

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 318

S.P. 106

In Senate, January 31, 2017

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Support Economic Development with High-Resolution Geospatial Data

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Heather J.R. Priest".

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin.
Cosponsored by Representative BLACK of Wilton and
Senator: BREEN of Cumberland, Representatives: COOPER of Yarmouth, NADEAU of
Winslow, TUELL of East Machias, WADSWORTH of Hiram.

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 \$6,000,000 for the purposes described in section 6 of this Act. The
9 bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a
10 period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

11 **Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State.** The Treasurer of State
12 shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the
13 name of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of
14 sale and the date when payable.

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

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

26 **Sec. 5. Use of bonds.** Bond proceeds may be used for geospatial data acquisition
27 in support of statewide economic development activities. Funds will be used for
28 acquiring elevation, orthoimagery, parcel mapping and other geospatial data important to
29 the State. The use of bond proceeds is subject to the following conditions and
30 requirements.

31 1. The Maine Library of Geographic Information Board, established in the Maine
32 Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 30-B, shall approve all applications
33 for data acquisition and ensure that all bond funds are matched by at least one dollar from
34 other sources for every bond dollar committed to data acquisition.

35 2. The Maine Library of Geographic Information Board, established in the Maine
36 Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 30-B, shall develop a parcel
37 mapping grant program for counties and municipalities to improve the coverage and
38 update status and accuracy levels of the Maine Library of Geographic Information parcel
39 data.

1 3. Bond funds may be used to acquire geographic information systems base map data
2 and other multipurpose data not specific to any state agency.

3 **Sec. 6. Disbursement of bond proceeds from General Fund bond issue.**
4 The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Act must be expended as
5 designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies
6 and entities set forth in this section.

7 **ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL**
8 **SERVICES, DEPARTMENT OF**

9 With approval of the Maine Library of Geographic Information Board, established in
10 the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12004-G, subsection 30-B, provides funds
11 to invest in geospatial data acquisition projects throughout the State in a fashion that
12 supports and enhances economic activity, environmental protection and quality of life
13 for the people of the State.

14
15 Total \$6,000,000

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

19 **Sec. 8. Appropriation balances at year-end.** At the end of each fiscal year, all
20 unencumbered appropriation balances representing state money carry forward. Bond
21 proceeds that have not been expended within 10 years after the date of the sale of the
22 bonds lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general
23 obligation bonds.

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

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

35 "Do you favor a \$6,000,000 bond issue to provide partnership funds and
36 matching grants for geospatial data acquisition to communities that are
37 creating or improving digital parcel maps to accurately identify existing
38 boundaries and land use, identify potential community development
39 areas and protect environmental resources?"

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. 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.

SUMMARY

The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$6,000,000, will be used to provide partnership funds and matching grants for geospatial data acquisition to communities that are creating or improving digital parcel maps to accurately identify existing boundaries and land use, identify potential community development areas and protect environmental resources.