

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
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3 ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
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5 Legislative Document

No. 1262

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7 S.P. 415

In Senate, March 17, 1983

8 Submitted by the Department of Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule  
9 24.

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

Presented by Senator Danton of York. JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

11 Cosponsors: Representative Carroll of Limerick and Representative  
Macomber of So. Portland.

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12 STATE OF MAINE  
13

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

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17 AN ACT to Authorize Bond Issue in the  
18 Amount of \$24,600,000 for Highway and  
19 Bridge Improvements to Match Federal Funds  
20 and to Accelerate the Improvement of Town  
21 Way Bridges.  
22

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23 **Preamble.** Two-thirds of both Houses of the  
24 Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with  
25 the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 14, to  
26 authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the  
27 State of Maine to provide funds for the purpose of  
28 improving state highways and bridges and to acceler-  
29 ate the improvement of town way bridges.

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

32 **Sec. 1.** Bond issue of \$24,600,000 author-  
33 ized. In addition to state highway and bridge bonds  
34 heretofore authorized, the Treasurer of State is

1 authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to  
 2 issue from time to time, serial coupon bonds in the  
 3 name and behalf of the State to an amount not exceed-  
 4 ing \$24,600,000 payable serially at the Treasury  
 5 Department within 20 years from date of issue. The  
 6 bonds and coupons shall be of such denomination and  
 7 form and upon such terms and conditions, not incon-  
 8 sistent herewith, as the Governor shall direct. The  
 9 proceeds from the sale of bonds shall be used for  
 10 highway and bridge improvements in accordance with  
 11 allocations made by the Legislature. The bonds shall  
 12 be deemed a pledge of the faith and credit of the  
 13 State. The bonds shall be issued from time to time  
 14 so as to meet the needs of highway and bridge  
 15 improvements. The bonds, when paid at maturity or  
 16 otherwise retired, shall not be reissued, but may be  
 17 refunded on terms more favorable to the State than  
 18 those in the original issue.

19       Sec. 2. Allocation of Highway Fund bond  
 20 issue. Receipt of the Highway Fund for the fiscal  
 21 years, from July 1, 1983, to June 30, 1984, and from  
 22 July 1, 1984, to June 30, 1985, from the proceeds of  
 23 the sale of bonds shall be segregated, apportioned  
 24 and expended as designated in the following schedule:

	<u>1983-84</u>	<u>1984-85</u>
25		
26	<u>Policy Area</u>	
27	Identity Program	
28	Transportation	
29	TRANSPORTATION, DEPART-	
30	MENT OF	
31	Highway-Highway	
32	and Bridge	
33	Improvements	\$10,800,000      \$10,800,000
34	Highway-Town	
35	Way Bridge	
36	Improvements	<u>1,500,000</u> <u>1,500,000</u>
37	Total Allocations	\$12,300,000      \$12,300,000

1           Sec. 3. Contingent upon ratification of bond  
2 issue. Sections 1 and 2 of this Act shall not become  
3 effective unless the people of the State shall have  
4 ratified the issuance of bonds as set forth in this  
5 Act.

6           Sec. 4. Statutory referendum procedure; submis-  
7 sion at statewide election; effective date. This Act  
8 shall be submitted to the legal voters of the State  
9 of Maine at a special statewide election to be held  
10 on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November  
11 following passage of this Act. The city aldermen,  
12 town selectmen and plantation assessors of this State  
13 shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cit-  
14 ies, towns and plantations to meet, in the manner  
15 prescribed by law for holding a statewide election,  
16 to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by  
17 voting on the following question:

18           "Shall a bond issue be ratified in the amount of  
19 \$24,600,000 for bridge and highway improvements?"

20           The legal voters of each city, town and  
21 plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and  
22 shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark  
23 placed within a corresponding square below the word  
24 "Yes" or "No". The ballots shall be received,  
25 sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and  
26 plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary  
27 of State in the same manner as votes for members of  
28 the Legislature. The Governor shall review the  
29 returns and, if it appears that a majority of the  
30 legal votes are in favor of the Act, the Governor  
31 shall proclaim that fact without delay, and the Act  
32 shall become effective 30 days after the date of the  
33 proclamation.

34           The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish  
35 to each city, town and plantation all ballots,  
36 returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out  
37 the purposes of this referendum.

1 STATEMENT OF FACT

2 The funds provided by this bond issue will be  
3 used for highway and bridge improvements throughout  
4 the State. Detailed information regarding the use of  
5 these funds is contained in the department's trans-  
6 portation investment program for 1984 and 1985,  
7 transmitted to the Legislature on February 15, 1983.  
8 During the next 2 years \$21,600,000 will be used to  
9 match approximately \$132,000,000 available federal  
10 funds. These resources, together with local and  
11 other funds in the amount of \$3,600,000 and alloca-  
12 tions from current revenue for highway and bridge  
13 improvements in the amount of \$10,000,000, will  
14 generate a total federally supported program of about  
15 \$167,000,000.

16 In addition, \$3,000,000 are included in the bond  
17 issue which will allow an acceleration of the effort  
18 to improve town way bridges throughout the State.  
19 These funds are to be provided on a 50-50 matching  
20 basis with local communities for this purpose.  
21 Inspection of the nearly 1,000 town-maintained  
22 bridges throughout the State has indicated that over  
23 55% of them are in need of replacement or rehabilita-  
24 tion. These resources will allow a modest beginning  
25 to address this significant problem.

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