

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(After Deadline)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2175

H. P. 2183

House of Representatives, March 3, 1978

The Committee on Education suggested. Approved for introduction by a Majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 25.

Presented by Mr. J. Martin of Eagle Lake.

Cosponsors: Mr. Rideout of Mapleton, Mr. Smith of Mars Hill, Mr. Lunt of Presque Isle.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-EIGHT

**AN ACT to Authorize Bond Issue in the Amount of \$2,100,000 to Establish a
Dormitory at Northern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute.**

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

Preamble. Two-thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with the Maine Constitution, Article IX, Section 14, authorize the issuance of self-liquidating bonds on behalf of the State of Maine to establish a dormitory at Northern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute at Presque Isle.

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

1. **Authorization of bond issued for construction of student housing.** The cost of constructing the dormitory at Northern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute, including any expenses incurred in financing thereof, shall be taken and appropriated from the proceeds of bonds issued under the authority of this Act.

2. **Issue of self-liquidating bonds to provide for construction.** The Treasurer

of State is authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue from time to time serial coupon bonds in the name and behalf of the State to an amount not exceeding \$2,100,000 for the purpose of raising funds to provide for construction pursuant to this Act. These bonds shall be general obligations of the State of Maine and the full faith and credit of the State shall be pledged to the payment of interest and redemption of the bonds. These bonds shall not run for a longer period than 25 years from the date of the original issue thereof. Any issuance of bonds may contain a call feature at the descretion of the Treasurer of State with the approval of the Governor.

3. Operation of dormitory. The Department of Educational and Cultural Services shall operate the dormitory when completed as a self-liquidating project until all the bonds issued as provided by this Act shall be retired and all the expenses incurred hereunder shall be paid. The department shall charge and collect such maintenance fees for the use of the dormitory as may be determined from time to time as necessary for the amortization of the principal of and the interest of the bonds issued and shall deposit to the credit of the Treasurer of State, in a separate account to be established by the State Controller, on the books of the State, all fees so charged and collected as assessed by the department.

4. Records of bonds issued to be kept by State Auditor and Treasurer of State. The State Auditor shall keep an account of these bonds, showing the number and amount of each, 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 successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the same, the date of sale and the date when payable.

5. Sale, how negotiated; proceeds appropriated. The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of these bonds by direction of the Governor, but no such bond shall be loaned, pledged or hypothecated in behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sales of these bonds, which shall be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by him upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated to be used solely for the purpose set forth in this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the construction pursuant to this Act shall lapse to the debt service account established for the retirement of these bonds.

6. Interest and debt retirement. Interest due or accruing upon any bonds issued under the provisions of this Act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity shall be paid by the Treasurer of State.

7. Disbursement of bond proceeds. The proceeds of these bonds shall be expended under the direction and supervision of the Department of Educational and Cultural Services with the approval of the Bureau of Public Improvements.

8. Other sources of funds. This Act shall not in any manner preclude the

department or the Treasurer of State from accepting from any authorized agency of the Federal Government or other nonstate sources construction aid fund grants, debt service grant funds or other grants for the planning, construction, equipping or property acquisition for any of the projects provided for in this Act, or from entering into agreements with such agency or agencies respecting any such grants.

9. Proceeds of bonds not available for other purposes; shall be kept separate from other funds. The proceeds of all bonds issued under the authority of this Act and the funds made available for interest and debt retirement thereunder shall at all times be kept distinct from all other moneys of the State and shall not be drawn upon or be available for any other purpose.

10. Allocations from self-liquidating bond issue.

Description	Project Cost
Construction of dormitory at Northern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute	\$2,100,000

11. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Subsections one through 10 of this Act shall not become effective unless and until the people of the State of Maine shall have ratified the issuance of bonds set forth in this Act.

Statutory referendum procedure; submission at general election; form of question; effective date. This Act shall be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Maine at the next general election in the month of November following passage of this Act. The city aldermen, town selectmen and plantation assessors 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:

“Shall a bond issue be ratified for the purpose set forth in ‘AN ACT to Authorize Bond Issue in the Amount of \$2,100,000 to Establish a Dormitory at Northern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute’, passed by the Second Regular Session of the 108th Legislature?”

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below the words “Yes” or “No.” The ballots shall 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, and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes are in favor of the Act, the Governor

shall proclaim that fact without delay, and the Act shall become 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 purpose of this referendum.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to authorize a bond issue to establish a dormitory at Northern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute at Presque Isle. Because of limited space at present, some students are housed in wooden barracks at the institute which barracks are less than satisfactory by today standards. The school experienced a fire in one of these structures during the first week of February where everything was lost. Fortunately, there was no loss of life.