

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Maine Citizen's Guide to the
Referendum Election**

Tuesday, November 4, 2014



**In Accordance with
the May 12, 2014 Proclamation of the Governor and with
the Acts Passed by the 126th Legislature
at the Second Regular Session**

**Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State**

Appropriation 010-29A-4213-012

State of Maine
Office of the Secretary of State
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Fellow Citizen,

The information in this booklet is intended to help voters learn about the questions that will appear on the November 4, 2014 Referendum Election ballot. Referendum elections are an important part of the heritage of public participation in Maine.

Inside this booklet, you will find:

- ◆ the referendum questions;
- ◆ the legislation each question represents;
- ◆ a summary of the intent and content of the legislation;
- ◆ an explanation of the significance of a “yes” or “no” vote;
- ◆ an analysis of the debt service on the bond issues; and
- ◆ an estimate of the fiscal impact of each referendum question on state revenues, appropriations and allocations; and
- ◆ public comments filed in support of or in opposition to each ballot measure.

For information about how and where to vote, please contact your local municipal clerk or call Maine’s Division of Elections at 624-7650. Information is also available online at www.maine.gov/sos.

The Department of the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the State Treasurer and the Office of Fiscal and Program Review have worked together to prepare this booklet of information and we hope you find it helpful.

Sincerely,



Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

**State of Maine
Referendum Election, November 4, 2014
Listing of Referendum Questions**

Question 1: Citizen's Initiative

Do you want to ban the use of bait, dogs or traps in bear hunting except to protect property, public safety, or for research?

Question 2: Bond Issue

Do you favor an \$8,000,000 bond issue to support Maine agriculture, facilitate economic growth in natural resources-based industries and monitor human health threats related to ticks, mosquitoes and bedbugs through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control laboratory administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service?

Question 3: Bond Issue

Do you favor a bond issue to provide \$4,000,000 in funds to insure portions of loans to small businesses to spur investment and innovation and to provide \$8,000,000 in funds to make flexible loans to small businesses to create jobs, revitalize downtowns and strengthen the rural economy?

Question 4: Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$11,000,000 in private and other funds, to build a research center and to discover genetic solutions for cancer and the diseases of aging, to promote job growth and private sector investment in this State, to attract and retain young professionals and make the State a global leader in genomic medicine?

Question 5: Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$3,000,000 bond issue, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$5,700,000 in private and public funds, to modernize and expand infrastructure in a biological laboratory specializing in tissue repair and regeneration located in the State in order to increase biotechnology workforce training, retain and recruit to the State multiple biomedical research and development groups and create a drug discovery and development facility that will improve human health and stimulate biotechnology job growth and economic activity?

Question 6: Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue to ensure clean water and safe communities across Maine; to protect drinking water sources; to restore wetlands; to create jobs and vital public infrastructure; and to strengthen the State's long-term economic base and competitive advantage?

Question 7: Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$7,000,000 bond issue to facilitate the growth of marine businesses and commercial enterprises that create jobs and improve the sustainability of the State's marine economy and related industries through capital investments, to be matched by at least \$7,000,000 in private and other funds?

Treasurer's Statement

The State of Maine borrows money by issuing bonds. General Obligation bonds are backed by the full faith and credit of the State and must be submitted statewide to the electors for ratification.

Upon ratification, the Treasurer borrows money as needed to fund the approved bond projects and uses a rapid 10-year retirement of principal approach to retiring the debt.

If these bond proposals are ratified, General Obligation debt service as a percentage of the State's General Fund, Highway Fund and Revenue Sharing appropriations is expected to be 2.71% in FY15 and 2.88% in FY16.

The following is a summary of general obligation bond debt of the State of Maine as of **September 30, 2014**.

Bonds Outstanding (Issued and Maturing through 2024):

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
Highway Fund	\$92,195,000	\$12,877,229	\$105,072,229
General Fund	\$291,685,000	\$52,875,607	\$344,560,607
Total	\$383,880,000	\$65,752,836	\$449,632,836


Unissued Bonds Authorized by Voters: \$ 126,957,809

Unissued Bonds Authorized by the Constitution and Laws: \$ 99,000,000

Total Authorized but Unissued Bonds: \$ 225,957,809

The total amount that must be paid in the present fiscal year for bonded debt already outstanding (for FY2015): \$ 96,533,819

If the bonds submitted here are approved by voters and issued for the full statutory period authorized, an estimate of the total interest and principal that may reasonably be expected to be paid is **\$61,000,000**, representing **\$50,000,000** in principal and **\$11,000,000** in interest.


 Neria R. Douglass, Treasurer of State

Question 1: Citizen's Initiative

Do you want to ban the use of bait, dogs or traps in bear hunting except to protect property, public safety, or for research?

