorem property taxes levied and collected under the provisions of Amendments 3 or 382 to the Constitution of 1901 [§§269.01 through 269.04], or the provisions of any constitutional amendment applicable only to the county (or part thereof) in which the school district is located authorizing the levy of an ad valorem property tax in the school district, and

(5) any ad valorem property taxes otherwise levied by and collected in any municipality of the state for public school purposes the proceeds of which are paid or required to be used for the benefit of the school system of such municipality, and that are designated by the taxing authority levying the tax as creditable for purposes of Section (a)

of this amendment, provided that any such tax once so designated may not thereafter be designated for other than general school purposes and shall be recorded as a school tax that may be levied and collected without limit as to time.

(c) Each local taxing authority in the State levying ad valorem property taxes for public school purposes shall annually notify the Alabama Department of Revenue, the Alabama State Superintendent of Education, and the Director of Finance of all ad valorem property taxes so levied by such authority for school purposes (including the tax authorized to be levied hereby), of the authority under which such taxes were levied and collected, the provisions of any referendum at which they were approved pertaining to the rates thereof, the time they are to continue, the purposes for which they were approved, and the particular constitutional authority under which they were submitted for referendum, if applicable.

(d) The levy and collection of the additional ad valorem property tax authorized and required to be levied and collected pursuant to the provisions of this amendment shall not affect or reduce any authorization heretofore or hereafter otherwise existing for the levy of any school district or countywide ad valorem property tax or taxes, whether such levy is subject to approval by the qualified electors of the jurisdiction in which the tax may be levied at a referendum election or otherwise.

(e) The tax levied pursuant to this amendment may be pledged for payment of any debt obligations incurred for public school purposes for which any other ad valorem property tax levied in the school district in which the tax is levied is or may be pledged for repayment. No provision of this amendment shall affect or impair the validity of any pledge of any local ad valorem property tax heretofore or hereafter made for the payment of any indebtedness of any type whatever.

(f) Any provision of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, to the contrary notwithstanding, all ad valorem property taxes for public school or education purposes in the state of Alabama the levy of which has been approved by a majority vote of the appropriate electorate prior to the ratification of this amendment by the qualified electors of the State, and the levy and collection of any such tax from the date of the initial levy thereof, are hereby authorized, ratified and confirmed regardless of any statutory or constitutional defects, mistakes, errors or ambiguities in the authorization or levy thereof or the election thereon, or in any act of the Legislature with respect thereto; provided, however, that the authorization, ratification and confirmation effected by this Section (f) shall not be applicable to any tax the validity of which was being challenged in appropriate judicial proceedings in any proper court on the date of final passage of the act of the legislature pursuant to which this amendment was proposed.

Amendment 779 ratified

Autauga County: Court Costs.

The Legislature, by general or local law, may fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts in Autauga County and provide for their distribution.

Amendment 780 ratified

Baldwin County: Amendment to Amendment 660.

All vacancies in the office of judge of the circuit court and the office of judge of the district court holding in Baldwin County shall be filled in the manner and for the time as herein provided.

The Baldwin County Judicial Commission is created for the purpose of nominating to the Governor persons for appointment to a vacancy. The commission shall be composed of five members. The members of the commission shall be one person who is a member of the Alabama State Bar nominated by the Baldwin County Bar Association, the presiding circuit judge holding in Baldwin County, one member selected by the Baldwin County Commission, one member selected by the Baldwin County Mayors' Association where at least two thirds of the members are in attendance at the meeting where the selection is made, and one member who is not a member of the Legislature

selected by the Baldwin County Legislative Delegation selected by random selection as designed by the members of the Alabama House of Representatives and the Alabama Senate who represent Baldwin County.

All members of the commission shall reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding in Baldwin County.

Only the member selected by the Baldwin County Bar Association and the presiding circuit judge holding in Baldwin County may be a member of the Alabama State Bar. The member of the commission who is required to be a member of the Alabama State Bar shall be elected by the members of the Baldwin County Bar Association who are regularly licensed and qualified to practice law in this state and who reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding in Baldwin County. The Executive Committee of the Baldwin County Bar Association, or its successor body in that capacity, shall make rules, not inconsistent with this amendment, for the election of the member of the commission required to be a member of the Alabama State Bar. The executive committee shall certify in writing to the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County the name of the person elected as member of the commission by these members of the bar.

The presiding circuit judge holding in Baldwin County shall certify in writing to the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County the remaining names of the persons selected as members of the commission.

The terms of office of all members of the commission shall be six years. In event that an initial appointment or vacancy is not filled in 30 days, the vacancy shall be filled by the members of the Baldwin County Legislative Delegation residing in Baldwin County within 10 days. A vacancy in the office of a member of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the member was originally chosen.

The Judge of Probate of Baldwin County shall record all certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original certificates. Forthwith upon his or her receipt and recordation of every certificate, the judge of probate shall send to the Governor a certified copy of every certificate.

No member of the commission shall be eligible for nomination to the Governor for appointment as judge of the circuit court or the district court during the term of office of the commission member.

The members of the commission shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their services as members. No member of the commission other than the member required to be a judge of the circuit court shall hold any public office, and no member of the commission shall hold any official position in any political party.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of judge of the circuit court or the office of judge of the district court holding in Baldwin County, the commission shall nominate within 30 days to the Governor three persons having the qualifications for the office. If the commission fails to nominate three names during the 30-day period, the names shall be selected by the members of the Baldwin County Legislative Delegation residing in the county within 10 days. The names of all persons considered for nomination shall be available for review by the public and shall be deemed a public record. The Governor shall appoint to the office in which the vacancy exists one of the three persons so nominated for the office. If the Governor fails to make an appointment from the list within 30 days from the date it is presented to the Governor, the appointment shall be made by the Chief Justice or the acting Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from the same list. The appointee shall hold the office until the next general election for any state officer held at least six months after the vacancy occurs and until a successor is elected and qualified. At the general election, the judicial office shall be filled for a full term of office to commence on the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the general election.

Amendment 781 ratified

Baldwin County: Wastewater Utilities.

(a) This amendment shall apply only in Baldwin County.

(b) For the purpose of this amendment, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) WASTEWATER SYSTEM. A system of pipes, lines, meters, pumps, equipment and facilities, all or part of which are located in the unincorporated areas of Baldwin County and which are owned or operated by a wastewater utility, as defined herein, for the collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater from homes, schools, businesses, and other entities in which solids, sewerage, nonhydrocarbon greases, and oils are collected for treatment or where wastewater is collected for disposal. Individual septic tank systems, decentralized or cluster facilities as defined by general law, and all portable toilets are expressly excluded from the definition of the term "wastewater system."

(2) WASTEWATER UTILITY. The owner or operating entity of a wastewater system, whether privately owned or publicly owned, including privately owned wastewater systems, municipally owned wastewater systems, and wastewater systems owned by or through boards or other entities established by municipal corporations or as otherwise provided by state law.

(3) WASTEWATER. Solids, sewerage, nonhydrocarbon greases, and oils.

