MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislati	ive Document				No. 116
S.P. 421				In Senate, M	larch 29, 198
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		JOY	J. O'BRI	EN, Secretary	of the Senat
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of the State to an amount not exceeding \$5,000,000 for the purpose of raising funds to provide for con-struction of an Economic Development and Conference Center as authorized by section 6. The bonds shall be deemed a pledge of the full faith and credit The bonds shall not run for a longer pe-State. riod than 20 years from the date of the original sue of the bonds. Any issuance of bonds may contain a call feature at the discretion of the Treasurer State with the approval of the Governor.

- Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued to be kept by the State Auditor and Treasurer of State. The State Auditor shall keep an account of the bonds, showing the number and amount of each, the date when payable and the date of delivery to the Treasurer of State, who shall keep an account of each bond showing the number, the name of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the same, the date of sale and the date when payable.
- Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated. The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or hypothecated in behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the 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 purposes set forth in this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project in section 6 shall lapse to the debt service account established for the retirement of these bonds.
- Sec. 4. 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.
- Sec. 5. Disbursement of proceeds of bonds. The proceeds of the bonds set out in section 6 shall be expended under the direction and supervision of the Director of Public Improvements.
- Sec. 6. Allocations from General Fund bond issue Economic Development and Conference Center. The

1 proceeds of the sale of bonds shall be expended as 2 designated in the following schedule:

Construction of Economic Development and Conference Center

\$5,000,000

- Sec. 7. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 6 shall not become effective unless and until the people of the State have ratified the issuance of bonds as set forth in this Act.
- Sec. 8. Appropriation balances at year end. At the end of each fiscal year, all unencumbered appropriation balances representing state money shall carry forward from year to year. Any bond proceeds which have not been expended within 10 years after the date of the sale of the bonds shall lapse to General Fund debt service account.
 - Sec. 9. Bonds authorized but not issued. Any bonds authorized but not issued, or for which bond anticipation notes have not been issued within 5 years of the ratification of this Act, shall be deauthorized and may not be issued, provided that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds or bond anticipation notes for an additional amount of time not to exceed 5 years.
 - Sec. 10. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at statewide election; effective date. This Act shall be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a 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:

"Do you favor a \$5,000,000 bond issue for construction of an Economic Development and Conference Center to provide one location for economic development programs, such as

housing, business finance, tourism and job development?"

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 voters 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 funds provided by this bond issue will be used to design, construct, furnish and equip an Economic Development and Conference Center in which to house the various agencies whose primary role is to further economic development in the State. Such a center will aid individuals and companies seeking guidance and financial assistance from the State in the area of economic and tourism development while maximizing the coordination and cooperation of economic development programs. A small conference center incorporated in the planned project would serve both the Economic Development and Conference Center and the Capitol Complex.

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