

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

VF
C1

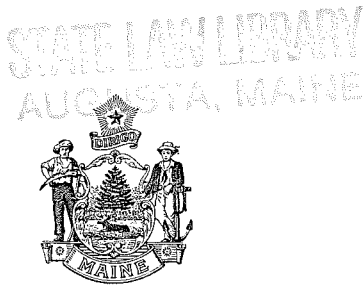
ELECTIONS
- 1962
(June)

Referendum Question

In Accordance with Act Passed by the
100th Legislature
(First Special Session)

**\$1,500,000 Bond Issue — for Construction of
an Educational Television Network
for the State of Maine**

Including a
Brief Explanatory Statement
by the Attorney General
as to the Intent and Content



1962

To be Voted Upon at the Special Election,
Monday, June 18, 1962

STATE OF MAINE
SUMMARY OF BONDED INDEBTEDNESS AS
OF MARCH 31, 1962

Highway and Bridge Loan	\$27,100,000
Kennebec Bridge Loan	755,000
Bangor-Brewer Bridge Loan	2,150,000
Fore River Bridge Loan	7,000,000
Jonesport Reach Bridge Loan	800,000
Island Ferry Service Loan	2,340,000
General Improvement Loan	3,800,000
University of Maine Loan	6,000,000
Passagassawaukeag River Bridge Loan	3,900,000
	\$53,845,000

Bonds authorized and unissued:	
Highway and Bridge Bonds	\$27,500,000
University of Maine Bonds	4,000,000
Mortgage Insurance Bonds	20,000,000
State Teachers' College Bonds	2,600,000
	\$54,100,000

Total amount of bonds contemplated to
be issued if Referendum question is
ratified by the people \$ 1,500,000

**CHAPTER 247, PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS
of 1961**

AN ACT Providing for Construction of an Educational Television Network for the State of Maine and the Issuance of not Exceeding One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars of State of Maine Bonds for the Financing thereof.

Preamble. Two-thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with Section 14 of Article IX of the Constitution of Maine to authorize the issuance of bonds of the State for construction of an educational television network for the State of Maine.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine,
as follows:

Sec. 1. Committee on Educational Television. There is created a Committee on Educational Television for the purpose of facilitating the development of educational television in this State. The Committee on Educational Television shall consist of 7 members to be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council. At the time of the first appointments, one shall be appointed for one year, one for 2 years, one for 3 years, 2 for 4 years and 2 for 5 years, and thereafter for a full term of 5 years. One member of the committee shall be a representative of the State Department of Education, one member of the committee shall be a representative of the University of Maine and the remaining members shall be citizens of the State of Maine. Any vacancy in the membership of the committee shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Council. Members of the committee shall be reimbursed for their actual expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties.

Sec. 2. Organization. The committee shall elect a chairman, secretary, vice-chairman and treasurer, each of whose terms of office shall be 2 years. The committee shall adopt such by-laws, rules and regulations, for the calling and holding of meetings and the administration of its affairs, as it deems appropriate and necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act. A majority of the membership of the committee shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of transacting business.

Sec. 3. Powers and duties. The Committee on Educational Television is empowered and authorized to act as follows:

I. Recommendations. To make such recommendations to the trustees of the University of Maine as it deems necessary relating to the appointment of professional, clerical or other assistants, location of educational television stations and construction and equipment of said stations necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

II. Programs. To give its advice and consent to the trustees of the University of Maine for the educational television programs to be transmitted by the network.

Sec. 3-A. Gifts. The Governor and Council is authorized to accept any gift of money, real or personal property, from any source whatsoever, and grants-in-aid from the Federal Government to assist in carrying out the purposes of this act.

Sec. 4. Construction of state-wide educational television network. The University of Maine is authorized to acquire real estate, construct, operate, manage and equip transmission and microwave television facilities and to interconnect with any other television network or station within or without this State for the purpose of providing a state-wide educational television network for the transmission of educational television to pupils in the schools, colleges, university and adult audiences throughout the State; and the University of Maine is authorized to enter into contracts for the construction of said facilities, contracts for personal services necessary for the management and operation of said facilities and any other contracts deemed necessary to carry out the purposes of this act.

Sec. 5. Promotion of political and governmental activities prohibited; penalty for violation. None of the facilities, plant or personnel of any educational television system which is supported in whole or in part by state funds shall be used directly or indirectly for the promotion, advertisement or advancement of any political candidate for any municipal, county, state or federal office or for the purpose of advocating or opposing any specific program, existing or proposed, of governmental action which shall include, but shall not be limited to, constitutional amendments, tax referendums or bond issues. Any person convicted of a violation of any provision of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000 or by imprisonment for not more than 11 months, or by both.

