

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

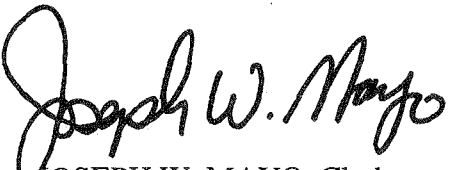
No. 465

H.P. 343

House of Representatives, January 23, 1997

**An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Improve Indoor Air
Quality in Public Schools.**

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


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative GAGNON of Waterville.
Cosponsored by Senator DAGGETT of Kennebec and
Representatives: COLWELL of Gardiner, MADORE of Augusta.

2 **Preamble.** Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature
3 deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of
4 Maine, Article IX, Section 14, to authorize the issuance of bonds
5 on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds for improvements
6 in indoor air quality within Maine's public schools.

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

8
9 **Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds to provide for improvements in indoor**
10 **air quality within Maine's public schools.** The Treasurer of State is
11 authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds
12 in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding
13 \$10,000,000 to raise funds for improvements in indoor air quality
14 within Maine's public schools, including offsetting debt already
15 incurred by school administrative units to improve indoor air
16 quality, as authorized by section 6. The bonds are a pledge of
17 the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run
18 for a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original
19 issue of the bonds. At the discretion of the Treasurer of State,
20 with the approval of the Governor, any issuance of bonds may
21 contain a call feature.

22 **Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued to be kept by the Treasurer of State.**
23 The Treasurer of State shall keep an account of each bond showing
24 the number of the bond, the name of the successful bidder to whom
25 sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale and the
26 date when payable.

27 **Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The
28 Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by
29 direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or
30 hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of
31 the bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid
32 by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State
33 Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in
34 this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion
35 of the project in section 6 lapse to the debt service account
36 established for the retirement of these bonds.

37 **Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State
38 shall pay interest due or accruing on any bonds issued under this
39 Act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity.

40 **Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of the
41 bonds must be expended as set out in section 6 under the
42 direction and supervision of the Department of Education.

Sec. 6. Allocations from General Fund bond issue; Department of Education. The proceeds of the sale of bonds must be expended as designated in the following schedule.

1997-98

EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF

\$10,000,000

Improvements in indoor air quality within Maine's public schools including offsetting debt already incurred by school administrative units to improve indoor air quality.

Sec. 7. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 6 do not become effective unless 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 carry forward. Bond proceeds that have not been expended within 10 years after the date of the sale of the bonds lapse to General Fund debt service.

Sec. 9. Bonds authorized but not issued. Any bonds authorized but not issued, or for which bond anticipation notes are not issued within 5 years of ratification of this Act, are deauthorized and may not be issued; except 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. Referendum for ratification; submission at statewide election; form of question; effective date. This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a statewide election held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following passage of this Act. The municipal officers 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 \$10,000,000 bond issue to make improvements in indoor air quality within Maine's public schools?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall

2 vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a
3 cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below
4 the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted,
5 counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings
6 and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as
7 votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review
8 the returns and, if a majority of the legal votes are cast in
9 favor of the Act, the Governor shall proclaim the result without
10 delay, and the Act becomes effective 30 days after the date of
11 the proclamation.

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

16 SUMMARY

18 The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of
20 \$10,000,000, will be used to make improvements in indoor air
21 quality within Maine's public schools including offsetting debt
22 already incurred by school administrative units to improve indoor
23 air quality.
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