STATE OF MAINE

“An Act To Prohibit the Use of Dogs, Bait or Traps When Hunting Bears Except under Certain Circumstances”

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

Sec. 1. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§6, ¶E, as repealed and replaced by PL 2011, c. 691, Pt. A, §7, is amended to read:

E. Buying or selling bear in violation of section 11217, hunting or trapping bear after having killed 2 or exceeding the bag limit on bear; in violation of section 44217, 11351 or 42260 hunting, enticing or attracting bear in violation of section 11301, 11302-A or 12259-A;

Sec. 2. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§6, ¶G, as amended by PL 2013, c. 280, §3, is further amended to read:

G. Buying or selling moose, unlawfully hunting moose or unlawfully possessing moose, in violation of section 11154, 11217, 11601, 11651-A, 11652, 12302-A, 12304-A, 12305 or 12403; or

Sec. 3. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§6, ¶H, as amended by PL 2013, c. 280, §4, is further amended to read:

H. Buying or selling wild turkeys, unlawfully hunting wild turkeys, unlawfully possessing wild turkeys or using unlawful methods to hunt wild turkeys, in violation of section 11217, subsection 1; section 11751-A; section 11801; or section 12306, subsection 1; or.

Sec. 4. 12 MRSA §10902, sub-§6, ¶I, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 280, §5, is repealed.

Sec. 5. 12 MRSA §11151, sub-§1, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and amended by c. 655, Pt. B, §118 and affected by §422, is further amended to read:

1. Permit required. Except as otherwise authorized pursuant to this Part, a person may not hunt for bear without a valid permit from the first Monday preceding September 1st to the day preceding the open firearm season on deer. ~~This section does not apply to trapping for bear.~~

Each day a person violates this subsection that person commits a Class E crime for which a minimum fine of \$50 and an amount equal to twice the applicable license fee must be imposed.

Sec. 6. 12 MRSA §11218, sub-§1, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

1. Gate fees. Gate fees or other access fees that are unrelated to the taking of game; or

Sec. 7. 12 MRSA §11218, sub-§2, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

2. Guiding fees. Fees charged by licensed guides or other fees that are unrelated to access to land; or.

Sec. 8. 12 MRSA §11218, sub-§3, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is repealed.

Sec. 9. 12 MRSA §11251, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and amended by c. 655, Pt. B, §155 and affected by §422, is further amended to read:

§ 11251. Open and closed seasons

1. Open season on bear; commissioner's authority. This subsection governs the open and closed seasons on bear.

A. There is an open season on hunting bear from the first Monday preceding September 1st to November 30th annually. ~~The commissioner may, pursuant to section 10104, subsection 1, adopt rules prohibiting the use of bait to hunt black bear during any portion of the open bear hunting season. Rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.~~

B. ~~There is an open season on using a dog or dogs in conjunction with bear hunting from the first Monday preceding September 1st to the day preceding the open firearm season on deer provided in sections 11401 and 11402.~~

C. The commissioner may shorten the open seasons~~season~~ on bear as established in ~~paragraphs~~paragraph A and B in any part of the State as long as:

(1) The demarcation of the areas with a shortened season follows recognizable physical boundaries such as rivers and railroad rights-of-way; and

(2) The decision is made and published prior to February 1st of any year.

D. The commissioner may terminate the open season on bear as established in ~~paragraphs~~paragraph A and B at any time in any part of the State if, in the commissioner's opinion, an immediate emergency action is necessary due to adverse weather conditions or severe hunting ~~or trapping~~ pressure.

Sec. 10. 12 MRSA §11301, sub-§1, as repealed and replaced by PL 2011, c. 691, Pt. A, §9, is repealed.

Sec. 11. 12 MRSA §11301, sub-§1-A, as enacted by PL 2013, c. 280, §6, is amended to read:

1-A. Prohibition. ~~During the open season on hunting bear~~Unless expressly permitted by this section, a person may not ~~within 50 yards of~~undertake any of the following activities related to a bait site established by another person ~~in accordance with~~under this section 11227 ~~without the written permission of the person who established the bait site:~~

A. Hunt, trap, molest or harass bear ~~or release a dog or dogs for the purpose of hunting bear or training dogs to hunt bear~~within 50 yards of the bait site; or

B. Disturb the bait site through the use of chemicals or take other action intended to interfere with the hunting of bear at the bait site by the person who established the bait site.

Sec. 12. 12 MRSA §11301, sub-§1-B is enacted to read:

1-B. Bear baiting. A person may not place bait to entice, hunt or attract black bear unless:

A. The person is a state or federal employee acting in the state or federal employee's official capacity and only when using the bait is necessary to attract a specific offending bear for the purpose of protecting, and in response to a bona fide threat to, livestock, domestic animals, threatened or endangered wildlife or public safety;

B. The bait is used in conjunction with the operation of a feeding station for bear in order to prevent damage to commercial timberland, as long as the bait is used by owners or operators of that land, or their employees, pursuant to a permit granted by the department, but in no event for the purpose of killing bear; or

C. The bait is used by the department for scientific or research purposes or pursuant to a permit granted by the department to an accredited university for scientific or research purposes, but in no event for the purpose of killing bear.

The bait must be placed more than 500 yards from an occupied dwelling, unless written permission is granted by the owner or lessee.

Sec. 13. 12 MRSA §11302, as amended by PL 2013, c. 280, §7, is repealed.

Sec. 14. 12 MRSA §11302-A is enacted to read:

§ 11302-A. Hunting bear with dogs

1. Hunting bear with dogs prohibited. A person may not use one or more dogs to hunt or pursue bear, except as provided in subsection 2.