Sec. 6. Disbursement of bond proceeds. The proceeds of the bonds authorized under this act shall be

expended under the direction and supervision of the Director of the Bureau of Public Improvements in the following amounts: For state-wide transmission and microwave facilities—\$1,039,028; for microwave interconnection with Eastern Educational Network, Boston—\$60,000; for studio facilities in Orono—\$250,000; to provide for increased costs of equipment since 1960 report—\$50,000; for organizational and operations costs, July 1, 1962 to June 30, 1963—\$100,972. Total appropriation—\$1,500,000. Such appropriation shall not lapse, but shall remain a continuing carrying account until the purposes of this act have been accomplished.

Sec. 7. Issue of bonds to provide for construction, repairs, equipment, supplies, furnishings, organization and management. The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the direction of the Governor and Council, to issue from time to time serial coupon bonds in the name and behalf of the State to an amount not exceeding \$1,500,000 for the purpose of raising funds to provide for such construction, repairs, equipment, supplies, furnishings, organization and management as authorized by this act. Said bonds shall be deemed a pledge of the faith and credit of the State. Said bonds shall not run for a longer period than 10 years from the date of the original issue thereof.

Sec. 8. Records of bonds issued to be kept by State Auditor and Treasurer. The State Auditor shall keep an account of such bonds, showing the number and amount of each, the date of countersigning, the date when payable and the date of delivery thereof to the Treasurer of State, who shall keep an account of each bond, showing the number thereof, the name of the person to whom sold, the amount received for the same, the date of sale and the date when payable.

Sec. 9. Sale, how negotiated; proceeds appropriated. The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of such bonds by direction of the Governor and Council; but no such bond shall be loaned, pledged or hypothecated in behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sales of such bonds, which shall be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by him upon warrants drawn by the Governor and Council, are appropriated to be used solely for the purposes set forth in this act.

Sec. 10. Interest and debt retirement. Interest due or accruing upon any bonds issued under this act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity shall be paid by the Treasurer of State from any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 11. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 10 of this act shall not become effective unless and until the people of the State of Maine shall have ratified the issuance of bonds as set forth in this act.

Sec. 12. Referendum for ratification. The aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns, and the assessors of the several plantations of this State are empowered and directed to notify the inhabitants of

their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet in the manner prescribed by law for calling and holding biennial meetings of said inhabitants for the election of Senators and Representatives, at a special election to be held on the 3rd Monday of June, 1962, to give in their votes upon the acceptance or rejection of the foregoing act, and the question shall be:

"Shall a bond issue be ratified for the purposes set forth in 'An Act Providing for Construction of an Educational Television Network for the State of Maine and the Issuance of not Exceeding One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars of State of Maine Bonds for the Financing thereof,' passed by the First Special Session of the 100th Legislature?"

The inhabitants of said cities, towns and plantations shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed within a square upon their ballots their opinion of the same, those in favor of ratification voting "Yes" and those opposed to ratification voting "No" and the ballots shall be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings, and return made to the office of the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for Governor and Members of the Legislature, and the Governor and Council shall count the same and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of this act, the Governor shall forthwith make known the fact by his proclamation, and this act shall thereupon become effective in 30 days after the date of said proclamation.

Secretary of State shall prepare ballots. The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to the several cities, towns and plantations ballots and blank returns in conformity with the foregoing act, accompanied by a copy thereof.

Approved December 2, 1961

The following is a brief explanatory statement prepared by the Attorney General in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 10, Section 19, of the Revised Statutes of 1954, with reference to the Intent and Content of Chapter 247 of the Private and Special Laws of 1961 entitled, "AN ACT Providing for Construction of an Educational Television Network for the State of Maine and the Issuance of not Exceeding One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars of State of Maine Bonds for the Financing thereof."

Intent

It is the intent of Chapter 247 of the Private and Special Laws, 1961, to provide a means of developing statewide educational television for the State of Maine.

Content

The Act creates a Committee on Educational Television to advise and work with the trustees of the University of Maine for the purpose of facilitating the development of educational television in this State. The University of Maine is authorized to

acquire real estate, construct, operate and equip transmission and television facilities and to interconnect with other networks or stations to provide state-wide educational television. The Act authorizes the issuance of \$1,500,000 in bonds of the State payable in 10 years from date of issue to effectuate the purposes of the Act.

PAUL A. MacDONALD,
Secretary of State