MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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- cility for construction or operation. The board of 1 2 trustees shall plan and develop these additional homes and may use any funds available for those pur-3 4 poses, except for the Augusta facility's funded depreciation account. The primary purpose of the homes 5 6 shall be to provide support and care for honorably 7 discharged veterans who served in the United States 8 Armed Forces during wartime, including the Korean 9 Conflict and the Viet Nam War.
- 10 Sec. 2. 37-B MRSA §602, sub-§6, as enacted by PL 11 1983, c. 460, §3, is amended to read:
 - 6. Borrow funds. Borrow funds, not in excess of \$1,000,000 \$5,000,000 in the aggregate, make and issue bonds and negotiate notes and other evidences indebtedness or obligations of the veterans' home for prudent and reasonable capital, operational and maintenance purposes. The home may secure payments of all or part of the obligations by pledge of part of the revenues or assets of the home which are available for pledge and which may be lawfully pledged or by mortgage of part, or all, of any property owned by The home may do all lawful things necesthe home. sary and incidental to those powers. The home may borrow money from the Federal Government and its agencies, from state agencies and from any other source. The home may borrow money from the State subject to approval by the Treasurer of State and the Governor. Bonds, notes and other evidences of debtedness issued under this subsection shall not be deemed to constitute debts of the State, nor a pledge of the credit of the State, but shall be payable solely from the funds of the home; and
- 33 Sec. 3. 37-B MRSA §603, as amended by PL 1983, 34 c. 812, §285, is further amended to read:

35 §603. Board of trustees

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The administration of the home homes is vested in the Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Home Homes, as authorized by Title 5, section 12004, subsection 8. The board shall consist of 9 10 members, one of whom shall be the Director of the Bureau of Veterans' Services, ex officio, who shall serve with-

out term. The Governor shall appoint the remaining trustees, who shall be honorably discharged war vet-erans. One member shall be appointed from and shall represent each of the largest veterans' organiza-tions, not exceeding 5, which are nationally chartered and have a department in Maine. The re-maining members shall be appointed at large and shall serve staggered 3-year terms. The membership shall be distributed across the State so that 3 reside in the southern part of the State, 3 in the central part and 3 in the northern part. In the event of a vacancy, the successor shall be appointed to complete the un-expired term. Each trustee shall continue to hold office until his successor is appointed and quali-fied.

Sec. 4. Budget request. The Department of Human Services shall include in its current services budgets, beginning in the first year of projected operation of each additional veterans' home authorized under this Act, adequate funds to support Medicaid's share of patient care expenses for up to 180 beds, provided that no more than 50 of these beds shall be funded prior to 1990.

24 STATEMENT OF FACT

This new draft provides for the establishment of 2 new veterans' homes, one 120-bed home in southern Maine and one not to exceed 60 beds in Aroostook County. The homes may only be built if there are federal Veterans' Administration funds to cover part of the cost of construction or operation of each home. Veterans' Administration subsidy qualifies as federal Veterans' Administration funds available for operation. Under the present federal law, until such time as the federal law changes, the Veterans' Administration subsidy will offset Medicaid expenditures.

The combined borrowing authority for the 3 homes is raised from \$1,000,000 to \$5,000,000.

The governing board of the homes is renamed the "Board of Trustees of the Maine Veterans' Homes."

The membership is expanded to 10 and it is specified

1	that th	ne Gov	ernor	shall	insur	e that	members	of	the
2	board	shall	be	distr	ibuted	across	the Sta	te wi	th 3
3	coming	from	the s	outher	n part	of the	State,	3	from
4	the cer	ntral	part	and 3	from t	he north	hern par	t.	

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