(c) The Legislature may by general or local law provide for the regulation of wastewater utilities, whether privately owned or publicly owned, in the unincorporated area of the county. The regulation may include uniform minimum standards for the design, placement, construction, operation, and maintenance of wastewater systems and the regulation of the establishment of reasonable and just rates for consumers and the wastewater utilities. In the case of uniform minimum standards established within any extraterritorial jurisdiction of a municipality, the standards established pursuant to the authority granted in this amendment shall apply. Any minimum standard adopted pursuant to this amendment shall not apply to any part of a wastewater system installed or permitted prior to the effective date of the standard unless it is determined necessary for the protection of the public health and welfare and the environment of Baldwin County. All laws, rules, regulations, construction standards, and specifications regulating wastewater systems and wastewater utilities shall be non-discriminatory and apply equally to all wastewater systems and wastewater utilities operating or located within the unincorporated areas of the county.

(d) The Legislature may authorize the levy of taxes or fees in an amount not to exceed five percent of the gross receipts from the connection, collection, and treatment revenues collected from customers of wastewater utilities in the unincorporated area of the county to be used for the purposes of the administration of regulation adopted pursuant to this amendment.

(e) The Legislature may provide for the mandatory connection to wastewater systems where service is reasonably available and where it is in the best interest for the protection of the public health and welfare and the environment of Baldwin County.

(f) The Legislature by general or local law may authorize the exercise of the power of eminent domain for the construction of wastewater utilities in the county.

Amendment 782

Baldwin County: Tax - Senior Discount.

(a) In Baldwin County, a qualified taxpayer may claim a senior discount on his or her ad valorem taxes. A qualified taxpayer shall meet all the following requirements to be eligible for the senior discount:

- (1) Be age 65 or older for the tax year for which he or she claims the discount.
- (2) Shall have maintained the property on which the senior discount is claimed as his or her principal place of residence for at least 10 years prior to claiming the senior discount.

(b) The senior discount provided for herein shall be the difference between the ad valorem taxes otherwise due and the ad valorem tax imposed on October 1, 2006. The senior discount shall be claimed in the manner that a homestead exemption is claimed.

(c) The Alabama Department of Revenue shall promulgate such rules as are necessary for the implementation and administration of the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 783 ratified

Baldwin County: Home Rule.

Section 1. Limited Home Rule.

(a) Except as herein provided, the Baldwin County Commission may adopt ordinances, resolutions, or regulations relating to its property, affairs, and county government for which no provision has been made by general law and which is not inconsistent with this constitution or any local law enacted by the Alabama Legislature. Notwithstanding the general grant of power in the preceding sentence, the Baldwin County Commission may not establish or levy any new tax or raise revenue except as authorized by this constitution or by general or local law enacted by the Legislature of the State of Alabama.

(b) The Baldwin County Commission, in the adoption of ordinances, resolutions, regulations, or amendments to such ordinances, resolutions, or regulations implementing the provisions of this amendment, shall provide for public notice and hearings as follows:

(1) The county commission shall hold two advertised public hearings on the proposed ordinance, resolution, or regulation or any amendment to ordinances, resolutions, or regulations at regularly scheduled meetings of the commission.

(2) The required advertisement shall be no less than one-eighth page in a standard size or a tabloid size newspaper, and the headline in the advertisement shall be in a type no smaller than 14 point. This advertisement shall be placed in both that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements appear and in the other portion of the newspaper. The advertisement shall be published in newspapers of general paid circulation in the county and of general interest and readership in the community. In addition, the advertisement may be placed on a website.

(3) An ordinance may not be considered for adoption until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the county commission after the public hearings provided for above.

(c) Every ordinance of the Baldwin County Commission shall embrace only one subject and matter properly connected therewith, and the subject shall be briefly expressed in the title. No ordinance shall be revised or amended by reference to its title only. Ordinances to revise or amend shall set out in full the revised or amended section, subsection, or paragraph of a subsection. The enacting clause of every ordinance shall read: "Be It Ordained by the County Commissioners of Baldwin County."

(d) The Baldwin County Commission shall maintain a current codification of all ordinances. The codification shall be updated at least annually. All ordinances shall be available to the public at the main courthouse and at all satellite courthouses. A reasonable charge may be made for the copies but the charges shall not exceed the actual costs

incidental to providing the copies. In addition, the county commission may post the ordinances on the Internet.

(e) The Baldwin County Commission may fix the salaries, compensation, expenses, and other benefits and terms of employment of those employed by the Baldwin County Commission, not to include any employee of the sheriff subject to Amendment 717 of this constitution, now appearing as Section 9, Local Amendments, Baldwin County, Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, and establish and maintain retirement or pension systems, insurance, workers' compensation, hospitalization, and medical benefits for those employees as well as the employees of the Baldwin County Legislative Office. The Baldwin County Commission may employ a county administrator and other professional staff as it deems appropriate to be authorized and directed to perform any applicable management and administrative function associated with the management of county property and services.

Section 2. Supplementary powers.

(a) The Baldwin County Commission, in addition to, and supplementary of, all powers possessed by or conferred upon Baldwin County or otherwise provided by general law, may by ordinance or resolution exercise the following powers, and provide and regulate the following services, activities, programs, and facilities related thereto:

- (1) Garbage and solid waste collection and disposal.
- (2) Public health facilities and services, including hospitals, ambulance and emergency rescue services, and control of dangerous animals and animal nuisances not related to agricultural activities, operations, or practices.
- (3) Public street and road construction and maintenance, including curbs, sidewalks, street lights, and devices to control the flow of traffic. Any construction and maintenance performed or authorized to be performed by county government shall be performed in accordance with engineering standards and shall be inspected to insure enforcement and compliance.

Amendment 783 ratified

Baldwin County: Home Rule.

Section 1. Limited Home Rule.

(a) Except as herein provided, the Baldwin County Commission may adopt ordinances, resolutions, or regulations relating to its property, affairs, and county government for which no provision has been made by general law and which is not inconsistent with this constitution or any local law enacted by the Alabama Legislature. Notwithstanding the general grant of power in the preceding sentence, the Baldwin County Commission may not establish or levy any new tax or raise revenue except as authorized by this constitution or by general or local law enacted by the Legislature of the State of Alabama.

(b) The Baldwin County Commission, in the adoption of ordinances, resolutions, regulations, or amendments to such ordinances, resolutions, or regulations implementing the provisions of this amendment, shall provide for public notice and hearings as follows:

- (1) The county commission shall hold two advertised public hearings on the proposed ordinance, resolution, or regulation or any amendment to ordinances, resolutions, or regulations at regularly scheduled meetings of the commission.
- (2) The required advertisement shall be no less than one-eighth page in a standard size or a tabloid size newspaper, and the headline in the advertisement shall be in a type no smaller than 14 point. This advertisement shall be placed in both that portion of the newspaper where legal notices and classified advertisements appear and in the other portion of the newspaper. The advertisement shall be published in newspapers of general paid circulation in the county and of general interest and readership in the community. In addition, the advertisement may be placed on a website.

(3) An ordinance may not be considered for adoption until the next regularly scheduled meeting of the county commission after the public hearings provided for above.

(c) Every ordinance of the Baldwin County Commission shall embrace only one subject and matter properly connected therewith, and the subject shall be briefly expressed in the title. No ordinance shall be revised or amended by reference to its title only. Ordinances to revise or amend shall set out in full the revised or amended section, subsection, or paragraph of a subsection. The enacting clause of every ordinance shall read: "Be It Ordained by the County Commissioners of Baldwin County."

