

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(Governor's Bill)  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND NINTH LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Document**

**No. 1549**

S. P. 487

In Senate, March 30, 1979

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

Presented by Senator Conley of Cumberland.

Cosponsors: Senator Najarian of Cumberland, Senator Sewall of Penobscot and Senator Katz of Kennebec.

MAY M. ROSS, Secretary of the Senate

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED  
SEVENTY-NINE

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**AN ACT to Appropriate Money for Public Fish Piers, Airports and other Transportation Improvements and to Authorize General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$11,810,000.**

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**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 transportation improvements.

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

**Sec. 1. Bond Issue of \$11,810,000 authorized.** The Treasurer of the 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 \$11,810,000 payable serially at the State Treasury within 20 years from 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 shall direct. The proceeds from the sale of the bonds shall be used for transportation improvements as authorized by section 4. The bonds shall be deemed a pledge of

the faith and credit of the State. The bonds shall be issued from time to time so as to meet the needs of the transportation improvement program. The 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. Interest and debt retirement.** Interest due or accruing upon any bonds issued under this Act and all sums coming due for payment on bonds at maturity shall be paid by the Treasurer of State from any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

**Sec. 3. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of such bonds shall be expended under the direction and supervision of the Department of Transportation.

**Sec. 4. Appropriations from General Fund bond issue.** The funds appropriated by this section shall be expended for the following transportation improvements.

Public Fish Piers —	\$9,000,000
Kennebunkport, Portland, Boothbay Harbor, Vinalhaven, Rockland, Stonington, and such other locations as may be possible.	
Maine State Pier — Portland —	950,000
Maine State Ferry Service Improvements —	445,000
Rockland, North Haven, Vinalhaven, Islesboro, Lincolnville, Swans Island and Bass Harbor.	
Airport Improvements —	1,300,000
Auburn-Lewiston, Augusta, Bangor, Bar Harbor, Belfast, Bethel, Biddeford, Caribou, Deblois, Dexter, Dover-Foxcroft, Fort Kent, Fryeburg, Greenville, Houlton, Islesboro, Jackman, Knox County, Lincoln, Lubec, Machias, Millinocket, Old Town, Pittsfield, Portland, Presque Isle, Princeton, Rangeley, Sanford, Stonington, Waterville, Winterport, Wiscasset and such other airports as may be possible.	

Railroad Right-of-Way Acquisition —	115,000
Eastport and Bingham Branches	
Total Appropriations	\$11,810,000

It is the intent of the Legislature that any of the improvements in section 4 of this Act for which matching funds are required as indicated in federal or state laws or department programs shall have such matching funds available before state money is expended on the improvement.

**Sec. 5. Appropriation balances at year end.** At the end of each fiscal year, all unencumbered appropriation balances representing state moneys shall carry forward from year to year.

**Sec. 6. Acquisition of land.** Land required for improvements undertaken directly by the Department of Transportation may be acquired for the purpose of making necessary improvements in the same manner as provided in the Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 154.

**Sec. 7. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 4 of 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. 8. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at special statewide election; effective date.** This Act shall be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a special statewide election to be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday 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 in the amount of \$11,810,000 for public fish piers, airports and other transportation improvements?

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 word "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 purposes of this referendum.

## STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this legislation is to provide funds for various transportation improvements programs consisting of:

1. A new program for State participation in the construction of basic fishing piers located at several ports along the coast of Maine. The public fish pier program is a result of recommendations made by the Governor's Committee on Coastal Development and Conservation;
2. Improvements at the Maine State Pier which includes dredging of the present eastside berth, lighting the berth and yard area, grading and paving additional parking and storage area, acquisition of additional land and various other improvements;
3. Maine State Ferry Service improvements include several parking lots at both the island and mainland terminals, security fencing at mainland terminals, replacement of all steering mechanisms on the vessels and the first stage of a vessel replacement program;
4. The airports program includes projects to improve and expand the passenger terminal facilities at Portland and Bangor and improve navigational aids, runways and other safety improvement projects at the other air carrier airports and general aviation airports; and
5. The acquisition of the abandoned rights-of-way on the Bingham and Eastport branches of the Maine Central Railroad Company.