# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the

LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY

at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library

http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied (searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



## 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

**Legislative Document** 

No. 1591

S.P. 546

In Senate, April 30, 2003

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$13,300,000 To Address Health, Safety and Compliance Deficiencies in the University of Maine System; To Expedite the Creation of a Community College System; To Make Improvements to State Parks; To Make Cultural Improvements; and To Modernize the State Court System

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

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRENNAN of Cumberland. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)
Cosponsored by Representative BRANNIGAN of Portland and
Senator: MITCHELL of Penobscot, Representatives: CUMMINGS of Portland, FINCH of
Fairfield, LEDWIN of Holden.

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

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

Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds. The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding \$13,300,000 to raise funds to address health, safety and compliance deficiencies in the University of Maine System; to expedite the creation of a community college system; to make improvements to state parks; to make cultural improvements; and to modernize the state court system as authorized by this Act. The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a period longer than 10 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.

Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued kept by Treasurer of State. 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 sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale and the date when payable.

Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated. The Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or 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 by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project in this Act lapse to the debt service account established for the retirement of these bonds.

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

Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds. The proceeds of the bonds must be expended as set out in this Act under the direction and supervision of the University of Maine System, the Maine Technical College System, the Department of Conservation, the Maine Cultural Affairs Council and the state court system.

2	Sec. 6. Allocations from General Fund bond issue. To of the sale of the bonds must be expended as design following schedule.	he proceeds ated in the
<b>4</b>	UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM	
. 6		
8	Upgrade health and safety features in laboratory buildings at the University of Maine campuses at Farmington, Machias	\$4,000,000
10	and Presque Isle and the University of Southern Maine campus	
12	Southern Marne Campus	
14	MAINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM	
14	Campuswide infrastructure and	\$2,000,000
16	technology investments needed to	4-,0-0,0-0
	transition to the Maine Community	•
18	College System	
20	DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION	
22	Make improvements to state parks	\$2,000,000
24	MAINE CULTURAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL	- -
26	Maine Arts Commission	\$ 550,000
	Maine Historic Preservation Commission	\$ 500,000
28	Maine State Library	\$1,500,000
	Maine State Museum	\$ 250,000
30	Maine Historical Society	\$ 500,000
	Maine State Archives	\$ 200,000
32	Maine Humanities Council	\$ 500,000
34	STATE COURT SYSTEM	
36	Rebuild the violation bureau information system	\$ 300,000
38	Install video conferencing facilities	\$1,000,000
40	Total	\$13,300,000
42	Sec. 7. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to	
44	6 do not become effective unless the people of the S the issuance of the bonds as set forth in this Act.	tate ratify
46	Sec. 8. Appropriation balances at year-end. At the	
48	fiscal year, all unencumbered appropriation balances a state money carry forward. Bond proceeds that have	
50	expended within 10 years after the date of the sale of 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.

R

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 at a statewide election held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of June 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 \$13,300,000 bond issue to address health, safety and compliance deficiencies in the University of Maine System; to expedite the creation of a community college system; to make improvements to state parks; to make cultural improvements; and to modernize the state court system?"

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

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

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

#### **SUMMARY**

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$13,300,000, will be used for the following purposes:

2	1. The sum of \$4,000,000 to address health, safety and
	compliance deficiencies in the University of Maine System;
4	
	2. The sum of \$2,000,000 to expedite the creation of a
6	community college system;
8	3. The sum of \$2,000,000 to make improvements to state parks;
LO	paras,
	4. The sum of \$4,000,000 to make cultural improvements; and
12	
	5. The sum of \$1,300,000 to modernize the state court
L <b>4</b>	system.