(d) The Baldwin County Commission shall maintain a current codification of all ordinances. The codification shall be updated at least annually. All ordinances shall be available to the public at the main courthouse and at all satellite courthouses. A reasonable charge may be made for the copies but the charges shall not exceed the actual costs incidental to providing the copies. In addition, the county commission may post the ordinances on the Internet.

(e) The Baldwin County Commission may fix the salaries, compensation, expenses, and other benefits and terms of employment of those employed by the Baldwin County Commission, not to include any employee of the sheriff subject to Amendment 717 of this constitution, now appearing as Section 9, Local Amendments, Baldwin County, Official ReCompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, and establish and maintain retirement or pension systems, insurance, workers' compensation, hospitalization, and medical benefits for those employees as well as the employees of the Baldwin County Legislative Office. The Baldwin County Commission may employ a county administrator and other professional staff as it deems appropriate to be authorized and directed to perform any applicable management and administrative function associated with the management of county property and services.

Section 2. Supplementary powers.

(a) The Baldwin County Commission, in addition to, and supplementary of, all powers possessed by or conferred upon Baldwin County or otherwise provided by general law, may by ordinance or resolution exercise the following powers, and provide and regulate the following services, activities, programs, and facilities related thereto:

(1) Garbage and solid waste collection and disposal.

(2) Public health facilities and services, including hospitals, ambulance and emergency rescue services, and control of dangerous animals and animal nuisances not related to agricultural activities, operations, or practices.

(3) Public street and road construction and maintenance, including curbs, sidewalks, street lights, and devices to control the flow of traffic. Any construction and maintenance performed or authorized to be performed by county government shall be performed in accordance with engineering standards and shall be inspected to insure enforcement and compliance.

Amendment 784 ratified

Butler County: Retirement.

No sheriff or elected or appointed Butler County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every sheriff or elected or appointed Butler County official may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. The sheriff and other Butler County officials holding office at the time of ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Butler County official" include, subject only to express limitation, (1) any person

elected to a public county office by the electors of Butler County at a general or special election; (2) any person holding an office that entitles the person to participate in a supernumerary program; or (3) any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected Butler County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, coroner, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 785 ratified

Crenshaw County: Repeal of Amendment 496.

Repealed by Amendment 785.^[1]

Amendment 786 ratified

DeKalb County: Retirement.

No person elected or appointed sheriff or any elected or appointed DeKalb County official may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed DeKalb County official including the sheriff may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. DeKalb County officials holding office at the time of ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed DeKalb County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person elected to represent DeKalb County in any representative body of the state and includes any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed DeKalb County official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 787 ratified

Elmore County: Amendment to Amendment 567.

(a) The Legislature may from time to time by local law authorize the county governing body of Elmore County to levy and collect fees, annually not to exceed fifty dollars (\$50) on each residence and one hundred dollars (\$100) on each business located within the county, for fire protection services and emergency medical care, such local law may provide for the distribution of the fees to volunteer fire departments and to emergency medical technicians who are members of volunteer fire departments, or provide for the distribution of the fees to an association of volunteer fire departments to be distributed by the association for the same purposes.

(b) Act No. 92-660, H. 63, 1992 Second Special Session, a proposed, but not ratified local constitutional amendment, relating to the same subject matter, is repealed.

(c) This amendment shall not become effective unless approved at a referendum by a majority of the qualified electors of Elmore County voting on the proposition. The referendum shall be held at the same time as the election for the ratification of this amendment, as provided for in Section 2 of this act^[2], and no further election shall be required.

Amendment 788 ratified

Escambia County: Retirement.

No mayor or elected or appointed Escambia County official, including the sheriff, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every mayor or elected or appointed Escambia County official, including the sheriff, may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Mayors and Escambia County officials holding office at the time of ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Escambia County official" include, subject only to express limitation, any person holding an office that entitles the person to participate in a supernumerary program or any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed Escambia County official. The words do not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 789 ratified

Geneva County: Amendment to Amendment 640.

No elected or appointed Geneva County official, including the sheriff, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Geneva County official, including the sheriff, may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Geneva County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office. For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 790 ratified

Lee County: Criminal Penalties.

The Lee County Commission, by ordinance or resolution, may provide criminal penalties for violations that occur within the county in addition to those provided for by state law.

Amendment 791 ratified

Mobile County: Sheriff - Employees.

Effective the first day of the sixth month after ratification of this amendment, employees of the Office of the Sheriff of Mobile County, except for all appointed or contract employees, shall be under the authority of the Personnel Board of Mobile County. The provisions of this amendment shall not affect the legal status of the sheriff's deputies

as state constitutional officers and shall not abrogate or limit in any way any immunity from liability they enjoy pursuant to that status.

Amendment 792 ratified

Tuscaloosa County: Amendment to Amendment 358.

The Legislature may provide for the formation of districts in Tuscaloosa County, for establishing and maintaining a system for fighting or preventing fires or for the collection and disposal of garbage and trash or for either or both of said purposes; provided, however, that no territory lying within the limits of a municipal corporation at the time of the establishment of any such district shall be included within such district except that all or part of any territory lying within a municipality having a population of 10,000 inhabitants or less may be included within a district upon approval by resolution of the governing body of the municipality; and, provided further, that no such district shall be established unless the establishment thereof has been first approved by the qualified electors residing within the proposed district at an election held as provided for by a law or laws adopted by the Legislature. The Legislature may provide for submitting to the qualified electors residing within the proposed district the question of whether the district shall be created for either or both of the aforesaid purposes.

The expenses of establishing and maintaining any such fire fighting and fire prevention system or any such garbage collection and disposal system in a district, as the case may be, shall be paid for exclusively by the proceeds of a service charge, which shall be levied and collected in an amount sufficient to pay the said expenses.

Said service charges shall be levied upon and collected from the persons and property to whom and to which such services are available; and the service charge shall be a lien upon any such property.

The Legislature may provide for the enlargement of a district by the addition of territory thereto, subject to the following conditions: (1) No territory lying within a municipal corporation at the time of such enlargement shall be added to a district except that all or part of any territory lying within a municipality having a population of 10,000 inhabitants or less may be included within a district upon approval by resolution of the governing body of the municipality; (2) subject to (3), next below, no territory shall be added unless the qualified electors thereof have approved the addition of such territory to the district at an election held for that purpose within the territory proposed to be added; (3) the Legislature may provide a procedure whereby territory will be included in a district upon the written petition for its inclusion signed by at least seventy percent (70%) of the qualified electors residing within said territory.

The Legislature shall adopt laws providing for the administration of the affairs of the district by the governing body of the county or by an agency of the county, and empowering the body administering the affairs of the district to levy and collect the service charge, subject to such restrictions and conditions as the Legislature imposes. The Legislature may provide that any such service charge shall not become effective unless approved by the electors of the territory, and may provide the conditions on which an election on such service charge shall be held.

The Legislature shall be authorized to enact laws providing for the collection and enforcement of the service charges and of the lien for such charges.

The Legislature may provide for the issuance of bonds for such districts with or without an election; provided, however, that all bonds issued hereunder shall be payable only out of the proceeds of the service charge authorized hereby, and no such bond shall be a general obligation of the county.

Amendment 793 ratified

Tuscaloosa County: Court Costs - Legislative Authority.

