

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1744

S. P. 564

In Senate, April 3, 1973

Referred to Committee on Transportation. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Kelley of Aroostook.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT to Authorize Bond Issue in the Amount of \$25,000,000 to Make Improvements on U. S. Route 1.

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

Whereas, Route 1 is the backbone of Maine's transportation system and is a major tourist route providing access and income to many citizens of the State; and

Whereas, Route 1 is the northern extension of the Nation's oldest highway linking most of Maine's historic communities thus providing a natural focus for the State's observance of the National Bicentennial in 1976; and

Whereas, Route 1 passes through or near much of this State's finest scenery and countryside, and is itself an integral landscape feature; and

Whereas, it is deemed necessary for the Legislature to authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State for the purpose of rehabilitation and improvement of Route 1, in accordance with the Constitution, Article IX, section 14, requiring two-thirds of both Houses of the Legislature to authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State for the purpose of building state highways, now, therefore,

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

Sec. 1. Bond issue of \$25,000,000 authorized. In addition to state highway and bridge bonds heretofore authorized, 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 \$25,000,000, 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 improvement of U. S. Route 1 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 for Route 1. 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 Highway Fund Bond Issue. Receipt to the Highway Fund for the next 2 fiscal years — from July 1, 1973 to June 30, 1974 and from July 1, 1974 to June 30, 1975 — from the proceeds of the sale of bonds shall be segregated, apportioned and expended as designated in the following schedule:

The \$25,000,000 and federal matching funds of \$25,000,000 shall be used to make improvements over a 10-year period to U. S. Route 1 from Kittery to Fort Kent. The money shall be designated for improvements to U. S. Route 1 on the basis of each county's individual percent of total U. S. Route 1 mileage in Maine.

Sec. 3. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 and 2 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 a special or general state-wide election 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 Bond Issue in the Amount of \$25,000,000 to Make Improvements on U. S. Route 1’, passed by the 106th 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 return in conformity with the foregoing Act, accompanied by a copy thereof.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is reflected in the title.