

## STATE OF MAINE HOUSE OF PEPRESENTATIVES 100th LEGISLATURE

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 224, L.D. 435, Bill, "An Act Providing for Construction of an Educational Television Network for the State of Maine."

Amend said Bill in the title by inserting before the period at the end the following: 'and the Issuance of not Exceeding One Million Forty Thousand Dollars of State of Maine Bonds for the Financing Thereof'

Further amend said Bill by striking out everything after the title and inserting in place thereof the following:

'<u>Preamble.</u> 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 the 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. University of Maine authorized to construct state-wide educational television network. The University of Maine is hereby authorized to construct and equip transmission and microwave interconnection facilities in Augusta which, interconnected with the educational television facilities of Bates, Bowdoin and Colby Colleges, will provide a state-wide educational television network, at costs not to exceed \$1,040,000. The cost of such construction and equipment, including any expenses incurred in the financing thereof, shall be taken and appropriated from the proceeds of the bonds issued under the authority of this act.

Sec. 2. Treasurer of State to issue bonds. 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 of Maine to an amount not exceeding \$1,040,000 for the purpose of raising funds to provide for such construction and equipment, 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. 3. 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. 4. 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. Any balance unexpended shall not lapse, but shall be carried forward from year to year to be used only for the purposes set forth herein.

Sec. 5. 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. 6. Disbursement of bond proceeds. The proceeds of such bonds shall be expended under the direction and supervision of the Director of the Bureau of Public Improvements.

(Filing no. H- 406)

Sec. 7. Federal funds. The Treasurer of State is authorized and empowered to receive any federal funds available for the construction of the educational television network facilities authorized by this act and shall credit such federal funds to the General Fund of the State.

Sec. 8. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. 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. 9. Referendum for ratification. The aldermen of cities, the selectmen of towns, and the assessors of the several plantations of this State are hereby 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 the next general or special state-wide election, to give in their votes upon the acceptance or rejection of this 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 Forty Thousand Dollars of State of Maine Bonds for the Financing Thereof,' passed by 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 the 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.'

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