The Legislature, by general or local law, may fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts in Tuscaloosa County and provide for their distribution. Any local law authorizing the levy of additional court costs in Tuscaloosa County enacted prior to the effective date of this amendment is ratified and confirmed.

Amendment 794 ratified

Tuscaloosa County: Court Costs - Authority.

The Legislature, by general or local law, may fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts in Tuscaloosa County and provide for their distribution. Any local law authorizing the levy of additional court costs in Tuscaloosa County enacted prior to the effective date of this amendment is ratified and confirmed.^[3]

Amendment 795 ratified

Amendment of Amendment 471.

The special district tax now levied and collected for public hospital purposes in election precincts numbered one through seven of Baldwin County, Alabama, and authorized by law shall be continued upon approval of this constitutional amendment and by simultaneous approval of a majority of the qualified electors in election precincts one through seven of Baldwin County voting thereon in the constitutional election submitting this proposed amendment to the county electorate.

"Upon such approval, the governing body of Baldwin County shall levy and cause to be collected annually, beginning October 1, 2007, for a period of 20 years, in addition to any taxes now authorized or that may be hereafter authorized by the Constitution and laws of Alabama, a special district tax of two mills on each one dollar (\$1.00) assessed valuation of taxable property in election precincts numbered one through seven of Baldwin County, Alabama, to be used exclusively for public hospital purposes (as the term "public hospital purposes" is defined in amendment LXXVI [76] to the Alabama Constitution of 1901 [§215.037] proposed by Acts of 1949, page 897, submitted December 13, 1949, and proclaimed ratified December 21, 1949) within said election precincts numbered one through seven.

Whenever such tax shall have been authorized by vote of such qualified electors, and levied by the governing body of Baldwin County, such governing body may anticipate the proceeds therefrom for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, by issuing, without further election, interest bearing tax anticipation bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said county payable solely from and secured by a pledge of a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax received by the county.

The governing body of Baldwin County shall have power to designate as the agency of the county, to construct, acquire, equip, operate and maintain public hospital facilities for said election precincts numbered one through seven any public corporation heretofore or hereafter organized for hospital purposes in the county. When a public corporation shall have been so designated, the proceeds of said tax thereafter collected shall be paid to it and shall be used by it for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted; provided, that payments of the proceeds of said tax to said public corporation shall be made only to such extent as will not result in the impairment of the obligation of any contract theretofore made with respect to said tax. Said public corporation may anticipate the proceeds from said tax so required to be paid to it by issuing, for any one or more of the purposes for which the tax shall have been voted, the bonds, warrants, or certificates of indebtedness of said corporation, and may pledge for the payment of the principal thereof and interest thereon a sufficient amount of the annual proceeds from said tax so paid to it.

No securities issued or contracts made by Baldwin County under the authority of this amendment, which are payable solely out of the proceeds of said tax, and no securities issued or contracts made by any such public corporation, whether or not issued or made under the authority of this amendment, shall be construed to be bonds of Baldwin County or of a political subdivision thereof within the meaning of Section 222 of the Constitution, or construed to create or constitute an indebtedness of the county within the meaning of Section 224 of the Constitution. Said securities shall be construed to be negotiable instruments notwithstanding the fact that they may be payable solely from a limited source. All pledges of said tax and all contracts made with respect thereto pursuant to the provisions of this amendment shall take precedence in the order in which they are made and shall create a charge on the proceeds of said tax prior to the expenses of operating and maintaining any public hospital facilities.

As used in this act, the term "election precincts" means the election precincts or beats of the county as they existed on July 27, 1965.

This amendment shall be self-executing.

Amendment 796 ratified

Increase in bonding authority; competitive bidding.^[4]

(a) The authority granted to the State of Alabama to become indebted and to sell and issue its interest-bearing General Obligation bonds, in addition to all other bonds of the state, under Amendment 666 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, [§219.04] is hereby increased to an aggregate principal amount not exceeding \$750 million.

(b) All of the bonds shall be sold only at public sale or sales, either on sealed bids or at public auction, after such advertisement as may be prescribed by the Bond Commission, to the bidder whose bid reflects the lowest true interest cost to the State computed to the respective maturities of the bonds sold; provided, that if no bid deemed acceptable by the commission is received all bids may be rejected.

(c) Relative to issuance expenses, contracts and appointments incurred in connection with the issuance of bonds, the Bond Commission created in Section IX of Amendment 666 to the Constitution of 1901, [§219.04] shall contract with businesses or individuals which reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the state.

(d) In all other respects, the terms and provisions of Amendment 666 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, [§219.04] as amended, will be unchanged and remain in full force and effect.

Amendment 797 ratified

Foreign Trade Investment Zone.

(a) The governing body of the City of Prichard in Mobile County, Alabama, by a majority vote thereof at a regularly scheduled meeting of the governing body, may establish an Alabama Foreign Trade Investment Zone within the city as a special tax district for the purpose of importing duty free and quota free articles eligible under the United States General System of Preferences and the Africa Growth and Opportunities Act or otherwise for purposes of enhancing economic development opportunities and job opportunities within the City of Prichard and Mobile County. The governing body of the City of Prichard shall specify that the value of land and improvements within the tax district, except for property within the tax district that is centrally assessed by the Alabama Department of Revenue, shall be assessed for ad valorem tax purposes by the appropriate county tax officials according to a single site valuation system where land and improvements on the land are valued together rather than separately and taxed at a uniform rate. The proceeds of any revenue collected pursuant to this amendment shall be used by the special tax district for infrastructure creation, improvements, or redesign.

(b) The Legislature may provide by local law for the implementation and administration of the special tax district authorized by this amendment and may further provide for the abolition of the tax district upon the adoption of a resolution by a majority vote of the city governing body calling for the tax district to be abolished.

(c) In addition to the foregoing, any nonprofit organization located within Mobile County may enter into contracts with any individual or corporation for operational purposes.

Amendment 798 ratified

Health care benefits for retired state and education employees.

All of the assets, proceeds, and income of the Alabama Retired State Employees' Health Care Trust and the Alabama Retired Education Employees' Health Care Trust, or any successor or assignee of the trust, and all contributions and payments made to the trustees of the trusts, shall be held, invested as authorized by law, and disbursed for the exclusive purposes of providing for administrative expenses of the respective trust and health care benefits under the management of the trustees of the respective trust in accordance with the terms of its trust agreement. None of the assets, proceeds, income, contributions, or payments shall be used, loaned, encumbered, or diverted to or for any other purpose whatsoever, except, that (a) a trust may be terminated, if the State has no obligation to provide post-employment health care benefits for which the trust was established to such persons, and, in that event, the remaining assets of the trust shall revert to the State Treasury to and for the credit of the State Employees' Insurance Board, the Public Education Employees' Health Insurance Board, or its successor or assign, as the case may be, related to the terminated trust or (b) if in response to a petition of the trustees of a trust requesting that the respective trust agreement be amended, a court of competent jurisdiction determines that the amendment proposed by the trustees is necessary or otherwise advisable to accomplish one or more purposes of the act authorizing and directing the creation of the trusts.

Amendment 799 ratified

Amendment of Amendment 756

In Shelby County, the Legislature, by local law, may provide for the enforcement of traffic laws on private roads in private gated communities and platted subdivisions with 35 or more existing houses whose roads are not public in the county.

Amendment 800 Ratified

Pike County Court Costs.

