

[No. 37, A.]

## JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 42.

Memorializing congress to enact a law to prohibit railroads from increasing their rates and charges except upon notice.

*Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring,* That the congress of the United States is hereby requested to enact a law providing that the rates or charges of railroads shall not be increased except upon notice of any proposed increase filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission, and published in each state affected thereby, and upon such hearing as the Interstate Commerce Commission may, upon petition or its own motion, order, and that no increase of rates or charges shall go into effect unless said commission shall so order after such hearing.

*Resolved,* That the secretary of state be and he is hereby instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the president of the United States and to each member of the congress thereof.

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[No. 22, A.]

## JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 43.

Memorializing congress relating to federal co-operation in the work of road improvement.

WHEREAS, We believe that the adoption of a policy of federal aid for road construction is a most important step toward the establishment of a complete system of improved roads in all sections of the country, and that the co-operation of the national government in this matter would be of great assistance to the various state, county and township road authorities, in placing the work of road improvement on a permanent and scientific basis, and

WHEREAS, We would submit that the improvement of the country's highways deserves a share in the annual appropriations by congress equally with the improvement of our waterways, and that it is only fair and reasonable that a part of the revenues derived from taxes paid by the people as a whole should be devoted to this purpose, thus aiding in the betterment of conditions affecting trade and commerce in all sections of the country.

*Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring,* That we respectfully solicit the congress of the United States asking for the enactment of legislation creating a national highways commission, and making an appropriation for aiding in the improvement and maintenance of the public roads at the present session of congress, so that the policy of federal cooperation in the work of road improvement can be inaugurated at the earliest possible date.

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[No. 32, S.]

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 44.

To amend section 3 of article XI of the constitution, relating to municipal corporations and their indebtedness.

*Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring,* That section 3 of article XI of the constitution be amended to read:

SECTION 3. It shall be the duty of the legislature, and they are hereby empowered, to provide for the organization of cities and incorporated villages, and to restrict their power of taxation, assessment, borrowing money, contracting debts, and loaning their credit, so as to prevent abuses in assessments and taxation, and in contracting debts by such municipal corporations. No county, city, town, village, school district, or other municipal corporation shall be allowed to become indebted in any manner or for any purpose to any amount, including existing indebtedness, in the aggregate exceeding five per centum on the value of the taxable property therein, to be ascertained by the last assessment for state and county taxes previous to the incurring of such indebtedness. Any county, city, town, village, school district, or other municipal corporation incurring any indebtedness as aforesaid, shall, before or at the time of doing so, provide for the collection of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the interest on such debt as it falls due, and also to pay and discharge the principal thereof within twenty years from the time of contracting the same; *except that when such indebtedness is incurred in the acquisition of lands by cities, or by counties having a population of 150,000 or over, for public, municipal purposes, or for the permanent improvement thereof, the city or county incurring the same shall, before or at the time of so doing, provide for the collection of a direct annual tax sufficient*