

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

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Legislative Document

No. 367

S.P. 159

In Senate, February 3, 2025

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**An Act to Authorize General Fund Bond Issues to Improve  
Highways, Bridges and Nonhighway Modes of Transportation**

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Received by the Secretary of the Senate on January 30, 2025. Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator FARRIN of Somerset.

Cosponsored by Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, CYRWAY of Kennebec, President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, DUSON of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec, MARTIN of Oxford, PIERCE of Cumberland, Representative: CRAFTS of Newcastle.





1           **Sec. B-4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State shall pay interest  
2 due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Part and all sums coming due for payment  
3 of bonds at maturity.

4           **Sec. B-5. Disbursement of bond proceeds from General Fund bond issue.**  
5 The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Part must be expended as  
6 designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies  
7 and entities set forth in this section.

8           **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

9           Provides \$85,000,000 for improvements to roads and bridges and \$15,000,000 for  
10 nonhighway modes of transportation.

11           Total \$100,000,000

12           **Sec. B-6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 5 do not  
13 become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth  
14 in this Part.

15           **Sec. B-7. Appropriation balances at year-end.** At the end of each fiscal year,  
16 all unencumbered appropriation balances representing state money carry forward. Bond  
17 proceeds that have not been expended within 10 years after the date of the sale of the bonds  
18 lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general  
19 obligation bonds.

20           **Sec. B-8. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not issued  
21 within 5 years of ratification of this Part are deauthorized and may not be issued, except  
22 that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend  
23 the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds for an additional amount of time not  
24 to exceed 5 years.

25           **Sec. B-9. Referendum for ratification; submission at election; form of**  
26 **question; effective date.** This Part must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at  
27 a statewide election held in the month of November 2026. The municipal officers of this  
28 State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet,  
29 in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance  
30 or rejection of this Part by voting on the following question:

31           "Do you favor a \$100,000,000 bond issue for improvements to roads and  
32 bridges and nonhighway modes of transportation?"

33           The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question  
34 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square  
35 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared  
36 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in  
37 the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the  
38 returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Part, the Governor shall  
39 proclaim the result without delay and this Part becomes effective 30 days after the date of  
40 the proclamation.