The Legislature, by general or local law, may fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts in Pike County and provide for their distribution. Any local law authorizing the levy of additional court costs in Pike County enacted prior to the effective date of this amendment is ratified and confirmed.

Annotations

- [1] What precisely is being repealed here appears to be Amendment 496, however the phrasing suggests the amendment (785) is self-repealed!
 - [2] Presumably the act of the Legislature which proposed this amendment contained supplementary provisions relating to the amendment; they are not included on the state legislature's website.
 - [3] Note that, except for the word "Legislative" in the title, the Amendments 793 and 794 are exactly the same.
 - [4] This amendment was passed to allow the state to issue bonds large enough for some industrial attraction, namely of some steel companies.
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Article Sources and Contributors

Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 701-800 *Source:* <http://en.wikisource.org/w/index.php?oldid=2885344> *Contributors:* Billinghamurst, Illy, John Vandenberg, 8 anonymous edits

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Alabama State Constitution of 1901/Amendments 801-900

Amendment 801 ratified

Board of Education

Section I. The Macon County Board of Education shall be composed of five members. Four of the members shall be elected by the respective qualified electors of four separate single-member districts, which shall be the same as the districts established for the election of the members of the Macon County Commission. One of the members shall be elected at large by the qualified electors of the county.

Section II. Members of the board shall be elected to serve six-year terms of office. Members holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall continue in office and exercise the duties thereof until their respective terms expire. Upon the expiration of those terms, members shall be elected for six-year terms by election district and place number as follows:

- (1) One of the two memberships expiring in 2012 shall be designated as Place 1. The member elected to serve in Place 1 shall be elected from the same election district as is provided for Place 1 on the Macon County Commission.
- (2) One of the two memberships expiring in 2012 shall be designated as Place 5. The member elected to serve in Place 5 shall be elected from the county at large.
- (3) The membership expiring in 2008 shall be designated as Place 2. The member elected to serve in Place 2 shall be elected from the same election district as is provided for Place 2 on the Macon County Commission.
- (4) One of the two memberships expiring in 2010 shall be designated as Place 3. The member elected to serve in Place 3 shall be elected from the same election district as is provided for Place 3 on the Macon County Commission.
- (5) One of the two memberships expiring in 2010 shall be designated as Place 4. The member elected to serve in Place 4 shall be elected from the same election district as is provided for Place 4 on the Macon County Commission.

Section III. The Macon County Commission shall take necessary steps to ensure this amendment complies with the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, before any election is conducted pursuant to this amendment.

Amendment 802 ratified

Tax - Senior Property Tax Appraisal.

Amendment 782.

(a) In Baldwin County, a qualified taxpayer may claim a senior property tax appraisal on his or her ad valorem taxes. A qualified taxpayer shall meet all of the following requirements to be eligible for the senior property tax appraisal:

- (1) Be age 65 or older for the tax year for which he or she claims the senior property tax appraisal.
- (2) Have been assessed ad valorem taxes on any property within the county used as a principal place of residence for at least 10 years prior to the year for which he or she is claiming the senior property tax appraisal.

(b) The senior property tax appraisal provided for herein shall freeze the assessed value of the property for the year prior to claiming the senior property tax appraisal. The recipient of the senior property tax appraisal shall be subject to any applicable homestead exemption and millage rate changes. Any addition to the property after claiming the senior property tax appraisal shall not be eligible for the senior property tax appraisal.

(c) The Alabama Department of Revenue shall promulgate the rules as are necessary for the implementation and administration of the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 803 ratified

Repeal of Amendment 709.

Section I. Amendment 709 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 260.01 of the Official Recompile of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, is hereby repealed.

Section II. As used in this amendment, the following words and phrases shall have the following respective meanings:

"Alabama Trust Fund" means the irrevocable, permanent trust fund created by Amendment No. 450 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 219.02 of the Official Recompile of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended.

"Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account" or "General Fund Rainy Day Account" means the special accounts created by this amendment.

"Oil and Gas Capital Payment" means any payment (including any royalty payment) received by the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof as all or part of the consideration for the sale, leasing, or other disposition by the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof of any right to explore and drill for or to produce oil, gas, or other hydrocarbon minerals in any area on the water side of the high water mark of Mobile Bay or in any other offshore area and shall include any revenue by the state from federal oil and gas leases off the coast of Alabama. Any royalty or other payment, with the exception of any taxes heretofore or hereafter levied, that is based upon or determined with respect to the production of oil, gas or other hydrocarbon minerals and that is paid to the state or any agency or instrumentality thereof, regardless of the time of such payment, shall be considered an oil and gas capital payment.

Section III. (a) Within thirty days following ratification of this constitutional amendment there shall be created within the Alabama Trust Fund the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account and the General Fund Rainy Day Account. In any year in which the Governor certifies to the state comptroller and notifies the Legislature that proration would occur in appropriations from the Education Trust Fund or the State General Fund, the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account or the General Fund Rainy Day Account shall be credited with Oil and Gas Capital Payments previously transferred into the Alabama Trust Fund in the amount required to fund withdrawals from the Account of the amounts authorized by this section. However, the amount withdrawn from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account in a fiscal year may not exceed six and one-half percent of the previous fiscal year's Education Trust Fund appropriations less the total amount of any prior years' withdrawals from the Account which have not been repaid to the Account, as provided for in subsections (b), (c), and (e). The amount withdrawn from the General Fund Rainy Day Account in a fiscal year may not exceed ten percent of the previous fiscal year's General Fund appropriations less the total amount of any prior years' withdrawals from the Account which have not been repaid to the Account, as provided for in subsections (b), (c), and (e). Funds from the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund Rainy Day Account may be withdrawn only to prevent proration of the appropriations from the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund. For the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2008, withdrawals shall be limited to an amount necessary to reach the highest estimated available revenue for each Fund as certified by the Finance Director and the Legislative Fiscal Officer prior to the end of the 2008 Regular Legislative Session. Beginning in the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2009, withdrawals from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account and the General Fund Rainy Day Account shall be limited to an amount necessary to reach the average of the estimated available revenue for each Fund which is to be certified by the Finance Director and the Legislative Fiscal Officer prior to the third legislative day of each Regular Session. The Governor shall certify to the state comptroller and notify the Legislature that proration would occur in appropriations from the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund in accordance with this constitution. Upon the certification by the Governor, and after all other sources available to be used to offset proration have been utilized, withdrawals from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account or the General Fund Rainy Day Account may be made; however, withdrawals shall be limited to the amount of the anticipated proration and funds allotted only to the extent necessary to avoid proration of appropriations from the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund as limited by this section. In the event funds are withdrawn from the

Education Trust Fund or the General Fund Rainy Day Account an additional amount equal to twenty-five percent of the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund transfer amount shall be transferred from the Alabama Trust Fund to the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund.

(b) The Finance Director shall ensure that if during the fiscal year, receipts to the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund (net of the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund Rainy Day Account payments) are sufficient to reduce anticipated proration which has been certified by the Governor to the state comptroller and for which funds have been withdrawn, then the amount corresponding to the reduced anticipated proration percentage shall be transferred back to the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund Rainy Day Account within the Alabama Trust Fund within thirty days after the end of the fiscal year in which the withdrawals were made. Any amount transferred back to the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund Rainy Day Account shall necessitate a transfer of an additional amount equal to twenty-five percent of that amount from the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund into the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund Rainy Day Account within the Alabama Trust Fund.

