

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

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Legislative Document

No. 990

S.P. 336

In Senate, February 4, 1999

**An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Reduce Household Hazardous Waste and Mercury Contamination and to Increase Recycling of Municipal Solid Waste through Investment in Capital Equipment and Collection Programs in the Amount of \$2,000,000.**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Joy J. O'Brien'.

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TREAT of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Representative SHIAH of Bowdoinham and  
Senators: LONGLEY of Waldo, MICHAUD of Penobscot, NUTTING of Androscoggin,  
Representatives: COLWELL of Gardiner, COWGER of Hallowell, DAIGLE of Arundel,  
DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, MADORE of Augusta.

2           **Preamble.** Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature  
deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of  
4           Maine, Article IX, Section 14, to authorize the issuance of bonds  
on behalf of the State of Maine to raise funds for the reduction  
6           of household hazardous waste and to increase recycling of  
municipal solid waste.

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

10           **Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds to provide for the reduction of**  
12           **household hazardous waste and to increase recycling of municipal solid**  
14           **waste.** The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the direction  
of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the  
16           State in an amount not exceeding \$2,000,000 to raise funds for  
the reduction of household hazardous waste and to increase  
18           recycling of municipal solid waste as authorized by section 6.  
The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the  
20           State. The bonds may not run for a period longer than 5 years  
from the date of the original issue of the bonds. At the  
discretion of the Treasurer of State, with the approval of the  
Governor, any issuance of bonds may contain a call feature.

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

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

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

44           **Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of the  
bonds must be expended as set out in section 6 under the  
46           direction and supervision of the State Planning Office and the  
Department of Environmental Protection for the reduction of  
48           household hazardous waste and to increase recycling of municipal  
solid waste.



2           **Sec. 10. Referendum for ratification; submission at statewide**  
3           **election; form of question; effective date.** This Act must be submitted  
4           to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a statewide election  
5           held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November  
6           following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this  
7           State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities,  
8           towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law  
9           for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or  
10          rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

12                 "Do you favor a \$2,000,000 bond issue for municipal  
13                 recycling grants and other programs to improve recycling and  
14                 reduce hazardous waste contamination?"

16                 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall  
17                 vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a  
18                 cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below  
19                 the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted,  
20                 counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings  
21                 and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as  
22                 votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review  
23                 the returns and, if a majority of the legal votes are cast in  
24                 favor of the Act, the Governor shall proclaim the result without  
25                 delay, and the Act becomes effective 30 days after the date of  
26                 the proclamation.

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

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### SUMMARY

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36                 The bill authorizes a General Fund bond issue in the amount  
37                 of \$2,000,000 to reduce household hazardous waste and mercury  
38                 contamination and to increase recycling of municipal solid waste.

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40                 The amount of \$1,500,000 will be provided to the State  
41                 Planning Office to provide funds for the municipal recycling  
42                 capital grants program to be used for the purchase of recycling  
43                 and other equipment and construction in order to increase  
44                 recycling; and for programs to reduce hazardous materials in the  
45                 waste stream through source separation, collection and return to  
46                 manufacturers, recycling or proper disposal. The remaining  
47                 \$500,000 will be allocated to the Department of Environmental  
48                 Protection to provide funds to establish regional household  
                hazardous waste and mercury collection programs, including  
                battery collection.