2. Exceptions. The use of one or more dogs to hunt or pursue bear is permitted when the dog or dogs are used:

A. By a state or federal employee acting in the state or federal employee's official capacity and only when necessary to pursue a specific offending bear for the purpose of protecting, and in response to a bona fide threat to, livestock, domestic animals, threatened or endangered wildlife or public safety; or

B. By the department for scientific or research purposes or pursuant to a permit granted by the department to an accredited university for scientific or research purposes, but not for the killing of bear.

Sec. 15. 12 MRSA §11303, sub-§2, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and repealed and replaced by c. 655, Pt. B, §160 and affected by §422, is amended to read:

2. Prohibition. A person may not within the area described in subsection 1:

A. Hunt bear; or

B. ~~Trap bear;~~

C. Molest or harass a bear; ~~or.~~

D. ~~Release dogs for the purpose of hunting a bear.~~

The commissioner, or the commissioner's agent, is exempt from this prohibition for the purpose of live-trapping nuisance bears.

Sec. 16. 12 MRSA §11304, as affected by PL 2003, c. 614, §9 and amended by c. 655, Pt. B,

§161 and affected by §422, is repealed.

Sec. 17. 12 MRSA §11305 is enacted to read:

§ 11305. Hunting bear using bait, dogs or traps prohibited

1. Prohibition against hunting with bait. A person may not entice or attract bear through the use of bait, except as otherwise provided under this Part.

2. Prohibition against hunting with dogs. A person may not hunt bear with a dog, except as otherwise provided under this Part.

3. Prohibition against hunting with traps. A person may not trap bear, except as otherwise provided under this Part.

Sec. 18. 12 MRSA §11351, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2011, c. 309, §2, is further amended to read:

1. Hunting bear; 2-bear limit. A person may not hunt ~~or trap~~ bear after that person has killed or registered ~~one~~² during an open season under section 11251 ~~and one during the open season on trapping bear under section 12260.~~

Sec. 19. 12 MRSA §11452, sub-§1, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 414, Pt. A, §2 and affected by c. 614, §9, is amended to read:

B. Hunt from an observation stand or blind overlooking salt, grain, fruit, nuts or other foods known to be attractive to deer. This prohibition does not apply to hunting from an observation stand or blind overlooking:

(1) Standing crops;

(2) Foods that are left as a result of normal agricultural operations or as a result of a natural occurrence; or

(3) Bear bait that is placed at a bear hunting stand or blind in accordance with section 11301, subsection ~~41-B~~.

Sec. 20. 12 MRSA §11605, sub-§1, ¶B, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 253, §20, is amended to read:

B. Hunt from an observation stand or blind overlooking salt, grain, fruit, nuts or other foods known to be attractive to moose. This prohibition does not apply to hunting from an observation stand or blind overlooking:

(1) Standing crops;

(2) Foods that are left as a result of normal agricultural operations or as a result of a natural occurrence; or

(3) Bear bait that is placed at a bear hunting stand or blind in accordance with section 11301, subsection ~~41-B~~.

Sec. 21. 12 MRSA §12051, sub-§1, ¶C, as amended by PL 2011, c. 309, §4, is repealed.

Sec. 22. 12 MRSA §12201, sub-§2, ¶C, as amended by PL 2009, c. 69, §2, is further amended to read:

C. A resident under 10 years of age may trap all legal species, ~~except bear~~, without a license.

Sec. 23. 12 MRSA §12201, sub-§7, ¶A, as amended by PL 2009, c. 69, §3, is further amended to read:

A. A person under 10 years of age may not trap unless that person is accompanied at all times while trapping by a parent or guardian or by an adult at least 18 years of age approved by a parent or guardian. ~~A person under 10 years of age may not trap bear.~~

Sec. 24. 12 MRSA §12204, sub-§7, as enacted by PL 2011, c. 51, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 25. 12 MRSA §12259-A is enacted to read:

§ 12259-A. Trapping bear

1. Trapping bear prohibited. A person may not use or set a trap to hunt or capture bear, except as provided in subsection 2.

2. Exceptions. The use of a trap to hunt or capture bear is permitted when the trap is used:

A. By a state or federal employee acting in the state or federal employee's official capacity and only when necessary to hunt or capture a specific offending bear for the purpose of protecting, and in response to a bona fide threat to, livestock, domestic animals, threatened or endangered wildlife or public safety; or

B. By the department for scientific or research purposes or pursuant to a permit granted by the department to an accredited university for scientific or research purposes, but not for the killing of bear.

Sec. 26. 12 MRSA §12260, as amended by PL 2011, c. 253, §26 and c. 309, §§5 and 6, is repealed.

Sec. 27. 12 MRSA §12260-A, as enacted by PL 2007, c. 168, §7 and affected by §8, is repealed.