(c) The Legislature may provide by statute for the replenishment of the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund Rainy Day Account within the Alabama Trust Fund from sources other than the Alabama Trust Fund or Oil and Gas Capital Payments. The earnings from the investment of funds due to the replenishment shall be deposited into the State General Fund.

(d) The allocations to the Alabama Capital Improvement Trust Fund and to the County and Municipal Government Capital Improvement Fund as provided in Amendment 666 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 219.04 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, shall not be diminished by the application of this amendment.

(e) The Legislature must replenish the accounts within six (6) years after withdrawal of any funds from the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account and within ten (10) years after withdrawal of any funds from the General Fund Rainy Day Account pursuant to the provisions of this amendment. After the complete replenishment of the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund Rainy Day Account, any excess funds shall be designated to repay any lost interest earnings to the trust established under Amendment 543 to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now appearing as Section 219.07 of the Official Recompilation of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended, due to any withdrawal from the Education Trust Fund or the General Fund Rainy Day Account.

Amendment 804 ratified

Shelby County: Judicial Commission.

All vacancies in the office of the judge of the circuit court and the office of the judge of the district court of the 18th Judicial Circuit shall be filled in the manner and for the time as herein provided.

The Shelby County Judicial Commission is hereby created for the purpose of nominating to the Governor persons for appointment to a vacancy. The commission shall be composed of five members. The members of the commission shall be as follows: Two persons who are members of the Alabama State Bar; two persons who are not members of the Alabama State Bar; and the presiding judge of the 18th Judicial Circuit.

All members of the commission shall reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the 18th Judicial Circuit.

The two members of the commission who are required to be members of the Alabama State Bar shall be elected by the members of the bar who are regularly licensed and qualified to practice law in this state. The Executive Committee of the Shelby County Bar Association, or its successor body in such capacity, is authorized and directed to make rules, not inconsistent with this amendment, for the election of the two members of the commission who are required to be members of the Alabama State Bar. The executive committee shall certify in writing to the Judge of Probate of Shelby County the names of the persons elected as members of the commission by the members of the bar and the name of the presiding judge of the circuit court who shall serve on the commission by virtue of his or her

position as presiding judge.

The members of the Legislature representing Shelby County shall elect the two members of the commission who are required not to be members of the Alabama State Bar. The members of the Legislature representing Shelby County shall certify in writing to the judge of probate the names of the persons elected by them as members.

The terms of office of all members of the commission shall be six years, except that the terms of office of the two members of the State Bar first elected shall be for one and two years respectively, and of the two members first elected by the members of the Legislature representing Shelby County shall be for three and four years respectively; the length of the terms of office of the members of the commission being indicated by the respective electing bodies. The terms of the initial members of the commission shall begin on January 1, 2009. A vacancy in the office of a member of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as that member was originally chosen.

The Judge of Probate of Shelby County shall record all certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original certificates. Upon receipt and recordation of each certificate, the judge of probate shall send to the Governor a certified copy of each certificate.

No member of the commission shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself as a member or for nomination to the Governor for appointment as judge of the circuit or district court during the term of office for which the member shall have been selected.

The members of the commission shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their services as members. No member of the commission other than the member who is the presiding judge of the 18th Judicial Circuit shall hold any public office and no member of the commission shall hold any official position in any political party.

If, subsequent to January 1, 2009, a vacancy occurs in the office of judge of the circuit or district court in the 18th Judicial Circuit, the commission shall nominate to the Governor three persons having the qualifications for the office. The nomination shall be made only by the concurrence of a majority of the members of the commission. The Governor shall appoint to the office in which the vacancy exists one of the three persons so nominated for the office. The appointee shall hold office until the next general election for any state officer held at least six months after the vacancy occurs and until his or her successor is elected and qualified; the successor shall hold office for the unexpired term and until his or her successor is elected and qualified.

Any vacancy occurring in the office of judge of the 18th Judicial Circuit, which is required to be filled by appointment on nominations made by the commission, shall be made within 90 days from the date of the submission of the nominations. In the event the Governor fails to fill the vacancy from the nominations within that period, the appointment shall be made by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Alabama.

Amendment 805 ratified

Limestone County: Tax - Schools.

In consideration of the fact that the City of Madison includes property located in both Madison County and Limestone County and that immediately prior to the adoption of this amendment, the number of mills of county-levied ad valorem tax for school or educational purposes in the portion of the city lying in Limestone County was 10.5 mills less than the number of mills of county-levied ad valorem tax for school or educational purposes levied in the portion of the city situated in Madison County, the City of Madison, in addition to the power to levy and collect ad valorem tax each year at the rate authorized immediately prior to the adoption of this amendment, shall have the further power to levy and collect each year, on property located in the part of the city that is situated in Limestone County, such additional ad valorem tax for public school purposes as is necessary to equalize the total rate of all ad valorem tax for public school purposes levied each year on property located in the part of the city that is in Limestone County with the total rate of all ad valorem tax for public school purposes levied on property located in the part of the city that is in Madison County. All additional ad valorem taxation levied under this amendment shall

be based on the value of the property as fixed for state taxation. No additional tax shall be levied under this amendment unless a majority of the qualified electors of the City of Madison voting in the election on the adoption of this amendment shall vote for such adoption; provided that if the majority of the qualified electors of the City of Madison voting in said election should not vote in favor of such adoption, or if the majority of the qualified electors of the City of Madison at any election subsequently called under this amendment should not vote in favor of the levy of the additional tax, the governing body of the City of Madison may call other elections on the question of the levy of said tax without further act of the Legislature, but not more than one such election shall be held during any period of twelve consecutive months.

Each election held under the provisions hereof shall be ordered, held, canvassed and may be contested in the same manner as may be provided by law applicable to municipal corporations for elections to authorize the issuance of municipal bonds.

Amendment 806 ratified

Blount County: Municipalities - Taxation.

Any municipality that is not located wholly or in part within the boundaries of Blount County on the effective date of this amendment may not annex any territory within Blount County without the approval of a majority vote of the qualified electors of Blount County voting at a referendum election on the issue of the annexation. The provisions of this amendment shall not apply to any municipality incorporated after the ratification of the amendment that lies entirely within the boundaries of Blount County. This amendment does not apply to any territory annexed within Blount County by a municipality prior to the effective date of this amendment. The Legislature may pass local or general acts to supplement this amendment provided the acts do not contravene this amendment.

Amendment 807 ratified

Macon County: Amendment to Amendment 591.

Two persons shall be elected to the utilities board of the City of Tuskegee. Commencing with the next term of office, the elections shall be held and conducted by the utilities board. The elected members of the utilities board shall be elected to a term of four years, at the same time as regular municipal elections for Macon County, Alabama. A person eligible to vote in the election shall be a registered voter in Macon County who receives services from the utilities board. "Receives services" means that the person is a resident of a building that receives electricity, sewage, or water services, or any combination thereof, from the utilities board. When a vacancy occurs in either of the two elected positions, the board shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of office. The members of the utilities board of the City of Tuskegee shall set the compensation of the directors.

Amendment 808 ratified

Baldwin County: Tax - Equalization, Board Modified.

