

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
2

3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
4

5 Legislative Document

No. 557

6  
7 H.P. 455

House of Representatives, February 7, 1983

8 Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, sent  
9 up for concurrence and ordered printed.

10 EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

11 Presented by Representative Rolde of York.

12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

14 IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
15 NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THREE  
16

17 AN ACT Authorizing a Bond Issue in the  
18 Amount of \$2,700,000 for the Purposes of  
19 Stabilizing and Restoring the Unique Historic  
20 Structures of the State.  
21

22 Preamble. Two-thirds of both Houses of the Legis-  
23 lature deeming it necessary in accordance with the  
24 Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 14, to  
25 authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the  
26 State of Maine for the purpose of stabilizing and  
27 restoring unique historic structures.

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

30 Sec. 1. 27 MRSA §505, sub-§2, ¶D is enacted to  
31 read:

32 D. The director may administer a program of  
33 state-financed grants for the stabilization and

1 restoration of unique historic structures con-  
2 sistent with the following conditions.

3 (1) An applicant for a grant shall be either  
4 a governmental or nonprofit organization.

5 (2) The historic structure which is the sub-  
6 ject of the grant application shall be on  
7 the United States Register of Historic  
8 Places, as provided by the National Historic  
9 Preservation Act of 1966 or have been nomi-  
10 nated to the register by the commission.

11 (3) An applicant shall provide assurance  
12 that public access to the structure shall be  
13 reasonably provided with respect to admis-  
14 sion fees, visitation hours and physical ac-  
15 cessibility, while maintaining the histori-  
16 cal integrity of the structure.

17 (4) Applications shall address to the satis-  
18 faction of the commission, the applicant's  
19 organizational and financial capacity to  
20 provide long-term maintenance of that struc-  
21 ture which is the subject of the applica-  
22 tion.

23 (5) Grants shall not exceed 50% of the total  
24 expense of the proposed project.

25 (6) All grants shall be subject to final  
26 approval by the commission.

27 (7) Prior to final approval, the commission  
28 may require the applicant to execute a cove-  
29 nant to secure continued public access and  
30 maintenance of the historic integrity of the  
31 structure, and a right of first refusal for  
32 the State.

33 With respect to the quality of work to be per-  
34 formed through this grant program, the commission  
35 and the director shall be guided by the United  
36 States Secretary of the Interior's standards for  
37 rehabilitation.

38 **Sec. 2. Authorization of bond issue to stabilize**  
39 **and restore unique historic structures.**

1           1. Bond issue authorized. The Treasurer of State  
2 may, under the direction of the Governor, issue from  
3 time to time, bonds in the name and behalf of the  
4 State to an amount not exceeding \$2,700,000 for the  
5 purpose of raising funds to provide for the stabi-  
6 lization and restoration of unique historic struc-  
7 tures. These bonds shall be general obligations of  
8 the State and the full faith and credit of the State  
9 shall be pledged to the payment of interest and  
10 redemption of the bonds.

11 The bonds shall be dated and shall mature at such  
12 time or times not exceeding 20 years from their date  
13 and may be made redeemable before maturity, at the  
14 option of the Treasurer of State, at such price or  
15 prices and under such terms and conditions as may be  
16 approved by the Governor prior to the issuance of  
17 bonds.

18 The Treasurer of State, with the approval of the Gov-  
19 ernor, will determine the form of the bonds, includ-  
20 ing any interest coupons to be attached thereto and  
21 shall fix the denomination or denominations of the  
22 bonds and the place or places of payment or principal  
23 and interest, which may include any bank or trust  
24 company within or without the State.

25 The bonds shall be signed by the Treasurer of State  
26 and any interest coupons attached thereto shall be  
27 executed with the facsimile signature of the Treasur-  
28 er of State. In case any officer whose signature  
29 appears on any bonds or coupons ceases to be the  
30 officer before the delivery of the bonds, the signa-  
31 ture or facsimile shall, nevertheless, be valid and  
32 sufficient for all purposes, the same as if he had  
33 remained in office until the delivery. The bonds may  
34 be issued in coupon or registered form, or both, and  
35 may be interchangeable as the Treasurer of State may  
36 determine.

37           2. Records of bonds issued to be kept by State  
38 Auditor and Treasurer of State. The State Auditor  
39 shall keep an account of the bonds, showing the  
40 number and amount of each, the date of countersign-  
41 ing, the date when payable and the date of delivery  
42 to the Treasurer of State, who shall keep an account  
43 of each bond showing the number thereof, the name of

1 the person to whom sold, the amount received for the  
2 same, the date of sale and the date when payable.

3 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.

4 The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the  
5 bonds by direction of the Maine Historic Preservation  
6 Commission with the approval of the Governor. The  
7 proceeds of the sales of the bonds, which shall be  
8 held by the Treasurer of State and paid by him upon  
9 warrants drawn by the State Controller at the order  
10 of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission or its  
11 authorized representative, are appropriated to be  
12 used solely for the purposes set forth in this Act.  
13 Any balance unexpended shall not lapse, but shall be  
14 carried forward to the same account to be used only  
15 for the purpose set forth in this Act.

16 4. Proceeds of bonds not available for other pur-  
17 poses; must be separate from other funds. The pro-  
18 ceeds of all bonds issued under the authority of this  
19 Act, and the funds made available for interest and  
20 debt retirement under this Act, shall at all times be  
21 kept distinct from all other moneys of the State and  
22 shall not be drawn upon or be available for any other  
23 purpose.

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

28 6. Disbursement of bond proceeds. The proceeds of  
29 these bonds shall be expended under the direction and  
30 supervision of the Maine Historic Preservation Com-  
31 mission.

32 Sec. 3. Statutory referendum procedure; submis-  
33 sion at statewide election; effective date. This Act  
34 shall be submitted to the legal voters of the State  
35 at a statewide election to be held on the Tuesday  
36 following the first Monday of November following pas-  
37 sage of this Act. The city aldermen, town selectmen  
38 and plantation assessors of this State shall notify  
39 the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and  
40 plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law  
41 for holding a statewide election, to vote on the ac-  
42 ceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the  
43 following question:

1 "Shall a bond issue be ratified in the amount of  
2 \$2,700,000 for stabilizing and restoring the unique  
3 historic structures of the State?"

4 The legal voters of each city, town and  
5 plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and  
6 shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark  
7 placed within a corresponding square below the word  
8 "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received, sorted,  
9 counted and declared in open ward, town and  
10 plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary  
11 of State in the same manner as votes for members of  
12 the Legislature. The Governor shall review the  
13 returns and, if it appears that a majority of the  
14 legal votes are in favor of the Act, the Governor  
15 shall proclaim that fact without delay, and the Act  
16 shall become effective 30 days after the date of the  
17 proclamation.

18 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish  
19 to each city, town and plantation all ballots,  
20 returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out  
21 the purposes of this referendum.

22 STATEMENT OF FACT

23 The funds provided by this bond issue will be  
24 used to protect and preserve the most unique historic  
25 structures of Maine. These structures, which include  
26 forts, mansions, theaters, railroad stations, ships,  
27 lighthouses, meeting halls, foot bridges and more,  
28 contribute significantly to Maine's tourist industry  
29 and serve as a valuable educational resource to the  
30 people of the State. The funds from this bond issue  
31 will secure this important economic and educational  
32 resource while displaying the pride Maine people have  
33 in their rich heritage.

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