Summary

This initiated bill prohibits the use of dogs to hunt or pursue bear, the use of bait to hunt or attract bear and the setting of a trap to hunt or capture bear. The use of dogs, bait or a trap is permitted for certain scientific and research purposes or for state or federal employees when necessary to hunt or capture a specific offending bear that threatens livestock, domestic animals, threatened or endangered wildlife or public safety. Baiting is also permitted by owners or operators of commercial timberlands in order to prevent damage to commercial timberland.

Intent and Content
Prepared by the Office of the Attorney General

This citizen-initiated legislation would amend the laws relating to hunting bear in Maine to prohibit certain practices which are currently allowed. The legislation, if enacted, would prohibit hunters from: 1) using food as bait to entice, attract or hunt bear, 2) using a dog or dogs to hunt or pursue bear, or 3) setting a trap to hunt or capture bear. A hunter found to have violated these prohibitions would be subject to a mandatory one-year suspension of his or her hunting license.

The initiative makes exceptions to these prohibitions that would allow state or federal employees, when acting in their official capacities, to use bait, dogs or traps as necessary to attract or pursue a specific bear for the purpose of protecting livestock, domestic animals, wildlife that has been designated as threatened or endangered, or public safety. The bear must pose a bona fide threat in order for these methods to be used.

Additional exceptions would allow the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, or an accredited university acting pursuant to a permit granted by the Department, to use bait, dogs or traps for scientific or research purposes, but not for the purpose of killing bear. Owners or operators of commercial timberland with a permit from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife would be allowed to use bait at a feeding station for bear in order to prevent damage to their commercial timberland, but not for the purpose of killing bear.

If approved, this citizen initiated legislation would take effect 30 days after the Governor proclaims the official results of the election.

A "YES" vote is to enact the initiated legislation.

A "NO" vote opposes the initiated legislation.

Fiscal Impact Statement
Prepared by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review

This citizen initiative proposes to prohibit the use of dogs to hunt or pursue bear, the use of bait to hunt or attract bear and the setting of traps to hunt bear. Although these provisions may initially decrease certain license sales to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, hunters currently using the methods prohibited here may choose to purchase licenses to hunt without these methods, mitigating any revenue loss from license sales. In addition, minor fine revenue from violations of the provisions would further offset any remaining decline in license sales. Overall no significant impact to General Fund revenue is anticipated.

Correctional and Judicial Impact Statement

Establishes new Class E crimes.

The number of new charges filed is expected to be insignificant and court costs will be minimal.

The collection of additional fines may increase General Fund revenue by minor amounts.

Public Comments

No public comments were filed in support of Question 1.

Public comment in opposition to Question 1

Comment submitted by:

James Cote
323 Fairbanks Road
Farmington, ME 04938

Question 1, sponsored by out-of-state special interests focused on banning hunting nationwide, represents the ultimate in dishonest legislation. It purports to support “fair” bear hunting, ignoring forty years of sound biological research and publicly-supported wildlife management using the most effective tools available to the public. If passed, Question 1 will prevent the use of Maine’s three most effective and scientifically-supported tools to control Maine’s large bear population (31,000+). Maine is a heavily forested state with the largest and best-managed population of black bears in the continental U.S. At one time, black bears were treated as pests and were subject to a bounty, until sportsmen began promoting them as a valuable resource. Passage of Question 1 would bring that legacy to an abrupt halt, and once again relegate the black bear to the status of a nuisance animal. Voters rejected this very same referendum in 2004, and in the intervening ten years, not a single complaint involving bear hunters or hunting has been reported. The backers of this needless policy won’t be around to address issues that have faced other states that have conceded this important legacy to hunting-ban activists, struggling under the burden of nuisance populations that must be expensively managed with taxpayer dollars, instead of generating revenue for conservation through hunting license fees. Given the close monitoring of our bear population by our game wardens and nationally recognized bear biologists at the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, and the importance of bear hunting to the rural economy, a NO vote is critical to the future of this important resource.

<p>The printing of this public comment does not constitute an endorsement by the State of Maine, nor does the State warrant the accuracy or truth of any statements made in the public comment.</p>

Question 2: Bond Issue

Do you favor an \$8,000,000 bond issue to support Maine agriculture, facilitate economic growth in natural resources-based industries and monitor human health threats related to ticks, mosquitoes and bedbugs through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control laboratory administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service?

**STATE OF MAINE
Chapters 608 & 572
Public Laws of 2014
Approved April 26, 2014**

“An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Create an Animal and Plant Disease and Insect Control Facility Administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service”

Preamble. Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 14 to authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds as described in this Act,

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

Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds. The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding \$8,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Act. The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State. The Treasurer of State shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the name of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale and the date when payable.

Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated. The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project in this Act lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general obligation bonds.

Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement. The Treasurer of State shall pay interest due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity.

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

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM

**University of Maine Cooperative
Extension Service**

Provides funds to support Maine agriculture, facilitate economic growth in natural resources-based

industries and monitor human health threats related to ticks, mosquitoes and bedbugs through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control laboratory administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service.

Total \$8,000,000

Sec. 6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 5 do not become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth in this Act.

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

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

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

"Do you favor an \$8,000,000 bond issue to support Maine agriculture, facilitate economic growth in natural resources-based industries and monitor human health threats related to ticks, mosquitoes and bedbugs through the creation of an animal and plant disease and insect control laboratory administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service?"

