

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
(New Title)
New Draft of: S. P. 137, L. D. 349

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1857

S. P. 662

In Senate, June 16, 1971

Reported by Senator Greeley of Waldo from Committee on Transportation and printed under Joint Rules No. 18.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

AN ACT to Authorize the Issuance of Bonds in the Amount of Ten Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars on Behalf of the State of Maine to Build State Highways.

Preamble. Two-thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution, Article IX, Section 14, to authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State of Maine for the purpose of building state highways.

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

Sec. 1. Bond issue of \$10,300,000 authorized. In addition to state highway and bridge bonds heretofore authorized in the name and behalf of the State, as provided by law, 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 \$10,300,000 payable serially at the State Treasury within 20 years from the date of issue. Such bonds and coupons shall be of such denominations and form and upon such terms and conditions, not inconsistent herewith, as the Governor and Council shall direct. The proceeds from the sale of said bonds shall be used for construction or reconstruction of roads and bridges in accordance with allocations made by the Legislature.

The said bonds shall be deemed a pledge of the faith and credit of the State. The said bonds shall be issued from time to time so as to meet the needs of the road-building program. Said bonds when paid at maturity or

otherwise retired shall not be reissued, but may be refunded on terms more favorable to the State than those in the original issue.

Sec. 2. Allocation of General Highway Fund. Receipt to the General Highway Fund for the fiscal year from July 1, 1972 to June 30, 1973—from the proceeds of the sale of bonds shall be segregated, apportioned and expended as designated in the following schedule:

1972-73

HIGHWAY CONSTRUCTION

State Highways and Federal Aid Systems	\$10,300,000
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Sec. 3. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Section 1 of this Act shall not become effective unless the people of the State of Maine shall have ratified the issuance of bonds as set forth in this Act.

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 the next general state-wide election to be held in November 1972 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 purpose set forth in ‘An Act to Authorize the Issuance of Bonds in the Amount of Ten Million Three Hundred Thousand Dollars on Behalf of the State of Maine to Build State Highways,’ including the matching of Federal Funds, passed by the 105th 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 review the same and if it shall appear that a majority of the inhabitants voting on the question are in favor of said 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 provisions of the foregoing Act, accompanied by a copy thereof.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Funds made available through the sale of bonds as provided in this Act will all be used for highway construction. The amount of the bonds author-

ized has been decreased from \$16,000,000 as originally proposed to \$10,300,000.

Additional moneys for construction will be available from moneys authorized under the Allocation Act and also from the one cent increase in the gas tax.

Federal moneys to be available during the next biennium for highway construction will amount to \$55,000,000 if sufficient State funds are made available to match this amount.