(a) The State Revenue Commissioner, shall appoint not more than six additional persons to membership on the Baldwin County Board of Equalization. The State Revenue Commissioner shall make the appointments from a group of nominees submitted by the Baldwin County Commission, the Baldwin County Board of Education, and the governing body of the largest municipality located in Baldwin County. Each appointing authority shall submit a list of three names and the appointments shall be made within 30 days after receipt of the appropriate list. The initial appointments shall consist of three persons unless additional appointments are requested by the existing county board of equalization. The additional members shall closely reflect the racial, ethnic, gender, geographic, and age diversity of the county.

(b) The provisions of the general law and local law relating to the selection, qualifications, term of service, schedule of compensation, and oath of the initial members of the board, including the prohibition relating to members holding

other governmental positions, shall be applicable to the additional members appointed pursuant to this amendment.

(c) The additional members shall be appointed and serve for the limited purpose of hearing objections to any assessments or valuations fixed by the county revenue commissioner or other authorized taxing official.

(d)(1) During the term of office of the additional members, the board shall sit in two or more panels consisting of up to three members for the purpose of conducting hearings and making determinations concerning objections to any assessments or valuations fixed by the county revenue commissioner or other authorized taxing official.

(2) Each panel shall consist of at least one member who has served on the board for a period in which appeal hearings were held.

(e) When the board sits in panels of three members, each panel shall act in the same manner and under the same authority as the full board. All authority, duties, powers, and responsibilities of the board on any matter brought before the panel for hearing shall be exercised by the panel as though heard and decided by the full board. Decisions of each panel shall constitute a decision of the board. All procedures of the board relating to the conduct of hearings shall apply to hearings before either panel of the board.

(f) This amendment does not affect in any way the authority of the original board members to carry out all administrative, supervisory, and personnel duties existing on October 1, 2008.

Amendment 809 ratified

Baldwin County: Implementation of Ordinances Governing County Owned Property.

In Baldwin County, the county commission may by resolution adopt ordinances related to the use and control of county owned public buildings, public parks, boat launches, and historic sites. The ordinances shall be adopted in the same manner and under the same conditions as municipalities in this state may adopt ordinances pursuant to general law except the penalties may not exceed the penalties authorized for a Class C misdemeanor pursuant to general law.

Amendment 810 ratified

Baldwin County: Amendment to Amendment 781.

(a) This amendment shall apply only in Baldwin County.

(b) For the purpose of this amendment, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) WASTEWATER SYSTEM. A system of pipes, lines, meters, pumps, equipment and facilities, all or part of which are located in the unincorporated areas of Baldwin County and which are owned or operated by a wastewater utility, as defined herein, for the collection, treatment, and disposal of wastewater from homes, schools, businesses, and other entities in which solids, sewerage, nonhydrocarbon greases, and oils are collected for treatment or where wastewater is collected for disposal. Individual septic tank systems and all portable toilets are expressly excluded from the definition of the term wastewater system.

(2) WASTEWATER UTILITY. The owner or operating entity of a wastewater system, whether privately owned or publicly owned, including privately owned wastewater systems, municipally owned wastewater systems, and wastewater systems owned by or through boards or other entities established by municipal corporations or as otherwise provided by state law.

(3) WASTEWATER. Solids, sewerage, nonhydrocarbon greases, and oils.

(c) The Legislature may by general or local law provide for the regulation of wastewater utilities, whether privately owned or publicly owned, in the unincorporated area of the county. The regulation may include uniform minimum standards for the design, placement, construction, operation, and maintenance of wastewater systems and the regulation of the establishment of reasonable and just rates for consumers and the wastewater utilities. In the case of uniform minimum standards established within any extraterritorial jurisdiction of a municipality, the standards established pursuant to the authority granted in this amendment shall apply. Any minimum standard adopted

pursuant to this amendment shall not apply to any part of a wastewater system installed or permitted prior to the effective date of the standard unless it is determined necessary for the protection of the public health and welfare and the environment of Baldwin County. All laws, rules, regulations, construction standards, and specifications regulating wastewater systems and wastewater utilities shall be non-discriminatory and apply equally to all wastewater systems and wastewater utilities operating or located within the unincorporated areas of the county.

(d) The Legislature may authorize the levy of taxes or fees in an amount not to exceed five percent of the gross receipts from the connection, collection, and treatment revenues collected from customers of wastewater utilities in the unincorporated area of the county to be used for the purposes of the administration of regulation adopted pursuant to this amendment.

(e) The Legislature may provide for the mandatory connection to wastewater systems where service is reasonably available and where it is in the best interest for the protection of the public health and welfare and the environment of Baldwin County.

(f) The Legislature by general or local law may authorize the exercise of the power of eminent domain for the construction of wastewater utilities in the county.

(g) The Legislature may, by general or local law, provide for the implementation and administration of the provisions of this amendment.

Amendment 811 ratified

Coffee County: Amendment to Amendment 633.

An elected or appointed Coffee County official, including the sheriff, may not assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Coffee County official, including the sheriff, may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Coffee County officials holding office at the time of the ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office; provided, however, the official shall forego the assumption of a supernumerary office and must make the election within one year of the effective date of this amendment.

For the purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed county official" shall include any person appointed to serve the remaining term of an elected or appointed county official, but shall not include a legislator.

Amendment 812 ratified

Conecuh County: Tax - Ad Valorem.

(a) In addition to the one-half mill of ad valorem tax levied by Amendment 778 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, the Conecuh County Commission shall continue to levy on an annual basis, commencing with the tax year for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 2009, an ad valorem tax on all taxable property located in Conecuh County at a rate of nine and one-half mills per dollar of assessed value of the taxable property. This tax is part of the 10 mills of ad valorem tax that Amendment 778 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901 requires every local school system to collect and is not a levy of additional tax. The proceeds of the tax levied in this amendment shall be used for public school purposes in the county.

(b) The tax provided in this amendment shall be levied and collected for a period of twenty years.

(c) Commencing with the tax year for which taxes will become due and payable on October 1, 2009, all ad valorem taxes previously levied for public school purposes in Conecuh County shall be repealed except the one-half mill levied by Amendment 778 of the Constitution.

Amendment 813 ratified

DeKalb County: Tax - Occupational, Vocation; Prohibited.

No privilege or license tax on the gross receipts of any natural person derived from the conduct of a vocation, occupation, calling, or profession may be levied in DeKalb County.

Amendment 814 ratified

DeKalb County: Health - Methadone Clinic.

Notwithstanding any approval by the state Certificate of Need Board, no methadone clinic may be located in DeKalb County without prior approval of the electors in a referendum on the matter. The ballot for the referendum shall state the physical address where the proposed clinic will be located. Notwithstanding any prior approval by the state Certificate of Need Board, any methadone clinic in existence in DeKalb County on the effective date of this amendment may not continue to operate without approval by the electors in a referendum to be held within 12 months of the effective date of this amendment. The ballot for the referendum shall state the physical address where the methadone clinic is operating.

Amendment 815 ratified

Geneva County: Court Costs.