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

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

Intent and Content
Prepared by the Office of the Attorney General

This Act would authorize the State to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) to provide funds to create an animal and plant disease and insect control laboratory for the purpose of supporting Maine agriculture, facilitating economic growth in natural resources-based industries, and monitoring human health threats related to ticks, mosquitoes and bedbugs. The bonds would run for a period not longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue and would be backed by the full faith and credit of the State.

Proceeds from the sale of these bonds would be administered by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service and used to create an animal and plant disease and insect control laboratory.

If approved, the authorization of these bonds would take effect 30 days after the Governor's proclamation of the vote.

A "YES" vote approves the issuance of up to eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) in general obligation bonds to finance the activities described above.

A "NO" vote disapproves the bond issue in its entirety.

Debt Service

Prepared by the Office of the Treasurer

Total estimated life time cost is **\$9,760,000** representing **\$8,000,000** in principal and **\$1,760,000** in interest (assuming interest at 4% over 10 years).

Fiscal Impact Statement

Prepared by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review

This bond issue has no significant fiscal impact other than the debt service costs identified above.

Public Comments

No public comments were filed in support of or in opposition to Question 2.

Question 3: Bond Issue

Do you favor a bond issue to provide \$4,000,000 in funds to insure portions of loans to small businesses to spur investment and innovation and to provide \$8,000,000 in funds to make flexible loans to small businesses to create jobs, revitalize downtowns and strengthen the rural economy?

STATE OF MAINE
Chapter 596
Public Laws of 2014
Governor's Veto Overridden May 1, 2014

“An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Maine Small Business and Job Creation”

Preamble. Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 14 to authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds as described in this Act,

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

Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds. The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding \$12,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Act. The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State. The Treasurer of State shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the name of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale and the date when payable.

Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated. The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project in this Act lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general obligation bonds.

Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement. The Treasurer of State shall pay interest due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity.

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

FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE

Provides funds to insure portions of loans to small businesses made by a participating financial institution in order to spur investment and innovation.

Total	\$4,000,000
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Provides funds for state, regional and local financial intermediaries to make flexible loans to small businesses to create jobs, revitalize downtowns and strengthen the rural economy.

Total \$8,000,000

Sec. 6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 5 do not become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth in this Act.

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

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

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

"Do you favor a bond issue to provide \$4,000,000 in funds to insure portions of loans to small businesses to spur investment and innovation and to provide \$8,000,000 in funds to make flexible loans to small businesses to create jobs, revitalize downtowns and strengthen the rural economy?"

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

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

Intent and Content **Prepared by the Office of the Attorney General**

This Act would authorize the State to issue general obligation bonds in the amount of twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) to provide funds to insure portions of loans to eligible businesses made by financial institutions as well as to provide funds for state, regional and local economic development agencies to make flexible loans to eligible businesses as described below. The bonds would run for a period not longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue and would be backed by the full faith and credit of the State.

Proceeds from the sale of these bonds would be administered by the Finance Authority of Maine ("FAME") for the following purposes:

Four million dollars (\$4,000,000) would be used to insure portions of loans to eligible businesses made by a participating financial institution in order to spur investment and innovation. The loan insurance would be offered through an existing Commercial Loan Insurance program that is established in statute and rule and is administered by FAME. See Title 10 of the Maine Revised Statutes, section 1026-A, and Chapter 101 of FAME's rules.

Eight million dollars (\$8,000,000) would be used to make flexible loans to eligible businesses to create jobs, revitalize downtowns and strengthen the rural economy. These loans would be issued by state, regional and local economic development agencies through an existing program known as the Regional Economic Development Revolving Loan Program, which is established in statute and administered by FAME. See Title 10 of the Maine Revised Statutes, section 1026-M, as amended by Public Laws of 2013, Chapter 605, and by Chapter 314 of FAME's rules. With these additional funds, the program would be targeted to businesses with 100 or fewer employees or annual sales of \$10 million or less. The maximum allowable loan for any business would be \$350,000.

If approved, the authorization of these bonds would take effect 30 days after the Governor's proclamation of the vote.

A "YES" vote approves the issuance of up to twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) in general obligation bonds to finance the activities described above.

A "NO" vote disapproves the bond issue in its entirety.

Debt Service

Prepared by the Office of the Treasurer

Total estimated life time cost is **\$14,640,000** representing **\$12,000,000** in principal and **\$2,640,000** in interest (assuming interest at 4% over 10 years).

Fiscal Impact Statement

Prepared by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review

This bond issue has no significant fiscal impact other than the debt service costs identified above.

Public Comments

No public comments were filed in support of or in opposition to Question 3.

Question 4: Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$11,000,000 in private and other funds, to build a research center and to discover genetic solutions for cancer and the diseases of aging, to promote job growth and private sector investment in this State, to attract and retain young professionals and make the State a global leader in genomic medicine?

STATE OF MAINE
Chapter 574
Public Laws of 2014
Approved April 28, 2014

“An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Biomedical Research in Maine”

Preamble. Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 14 to authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds as described in this Act,

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

Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds. The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding \$10,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Act. The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State. The Treasurer of State shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the name of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale and the date when payable.

Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated. The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project in this Act lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general obligation bonds.

Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement. The Treasurer of State shall pay interest due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity.

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

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

Maine Technology Institute

Provides funds, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$11,000,000 in private and other funds, to expand the State's research capabilities in the areas of mammalian genetics and murine biometric analytics, make the State a global

resource for precision medicine, improve the State's capacity to attract and retain young professionals and bring additional grant funding, private sector investment, job growth and economic activity to the State.

Total \$10,000,000

Sec. 6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 5 do not become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth in this Act.

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

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

Sec. 9. Report. The Department of Economic and Community Development shall report by January 15th annually, until the bond proceeds authorized by this Act have been fully expended, to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over research and economic development matters.

Sec. 10. Referendum for ratification; submission at election; form of question; effective date. This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at a statewide election held in the month of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

"Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$11,000,000 in private and other funds, to build a research center and to discover genetic solutions for cancer and the diseases of aging, to promote job growth and private sector investment in this State, to attract and retain young professionals and make the State a global leader in genomic medicine?"

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

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

Intent and Content
Prepared by the Office of the Attorney General

This Act would authorize the State to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) to provide funds for the purposes described below. The bonds would run for a period not longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds and would be backed by the full faith and credit of the State.

Proceeds from the sale of these bonds would be administered by the Maine Technology Institute within the Department of Economic and Community Development. The funds are to be used to expand the State's research capabilities in the areas of mammalian genetics and murine biometric analytics, make the State a global resource for precision medicine, improve the State's capacity to attract and retain young professionals, and bring additional grant funding, private sector investment, job growth and economic activity to the State. "Murine" refers to mice and rats, and "murine biometric analytics" and "mammalian genetics" are areas in which the Jackson Laboratory on Mount Desert Island specializes. "Precision medicine" and "genomic medicine" are terms that relate to the use of advanced genetic research to analyze the cause of an individual patient's disease at the molecular level in order to tailor medical treatment to the individual characteristics of each patient.

The funds must be awarded through a competitive process and are to be matched by eleven million dollars (\$11,000,000) in private and other funds.

If approved, the authorization of these bonds would take effect 30 days after the Governor's proclamation of the vote.

A "YES" vote approves the issuance of up to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) in general obligation bonds to finance the activities described above.

A "NO" vote disapproves the bond issue in its entirety.

Debt Service
Prepared by the Office of the Treasurer

Total estimated life time cost is **\$12,200,000** representing **\$10,000,000** in principal and **\$2,200,000** in interest (assuming interest at 4% over 10 years).

Fiscal Impact Statement
Prepared by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review

This bond issue has no significant fiscal impact other than the debt service costs identified above.

Public Comments

No public comments were filed in support of or in opposition to Question 4.

Question 5: Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$3,000,000 bond issue, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$5,700,000 in private and public funds, to modernize and expand infrastructure in a biological laboratory specializing in tissue repair and regeneration located in the State in order to increase biotechnology workforce training, retain and recruit to the State multiple biomedical research and development groups and create a drug discovery and development facility that will improve human health and stimulate biotechnology job growth and economic activity?

STATE OF MAINE Chapter 568 Public Laws of 2014 Approved April 26, 2014

“An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Human Health Research in Maine”

Preamble. Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 14 to authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds as described in this Act,

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

Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds. The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding \$3,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Act. The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State. The Treasurer of State shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the name of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale and the date when payable.

Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated. The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project in this Act lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general obligation bonds.

Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement. The Treasurer of State shall pay interest due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity.

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

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF

Maine Technology Institute

Provides funds, to be awarded through a competitive process to institutions that, as of the effective date of this Act, have been designated as Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, National

Institutes of Health, National Institute of General Medical Sciences and have also received IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence grants and to be matched by \$5,700,000 in private and public funds, to modernize and expand infrastructure in a biological laboratory specializing in tissue repair and regeneration located in the State, in order to increase biotechnology workforce training, retain and recruit to the State multiple biomedical research and development groups and create a drug discovery and development facility that will improve human health and stimulate biotechnology job growth and economic activity.

Total \$3,000,000

Sec. 6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 5 do not become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth in this Act.

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

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

Sec. 9. Report. The Department of Economic and Community Development shall report by January 15th annually, until the bond proceeds authorized by this Act have been fully expended, to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and research and economic development matters.

Sec. 10. Referendum for ratification; submission at election; form of question; effective date. This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at a statewide election held in the month of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

"Do you favor a \$3,000,000 bond issue, to be awarded through a competitive process and to be matched by \$5,700,000 in private and public funds, to modernize and expand infrastructure in a biological laboratory specializing in tissue repair and regeneration located in the State in order to increase biotechnology workforce training, retain and recruit to the State multiple biomedical research and development groups and create a drug discovery and development facility that will improve human health and stimulate biotechnology job growth and economic activity?"

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

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

Intent and Content
Prepared by the Office of the Attorney General

This Act would authorize the State to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed three million dollars (\$3,000,000) to provide funds to modernize and expand infrastructure in a biological laboratory specializing in tissue repair and regeneration located in Maine, in order to achieve the purposes described below.

