

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 582

H.P. 445

House of Representatives, February 11, 2003

**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of
\$50,000,000 To Fund Renovating or Replacing Civic Centers
Statewide**

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

Millicent M. MacFarland
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND
Clerk

Presented by Representative BULL of Freeport.
Cosponsored by Senator YOUNGBLOOD of Penobscot and
Representatives: BARSTOW of Gorham, BLANCHETTE of Bangor, LERMAN of Augusta,
MARLEY of Portland, NORTON of Bangor, PERRY of Bangor, SUSLOVIC of Portland,
Senator: STRIMLING of Cumberland.

2 **Preamble.** Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature
4 deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of
6 Maine, Article IX, Section 14 to authorize the issuance of bonds
8 on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds as described in
10 this Act,

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

14 **Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is
16 authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds
18 in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding
20 \$50,000,000 to raise funds for renovating or replacing civic
22 centers statewide as authorized by this Act. The bonds are a
24 pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may
26 not run for a period longer than 10 years from the date of the
28 original issue of the bonds. At the discretion of the Treasurer
30 of State, with the approval of the Governor, any issuance of
32 bonds may contain a call feature.

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

44 **Sec. 3. Sale: how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The
46 Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by
48 direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or
50 hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of
52 the bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid
54 by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State
56 Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in
58 this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion
60 of the project in this Act lapse to the debt service account
62 established for the retirement of these bonds.

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

70 **Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of the
72 bonds must be expended as set out in this Act under the direction
74 and supervision of the county commissioners of each county.

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

82 **Department of Economic and Community Development**

2 To address the issue of substandard \$50,000,000
and antiquated county civic centers
4 across the State by renovating or
replacing civic centers in each
6 county.

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

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

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

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

36 "Do you favor a \$50,000,000 bond issue to fund renovating or
38 replacing civic centers statewide?"

40 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall
vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a
42 cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below
the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted,
44 counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings
and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as
46 votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review
the returns and, if a majority of the legal votes are cast in
48 favor of this Act, the Governor shall proclaim the result without

2 delay, and this Act becomes effective 30 days after the date of
the proclamation.

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

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SUMMARY

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12 The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of
\$50,000,000, will be used to fund renovating or replacing civic
centers statewide.