In addition to any court costs or fees now or hereafter authorized, and notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution, including without limitation Sections 96, 104, and 105, there shall be an additional thirty-five dollars (\$35) fee assessed and taxed as costs on each civil and criminal case, excluding small claims, filed in circuit court or district court in Geneva County, as well as a document service fee of twenty dollars (\$20) for the service of all pleadings and other documents in connection with any such action or case. The fees may not be waived by any court unless all other fees, assessments, costs, fines, and charges associated with the cases are waived. The additional fees, when collected by the clerks or other collection officers of the courts, shall be paid into the General Fund of Geneva County. The additional thirty-five dollar (\$35) fee taxed as costs on each case shall be used for the planning, design, construction, financing, furnishing, and equipping of the new county jail and for the operation of the existing county jail. When the costs of the new county jail have been fully paid and when the debt service on any indebtedness incurred by the county commission to finance or refinance the costs have been retired, the additional court costs authorized by this amendment shall continue to be collected in all cases and shall be used to pay costs of the operation, upkeep, and maintenance of a new county jail. The document service fee shall be used for the operation of the Geneva County Sheriff's Office. This amendment shall be self-executing and shall require no enabling legislation.

Amendment 816 ratified

Henry County: Court Costs - Legislative Authority.

The Legislature, by general or local law, may fix, alter, and regulate the costs and charges of courts in Henry County and provide for their distribution.

Amendment 817 ratified

Jackson County: Tax - Occupational, Vocation; Prohibited.

No privilege or license tax on the gross receipts of any natural person derived from the conduct of a vocation, occupation, calling, or profession may be levied in Jackson County.

Amendment 818 ratified

Jefferson County: Sewer Service.

In Jefferson County, notwithstanding any other provision of this constitution, any bill for sewer service received in the name of the tenant or tenants shall be the sole responsibility of the tenant or tenants and shall not constitute a lien on the property where the sewer service was received. This amendment shall not be interpreted to impair the obligation of any contract entered into before the effective date of the amendment.

Amendment 819 ratified

Lauderdale County: Judicial Commission

All vacancies in the office of judge of the circuit court and the office of judge of the district court holding in Lauderdale County shall be filled in the manner and for the time as herein provided.

The Lauderdale County Judicial Commission is created for the purpose of nominating to the Governor persons for appointment to a vacancy. The commission shall be composed of five members, two of whom shall be appointed by the members of the bar residing in the county, two shall be appointed by the members of the county commission, and one, who shall be the chair, shall be appointed by the Chief Justice or the Acting Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court.

All members of the commission shall reside in the territorial jurisdiction of the circuit court holding in Lauderdale County.

The Lauderdale County Bar Association, the Lauderdale County Commission, and the Chief Justice or Acting Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court shall each certify in writing to the Judge of Probate of Lauderdale County the names of the persons selected as members of the commission.

The terms of office of all members of the commission shall be six years. In the event that an initial appointment or vacancy of a member of the commission is not filled in 30 days, the appointment or vacancy shall be filled by the Chief Justice or Acting Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court within 10 days. A vacancy in the office of a member of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the member was originally chosen.

The Judge of Probate of Lauderdale County shall record all certificates of election and shall safely and permanently keep the original certificates. Forthwith upon his or her receipt and recordation of every certificate, the judge of probate shall send to the Governor a certified copy of every certificate.

No member of the commission shall be eligible for nomination to the Governor for appointment as judge of the circuit court or the district court during the term of office of the commission member.

The members of the commission shall not receive any salary or other compensation for their services as members. No member of the commission shall hold any public office, and no member of the commission shall hold any official

position in any political party.

If a vacancy occurs in the office of judge of the circuit court or the office of judge of the district court holding in Lauderdale County, the commission shall nominate within 30 days to the Governor three persons having the qualifications for the office. If the commission fails to nominate three names during the 30-day period, the names shall be selected by the Chief Justice or Acting Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court within 10 days. The names of all persons considered for nomination shall be available for review by the public and shall be deemed a public record. The Governor shall appoint to the office in which the vacancy exists one of the three persons so nominated for the office. If the Governor fails to make an appointment from the list within 30 days from the date it is presented to the Governor, the appointment shall be made by the Chief Justice or the Acting Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court from the same list. The appointee shall hold the office until the next general election for any state officer held at least six months after the vacancy occurs and until a successor is elected and qualified. At the general election, the judicial office shall be filled for a full term of office to commence on the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the general election.

Amendment 820 ratified

Lee County: Court Costs - Legislative Authority.

The Legislature, by general or local law, may fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts in Lee County and provide for their distribution. Any local law authorizing the levy of additional court costs in Lee County enacted prior to the effective date of this amendment is ratified and confirmed.

Amendment 821 ratified

Marshall County: Retirement.

No elected or appointed Marshall County official, including the sheriff, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment, except elected officials who are currently holding office on such date. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed Marshall County official, including the sheriff, may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. Marshall County officials, including the sheriff, holding office at the time of ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed Marshall County official" do not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit. The effective date or ratification date of this amendment is the date this amendment is officially proclaimed ratified in the proclamation register.

Amendment 822 ratified

Mobile County: Animals - control of Dangerous Dogs.

The Legislature, by local law applicable to those areas of Mobile County outside the corporate limits of any municipality, may establish a procedure by which a dog can be declared dangerous and be humanely destroyed and impose criminal penalties on the owners of a dog declared to be dangerous.

Amendment 823 ratified

Pickens County: Court Costs - Legislative Authority.

The Legislature, by general or local law, may fix, regulate, and alter the costs and charges of courts in Pickens County and provide for their distribution.

Amendment 824 ratified

Russell County: Phenix City - Utilities.

In Russell County, the City of Phenix City may not sell or transfer any water and sewer system or any part of a water and sewer system owned or operated by or on behalf of the city unless the sale or transfer is approved by a majority of the qualified electors of the City of Phenix City in Russell County voting at a referendum election on the approval of the sale or transfer. The referendum election shall be held at the next regularly scheduled citywide election held in Phenix City at least 60 days after the city council or other governing body has adopted any ordinance or resolution providing for any sale or transfer covered by this amendment and the terms and conditions thereof.

Amendment 825 ratified

Shelby County: Tax - Equalization, Board Reorganized.

In Shelby County, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Legislature by local law may provide for the reorganization of the county board of equalization and provide for the name of the board; provide for the appointment, term, and compensation of board members; and provide for the powers, duties, operation, and funding of the board.

Amendment 826 ratified

St. Clair County: Retirement.

No elected or appointed St. Clair County official, including the sheriff, may assume a supernumerary office after the effective date of this amendment. Any person who, on the effective date of this amendment, is entitled to participate in a supernumerary program may continue to participate in that supernumerary program, which shall include the assumption of a supernumerary office according to the terms and conditions of the law which established that supernumerary program. Every elected or appointed St. Clair County official, including the sheriff, may participate in the Employees' Retirement System of Alabama upon the same terms and conditions as may be specified by law for any other employee in the same retirement system. St. Clair County officials, including the sheriff, holding office at the time of ratification of this amendment shall be eligible to purchase service credit in the Employees' Retirement System for the time the official has served in the current office. No person may participate in both a supernumerary program and the Employees' Retirement System based on the same service. For purposes of this amendment, the words "elected or appointed St. Clair County official" do not include a judge, district attorney, legislator, constable, school board member, or any official elected from a judicial circuit.

Amendment 827 ratified**Tallapoosa County: Traffic Laws - Enforcement.**

In Tallapoosa County, the Legislature, by local law, may provide for the enforcement of motor vehicle and traffic laws on private roads in private gated communities in the county.

Article Sources and Contributors

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