Proceeds from the sale of these bonds would be administered by the Maine Technology Institute within the Department of Economic and Community Development. The funds are to be awarded through a competitive process to institutions that have been designated as Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health and the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, and have also received IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence grants. This describes a collaborative network of 13 private and public colleges, universities and research institutions in Maine led by the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory.

The purposes of the modernization and expansion of infrastructure are to increase biotechnology workforce training, retain and recruit multiple biomedical research and development groups to Maine, and create a drug discovery and development facility to improve human health and stimulate biotechnology job growth and economic activity. The bond proceeds awarded through the competitive process are to be matched by \$5,700,000 in private and public funds.

If approved, the authorization of these bonds would take effect 30 days after the Governor's proclamation of the vote.

A "YES" vote approves the issuance of up to three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in general obligation bonds to finance the activities described above.

A "NO" vote disapproves the bond issue in its entirety.

Debt Service
Prepared by the Office of the Treasurer

Total estimated life time cost is **\$3,660,000** representing **\$3,000,000** in principal and **\$660,000** in interest (assuming interest at 4% over 10 years).

Fiscal Impact Statement
Prepared by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review

This bond issue has no significant fiscal impact other than the debt service costs identified above.

Public Comments

No public comments were filed in support of or in opposition to Question 5.

Question 6: Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue to ensure clean water and safe communities across Maine; to protect drinking water sources; to restore wetlands; to create jobs and vital public infrastructure; and to strengthen the State's long-term economic base and competitive advantage?

STATE OF MAINE
Chapter 589
Public Laws of 2014
Law Without Governor's Signature April 30, 2014

“An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Ensure Clean Water and Safe Communities”

Preamble. Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 14 to authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds as described in this Act,

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

Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds. The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding \$10,000,000 for the purposes described in section 6 of this Act. The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State. The Treasurer of State shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the name of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale and the date when payable.

Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated. The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project in this Act lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general obligation bonds.

Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement. The Treasurer of State shall pay interest due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity.

Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds. The proceeds of the bonds must be expended as set out in this Act.

Sec. 6. Allocations from Highway Fund and General Fund bond issue. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Act must be expended as designated in the following schedule.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,
DEPARTMENT OF**

Provides funds for vital public improvement projects including stream crossing or culvert upgrades.

Total \$5,400,000

Provides funds to restore state wetlands.

Total \$400,000

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,
DEPARTMENT OF**

Provides funds for the revolving loan fund for wastewater treatment facilities, which will make the State eligible to secure federal grants.

Total \$2,400,000

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
DEPARTMENT OF**

Provides funds for the revolving loan fund for drinking water systems, which will make the State eligible to secure federal grants.

Total \$1,800,000

Sec. 7. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 6 do not become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth in this Act.

Sec. 8. Appropriation balances at year-end. At the end of each fiscal year, all unencumbered appropriation balances representing state money carry forward. Bond proceeds that have not been expended within 10 years after the date of the sale of the bonds lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general obligation bonds.

Sec. 9. Bonds authorized but not issued. Any bonds authorized but not issued within 5 years of ratification of this Act are deauthorized and may not be issued, except that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds for an additional amount of time not to exceed 5 years.

Sec. 10. Referendum for ratification; submission at election; form of question; effective date. This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at a statewide election held in the month of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

"Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue to ensure clean water and safe communities across Maine; to protect drinking water sources; to restore wetlands; to create jobs and vital public infrastructure; and to strengthen the State's long-term economic base and competitive advantage?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and

plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Act, the Governor shall proclaim the result without delay and this Act becomes effective 30 days after the date of the proclamation.

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

Intent and Content
Prepared by the Office of the Attorney General

This Act would authorize the State to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) to provide funds to improve the State's water resources through investments in drinking water systems, wastewater treatment facilities, wetlands restoration and public improvement projects such as upgraded culverts and stream crossings. The bonds would run for a period not longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds and would be backed by the full faith and credit of the State.

Proceeds from the sale of these bonds would be administered as follows:

Department of Environmental Protection

Five million four hundred thousand dollars (\$5,400,000) would be used for vital public improvement projects including stream crossing or culvert upgrades.

Four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) would be used to restore state wetlands.

Department of Environmental Protection

Two million four hundred thousand dollars (\$2,400,000) would go into an existing state revolving loan fund administered by the Maine Bond Bank and the Department of Environmental Protection and would be distributed in the form of loans to municipalities to construct and upgrade wastewater treatment facilities. These funds are expected to make the State eligible to secure federal grants in the amount of twelve million dollars (\$12,000,000) – a 5:1 ratio of federal to state funds.

Department of Health and Human Services

One million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$1,800,000) would go into the state's safe drinking water revolving loan fund, administered by the Maine Bond Bank and the Department of Health and Human Services. Loans from this fund may be issued to eligible public water systems to design, construct or improve drinking water supplies or treatment and distribution systems, or for any actions authorized or required under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996. This funding is expected to make the State eligible to secure federal grants in the amount of nine million dollars (\$9,000,000) – a 5:1 ratio of federal to state funds.

