

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

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Legislative Document

No. 858

S.P. 268

February 23, 2007

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**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the University  
of Maine for Research and Development**

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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 TURNER of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative CAIN of Orono and  
Senators: DOW of Lincoln, SCHNEIDER of Penobscot, STRIMLING of Cumberland,  
Representatives: FISCHER of Presque Isle, GILES of Belfast, RECTOR of Thomaston,  
STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland.

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

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

6       **Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the  
7 direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an  
8 amount not exceeding \$66,214,500 for the purposes described in section 6 of this Act.  
9 The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for  
10 a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds. At the  
11 discretion of the Treasurer of State, with the approval of the Governor, any issuance of  
12 bonds may contain a call feature.

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

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

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

27       **Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of the bonds must be  
28 expended as set out in this Act under the direction and supervision of the University of  
29 Maine System.

30       **Sec. 6. Allocations from General Fund bond issue.** The proceeds of the sale  
31 of the bonds authorized under this Act must be expended as designated in the following  
32 schedule.

1	<b>UNIVERSITY OF MAINE</b>	
2		
3	Provides funds for biotechnology: to	\$10,775,000
4	build-out and renovate biology	
5	laboratories in Hitchner, Murray and	
6	Aubert halls to support growth and	
7	expansion of research and development	
8	partnerships such as genomics and	
9	Graduate School of Biomedical Science	
10	research programs.	
11		
12	Provides funds for aquaculture and	\$10,285,000
13	marine sciences: a building match for	
14	USDA National Marine Cold Water	
15	Aquaculture Research Center matching	
16	funds.	
17		
18	Provides funds for information	\$6,750,000
19	technology: Information technology and	
20	new media, training and research facility	
21	in Alumni Hall and for the Universal	
22	Design and Inclusive Technology	
23	Research and Development Center.	
24		
25	Provides funds for environmental	\$6,000,000
26	technology: Environmentally Sustainable	
27	Product Development and Evaluation	
28	Center.	
29		
30	Provides funds for precision	\$2,500,000
31	manufacturing: a laboratory for surface	
32	science technology nanotechnology and	
33	nanofabrication laboratory equipment.	
34		
35	Provides funds for advanced materials	\$7,000,000
36	and composites: oriented strand lumber	
37	pilot line at the Advanced Engineer Wood	
38	Composites Center forest bioproducts	
39	facility and pilot plant.	
40		

1 Provides funds for forestry and \$9,904,500  
2 agriculture: plant propagation and growth  
3 chambers, Island Falls pilot plant upgrade  
4 and the new Maine Animal Diagnostic  
5 Laboratory facility and equipment.

6  
7 **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN**  
8 **MAINE**

9  
10 Provides funds for biotechnology: for the \$11,500,000  
11 building and outfitting of the 3 floors of  
12 the biosciences wing in the Portland  
13 Science Building, for the Complete  
14 Electron Microscope Core Facility, for  
15 the equipment and outfitting of the Maine  
16 Center for Toxicology and Environmental  
17 Health (MCTEH) Laboratory and for  
18 equipment and outfitting of the Aquatic  
19 Phytoremediation Laboratory.

20  
21 Provides funds for information \$1,500,000  
22 technology: For Marine Informatics  
23 equipment, for the University of Southern  
24 Maine Aquatic Systems Group located at  
25 the Gulf of Maine Research Institute, for  
26 hardware and software for the Field  
27 Information System (FIS) Laboratory, for  
28 the outfitting of the Design Science  
29 Laboratory and for the Geographic  
30 Information System (GIS) Laboratory for  
31 laboratory upgrades for computer storage,  
32 data storage and ancillary equipment.

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

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

40 **Sec. 9. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not issued,  
41 or for which bond anticipation notes are not issued within 5 years of ratification of this  
42 Act, are deauthorized and may not be issued, except that the Legislature may, within 2  
43 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend the period for issuing any

1 remaining unissued bonds or bond anticipation notes for an additional amount of time not  
2 to exceed 5 years.

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

10 "Do you favor a \$66,214,500 bond issue to be used for research and  
11 development purposes by the University of Maine System for  
12 biotechnology, aquaculture, information technology, precision  
13 manufacturing, forestry and agriculture and geographic information  
14 systems for strategic economic development?"

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

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

26 **SUMMARY**

27 The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$66,214,500, are to be used  
28 for research and development purposes by the University of Maine System for  
29 biotechnology, aquaculture, information technology, precision manufacturing, forestry  
30 and agriculture and geographic information systems for strategic economic development.