

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

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Legislative Document

No. 228

H.P. 187

House of Representatives, January 23, 2003

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**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of  
\$20,000,000 To Provide Maine's 7 Technical Colleges with Essential  
Facilities Improvements and Classroom Equipment**

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

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Speaker COLWELL of Gardiner.  
Cosponsored by President DAGGETT of Kennebec and  
Representatives: BRANNIGAN of Portland, BRUNO of Raymond, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor,  
MILLETT of Waterford, RICHARDSON of Brunswick, Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis,  
KNEELAND of Aroostook, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.

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 as described in  
6           this Act,

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

8  
9           **Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is  
10          authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds  
11          in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding  
12          \$20,000,000 to raise funds for providing Maine's 7 technical  
13          colleges with essential facilities improvements and classroom  
14          equipment as authorized by this Act. The bonds are a pledge of  
15          the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run  
16          for a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original  
17          issue of the bonds. At the discretion of the Treasurer of State,  
18          with the approval of the Governor, any issuance of bonds may  
19          contain a call feature.

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

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

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

38          **Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of the  
39          bonds must be expended as set out in this Act under the direction  
40          and supervision of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Technical  
41          College System.

42          **Sec. 6. Allocations from General Fund bond issue.** The proceeds  
43          of the sale of the bonds must be expended as designated in the  
44          following schedule.

2	<b>CENTRAL MAINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE</b>	
4	To make repairs, upgrades and other	\$2,576,105
6	facility improvements, enhance	
8	access to facilities for students	
	with disabilities and update classroom	
	equipment.	
10	<b>EASTERN MAINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE</b>	
12	To make repairs, upgrades and other	\$5,556,692
14	facility improvements, enhance	
16	access to facilities for students	
	with disabilities and update classroom	
	equipment.	
18	<b>KENNEBEC VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE</b>	
20	To make repairs, upgrades and other	\$1,230,163
22	facility improvements, enhance	
24	access to facilities for students	
	with disabilities and update classroom	
	equipment.	
26	<b>NORTHERN MAINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE</b>	
28	To make repairs, upgrades and other	\$1,505,104
30	facility improvements, enhance	
32	access to facilities for students	
	with disabilities and update classroom	
	equipment.	
34	<b>SOUTHERN MAINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE</b>	
36	To make repairs, upgrades and other	\$7,079,380
38	facility improvements, enhance	
40	access to facilities for students	
	with disabilities and update classroom	
	equipment.	
42	<b>WASHINGTON COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE</b>	
44	To make repairs, upgrades and other	\$1,552,556
46	facility improvements, enhance	
48	access to facilities for students	
	with disabilities and update classroom	
	equipment.	

2       **YORK COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

4           To make repairs, upgrades and other                                       \$500,000  
5           facility improvements, enhance  
6           access to facilities for students  
7           with disabilities and update classroom  
8           equipment.

10          **Sec. 7. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to  
11          6 do not become effective unless the people of the State ratify  
12          the issuance of the bonds as set forth in this Act.

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

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

28          **Sec. 10. Referendum for ratification; submission at statewide**  
29          **election; form of question; effective date.** This Act must be submitted  
30          to the legal voters of the State at a statewide election held on  
31          the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following  
32          passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall  
33          notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and  
34          plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding  
35          a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of  
36          this Act by voting on the following question:

37                        "Do you favor a \$20,000,000 bond issue for Maine's 7  
38                        technical colleges for essential facility improvements and  
39                        to upgrade instructional equipment?"

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

2 the returns and, if a majority of the legal votes are cast in  
3 favor of this Act, the Governor shall proclaim the result without  
4 delay, and this Act becomes effective 30 days after the date of  
5 the proclamation.

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

10 **SUMMARY**

12 The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of  
14 \$20,000,000, will be used to provide essential facilities  
16 improvements and classroom equipment for the State's 7 technical  
colleges.