

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 54

DATE: 4-29-99

(Filing No. H-324)

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 40, L.D. 54, "Resolve, to Authorize the Knox County Commissioners to Borrow Not More Than \$600,000 to Build the Knox County Communications Center"

Amend the resolve by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'Resolve, to Authorize the Knox County Commissioners to Hold a Referendum Election in November 1999 to Borrow Not More than \$500,000 to Construct the Knox County Communications Center'

Further amend the resolve by striking out everything after the title and inserting in its place the following:

Mandate preamble. This measure requires one or more local units of government to expand or modify activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues but does not provide funding for at least 90% of those expenditures. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 21, two thirds of all of the members elected to each House have determined it necessary to enact this measure.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, Knox County has limited space to provide for a necessary communications and 9-1-1 system; and

Whereas, the need exists for an expanded communications system in Knox County; and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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2 **Whereas,** the county commissioners must begin the necessary
preparation of the ballot to be presented to voters of Knox
County; and

4
6 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts
create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of
Maine and require the following legislation as immediately
8 necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and
safety; now, therefore, be it

10 **Sec. 1. To authorize the borrowing of money. Resolved:** That the
12 Knox County commissioners are authorized to borrow and expend a
sum not to exceed \$500,000 for construction or renovations of a
14 communications and 9-1-1 center located in Knox County; and be it
further

16
18 **Sec. 2. Referendum for ratification. Resolved:** That this resolve
must be submitted to the legal voters of Knox County. The dates
of submission must be determined by the Knox County
20 commissioners, but may not be later than 18 months after
adjournment of the Legislature. The Knox County commissioners
22 are authorized to expend the funds necessary to implement the
referendum.

24
26 The county commissioners shall cause the preparation of the
required ballots on which the county commissioners shall state
the subject matter of this resolve in the following question:

28 Do you favor authorizing the Knox County commissioners to
30 borrow an amount not to exceed \$500,000 for construction of
the Knox County Communications Center?

32
34 The voters shall indicate by a cross or a check mark placed
against the words Yes or No their opinion of the question.

36 This resolve takes effect immediately upon its acceptance by
a majority of the legal voters voting at the election if the
38 total number of votes cast for and against the acceptance of this
resolve equals or exceeds 30% of the total votes for all
40 candidates for Governor cast in the most recent gubernatorial
election in the county. If at the first election the total
42 number of votes for and against acceptance of this resolve is
less than 30% of the total votes for all candidates for Governor
44 cast in the most recent gubernatorial election, the county
commissioners may submit the question to voters not more than one
46 other time within the time prescribed in this section; and be it
further

48
50 **Sec. 3. Emergency clause referenda; effective date. Resolved:** That
in view of the emergency cited in the preamble,

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2 this resolve takes effect when approved only for the purpose of
3 permitting its submission to the legal voters of Knox County.'

4 Further amend the resolve by inserting at the end before the
5 summary the following:

8 **FISCAL NOTE**

10 This resolve requires the Knox County commissioners to hold
11 a referendum concerning the construction of the Knox County
12 Communications Center. The costs of this referendum to Knox
13 County can not be determined at this time. Pursuant to the
14 Mandate Preamble, the two-thirds vote of all members elected to
15 each House exempts the State from the constitutional requirement
16 to fund 90% of the additional local costs.'

18 **SUMMARY**

20 This amendment changes the title, reduces the bond issue
21 amount to be borrowed from \$600,000 to \$500,000 and authorizes
22 the Knox County commissioners to hold a countywide referendum on
23 the bond issue to build the Knox County Communications Center.
24