If approved, the authorization of these bonds would take effect 30 days after the Governor's proclamation of the vote.

A "YES" vote approves the issuance of up to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) in general obligation bonds to finance the activities described above.

A "NO" vote disapproves the bond issue in its entirety.

Debt Service

Prepared by the Office of the Treasurer

Total estimated life time cost is **\$12,200,000** representing **\$10,000,000** in principal and **\$2,200,000** in interest (assuming interest at 4% over 10 years).

Fiscal Impact Statement

Prepared by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review

This bond issue has no significant fiscal impact other than the debt service costs identified above.

Public Comments

No public comments were filed in support of or in opposition to Question 6.

Question 7: Bond Issue

Do you favor a \$7,000,000 bond issue to facilitate the growth of marine businesses and commercial enterprises that create jobs and improve the sustainability of the State's marine economy and related industries through capital investments, to be matched by at least \$7,000,000 in private and other funds?

STATE OF MAINE
Chapter 592
Public Laws of April 2014
Law Without Governor's Signature April 30, 2014

“An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support the Growth of and To Build Infrastructure for the Marine Sector of the State's Economy”

Preamble. Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 14 to authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds as described in this Act,

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

PART A

Sec. A-1. Authorization of bonds. The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding \$7,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Part. The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

Sec. A-2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State. The Treasurer of State shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the name of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale and the date when payable.

Sec. A-3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated. The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in this Part. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project in this Part lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general obligation bonds.

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

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

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

Maine Technology Institute

Provides funds to facilitate the growth of marine businesses and commercial enterprises that create jobs and improve the sustainability of the State's marine economy and related industries through capital investments, awarded after a competitive process administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development in consultation with the Department of Marine Resources and the Maine Technology Institute, to be matched by at least \$7,000,000 in private and other funds.

Total \$7,000,000

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

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

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

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

"Do you favor a \$7,000,000 bond issue to facilitate the growth of marine businesses and commercial enterprises that create jobs and improve the sustainability of the State's marine economy and related industries through capital investments, to be matched by at least \$7,000,000 in private and other funds?"

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

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Part necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

PART B

Sec. B-1. Determination of awards. The Department of Economic and Community Development, in consultation with the Department of Marine Resources and Maine Technology Institute, shall oversee the disbursement of bond proceeds and matching funds authorized pursuant to Part A in accordance with this section. Awards of bond proceeds and matching funds must be made

on a competitive basis following a request for proposal process for a single award of \$7,000,000.

1. A successful applicant must include the following entities:
 - A. A marine-based research program at a private or public university or a nonprofit research institution;
 - B. Commercial fishing or aquaculture interests;
 - C. Community-based organizations committed to the growth of the local economy; and
 - D. Private sector businesses.
2. A successful application must also include proposals for growth in each of the following areas:
 - A. Traditional commercial fishing interest;
 - B. Aquaculture industry;
 - C. Value-added seafood processing; and
 - D. Market development for Maine-based products.

PART C

Sec. C-1. Report. The Department of Economic and Community Development shall report by January 15th annually, until the bond proceeds authorized by this Act have been fully expended, on the use of the bond proceeds to the joint standing committees of the Legislature having jurisdiction over appropriations and financial affairs and research and economic development matters.

Sec. C-2. Contingent effective date. Part B and this Part take effect only if the General Fund bond issue proposed in Part A is approved by the voters of the State.

Intent and Content

Prepared by the Office of the Attorney General

This Act would authorize the State to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) to provide funds for capital investments to facilitate the growth of marine businesses and commercial enterprises that create jobs and improve the sustainability of the State's marine economy and related industries. The bonds would run for a period not longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds and would be backed by the full faith and credit of the State.

Proceeds from the sale of these bonds would be administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development in consultation with the Department of Marine Resources and the Maine Technology Institute. The legislation specifies that the funds are to be awarded through a competitive process, following a request for proposals, and resulting in a single award to be matched by at least \$7,000,000 in private and other funds.

The legislation specifies that to be awarded these funds, the applicant must include: a marine-based research program at a private or public university or nonprofit research institution, commercial fishing or aquaculture interests, community-based organizations committed to the growth of the local economy, and private sector businesses. In addition, the application must include proposals for growth in each of the following areas: traditional commercial fishing, aquaculture, value-added seafood processing, and market development for Maine-based products.

If approved, the authorization of these bonds would take effect 30 days after the Governor's proclamation of the vote.

A “YES” vote approves the issuance of up to seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) in general obligation bonds to finance the activities described above.

A “NO” vote disapproves the bond issue in its entirety.

Debt Service
Prepared by the Office of the Treasurer

Total estimated life time cost is **\$8,540,000** representing **\$7,000,000** in principal and **\$1,540,000** in interest (assuming interest at 4% over 10 years).

Fiscal Impact Statement
Prepared by the Office of Fiscal and Program Review

This bond issue has no significant fiscal impact other than the debt service costs identified above.

Public Comments

No public comments were filed in support of or in opposition to Question 7.