

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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114th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION - 1989

Legislative Document

No. 712

H.P. 527

House of Representatives, March 8, 1989

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Ed Pert

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative KETOVER of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator GILL of Cumberland.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-NINE

**An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of
\$10,000,000 to Develop a Statewide Enhanced 9-1-1 Emergency
Telephone System.**



1 **Preamble.** Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature
3 deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of
5 Maine, Article IX, Section 14, to authorize the issuance of bonds
7 on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds for the
9 development of an Enhanced 9-1-1 emergency system.

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

13 **Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds to provide for an Enhanced 9-1-1**
15 **emergency telephone system.** The Treasurer of State is authorized,
17 under the direction of the Governor, to issue from time to time
19 registered bonds in the name and behalf of the State to an amount
21 not exceeding \$10,000,000 for the purpose of raising funds to
23 provide for the establishment of an E-9-1-1 system as authorized
25 by section 6. The bonds shall be deemed a pledge of the full
27 faith and credit of the State. The bonds shall not run for a
29 period longer than 20 years from the date of the original issue
31 of the bonds. Any issuance of bonds may contain a call feature
33 at the discretion of the Treasurer of State with the approval of
35 the Governor.

37 **Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued to be kept by the State Auditor and**
39 **Treasurer of State.** The State Auditor shall keep an account of the
41 bonds, showing the number and amount of each, the date when
43 payable and the date of delivery of the bonds to the Treasurer of
45 State who shall keep an account of each bond showing the number
47 of the bond, the name of the successful bidder to whom sold, the
49 amount received for the same, the date of sale and the date when
51 payable.

53 **Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The
55 Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by
57 direction of the Governor, but no such bond may be loaned,
59 pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of
61 the sale of the bonds, which shall be held by the Treasurer of
63 State and paid by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by
65 the State Controller, are appropriated to be used solely for the
67 purposes set forth in this Act. Any unencumbered balances
69 remaining at the completion of the project in section 6 shall
71 lapse to the debt service account established for the retirement
73 of these bonds.

75 **Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement.** Interest due or accruing
77 upon any bonds issued under this Act and all sums coming due for
79 payment of bonds at maturity shall be paid by the Treasurer of
81 State.

83 **Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of the
85 bonds set out in section 6 shall be expended under the direction
87 and supervision of the Commissioner of Public Safety.

1 **Sec. 6. Allocations from General Fund bond issue; E-9-1-1 system.**
2 The proceeds of the sale of bonds shall be expended as designated
3 in the following schedule.

5 E-9-1-1 \$10,000,000

7 **Sec. 7. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 6
8 shall not become effective unless and until the people of the
9 State have ratified the issuance of bonds as set forth in this
10 Act.

11 **Sec. 8. Appropriation balances at year end.** At the end of each
12 fiscal year, all unencumbered appropriation balances representing
13 state money shall carry forward from year to year. Bond proceeds
14 which have not been expended within 10 years after the date of
15 the sale of the bonds shall lapse to General Fund debt service.

16 **Sec. 9. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized
17 but not issued, or for which bond anticipation notes have not
18 been issued within 5 years of ratification of this Act, shall be
19 deauthorized and may not be issued, provided that the Legislature
20 may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period,
21 extend the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds or
22 bond anticipation notes for an additional amount of time not to
23 exceed 5 years.
24

25 **Sec. 10. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at statewide
26 election; form of question; effective date.** This Act shall be submitted
27 to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a statewide election
28 to be held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November
29 following passage of this Act. The city aldermen, town selectmen
30 and plantation assessors of this State shall notify the
31 inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and plantations to
32 meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide
33 election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by
34 voting on the following question:

35 "Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue to develop a
36 statewide Enhanced 9-1-1 emergency telephone system which
37 would make it easier for you to contact police, fire and
38 ambulance services?"
39

40 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall
41 vote by ballot on this question and shall designate their choice
42 by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
43 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots shall be received,
44 sorted, counted or declared in open ward, town and plantation
45 meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same
46 manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor
47 shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of
48 the legal voters are in favor of the Act, the Governor shall
49
50
51

1 proclaim that fact without delay, and the Act shall become
2 effective 30 days after the date of the proclamation.

3

4 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each
5 city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this
6 Act necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.

7

8 STATEMENT OF FACT

9

10 The voters have approved the establishment of a statewide
11 Enhanced 9-1-1 emergency telephone system for Maine. This system
12 will provide the citizens of Maine quicker and easier access to
13 police, fire and ambulance services. It will also provide those
14 services with vital information about the location of emergencies
15 so that they may be able to respond more quickly. A bond issue
16 of \$3,200,000 was authorized to begin the development of the
17 system. This bill will provide an additional \$10,000,000 for a
18 total of \$13,200,000, the total cost for the statewide system
19 estimated by the 9-1-1 study commission in its December 1987
 report.