

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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



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

(EMERGENCY)

---

---

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

---

---

**Legislative Document**

**No. 1155**

S. P. 355

In Senate, March 20, 1975

Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARRY N. STARBRANCH, Secretary

Presented by Senator Reeves of Kennebec.

---

---

**STATE OF MAINE**

---

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-FIVE

---

**AN ACT to Appropriate Funds for Adequate Topographic Mapping of the State.**

---

**Emergency preamble.** Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the Maine Mapping Advisory Committee has recommended an increased level of funding in order to provide Maine with an adequate, up-to-date base map system; and

Whereas, an adequate, up-to-date base map system is vital to Maine's industry, to her agriculture, and to her people; and

Whereas, much of the work of providing an up-to-date base map system is seasonal, and should be accomplished during the coming warm weather months; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

**Appropriation.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Public Utilities Commission the sum of \$420,000 for the biennium to be used as matching funds for moneys furnished by the United States Geological Survey of the United States Department of the Interior for the production of topographic maps for the State of Maine. The breakdown shall be as follows:

1975-76

1976-77

## PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

All Other

\$210,000

\$210,000

**Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

Executive Order #26, establishing the Maine Mapping Advisory Committee, indicated, in its charge, that the committee should establish new topographic mapping priorities, and recommend to the Governor a minimum level of funding to provide adequate map standards for the State. At the present level of funding, \$46,000 per year state-federal contribution, it is estimated that it will take 75-100 years to remap the State at minimum user standards. Costs of map production are low, \$20-\$25,000 per topographic map, and the State in critical areas only needs 400 of these. The rapidly developing coastal zone is only 70% mapped, and the interior growth centers—Bangor, Lewiston, S.W. Maine and the northeast agricultural corridor still need new, adequate maps.

All maps used in Maine, from the highway atlas to the town tax map, utilize the U.S.G.S. topographic map system as a base. As the present map series becomes more and more out of date, all the State maps and charts become less useful and inaccurate.

In the present funding method, the State through a cooperating state agency (P.U.C.) receives an annual appropriation which is matched by an equal Federal share. This 50-50 budget is extended by the topographic division of the U.S. Geological Survey (Department of Interior) to produce maps covering areas chosen by the State Users Group.