

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 1511

H.P. 1035

House of Representatives, April 25, 2017

**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Protection
of Public Health and Marine Resources and To Achieve Cost
Savings in State Facilities Owned by the Department of Marine
Resources**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R(t) B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative PIERCE of Dresden. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

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 \$2,373,000 for the purposes described in section 5 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. Disbursement of bond proceeds from General Fund bond issue.**
27 The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Act must be expended as
28 designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies
29 and entities set forth in this section.

30 **MARINE RESOURCES,**
31 **DEPARTMENT OF**

32 Provides funds for a heating, ventilation and cooling system and energy-cost recovery
33 improvements at the Department of Marine Resources' laboratory at Boothbay
34 Harbor.

35
36 Total \$428,000

37 Provides funds to expand parking and repave deteriorating parking lots at the
38 Department of Marine Resources' laboratory at Boothbay Harbor.

1		
2	Total	\$200,000
3	Provides funds for energy-saving lighting improvements in the biochemistry building	
4	at the Department of Marine Resources' laboratory at Boothbay Harbor.	
5		
6	Total	\$15,000
7	Provides funds for roof replacement in the biochemistry building and carpentry shop	
8	at the Department of Marine Resources' laboratory at Boothbay Harbor.	
9		
10	Total	\$90,000
11	Provides funds for biosecurity and electrical cost recovery upgrades to the seawater	
12	wet laboratory at the Department of Marine Resources' laboratory at Boothbay	
13	Harbor to allow for safe research on contaminated organisms.	
14		
15	Total	\$900,000
16	Provides funds for roof replacement at the Department of Marine Resources'	
17	laboratory at Lamoine.	
18		
19	Total	\$15,000
20	Provides funds to replace a water treatment system in the microbiology laboratory at	
21	the Department of Marine Resources' laboratory at Lamoine to ensure compliance	
22	with the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.	
23		
24	Total	\$20,000
25	Provides funds for deep-freezer capacity at the microbiology laboratory at the	
26	Department of Marine Resources' laboratory at Lamoine.	
27		
28	Total	\$20,000
29	Provides funds to replace critical sample processing equipment for the bureau of	
30	public health within the Department of Marine Resources to ensure compliance with	
31	the National Shellfish Sanitation Program at the Department of Marine Resources'	
32	laboratory at Boothbay Harbor.	
33		
34	Total	\$50,000

1 Provides funds for sampling vessel replacement for the bureau of public health within
2 the Department of Marine Resources.

3
4 Total \$35,000

5 Provides funds for a 48-foot marine patrol vessel to increase offshore enforcement for
6 Maine's lobster fishery.

7
8 Total \$600,000

9 **Sec. 6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 5 do not
10 become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set
11 forth in this Act.

12 **Sec. 7. Appropriation balances at year-end.** At the end of each fiscal year, all
13 unencumbered appropriation balances representing state money carry forward. Bond
14 proceeds that have not been expended within 10 years after the date of the sale of the
15 bonds lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general
16 obligation bonds.

17 **Sec. 8. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not issued
18 within 5 years of ratification of this Act are deauthorized and may not be issued, except
19 that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend
20 the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds for an additional amount of time not
21 to exceed 5 years.

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

28 "Do you favor a \$2,373,000 bond issue to protect public health while
29 preserving access to marine resources for commercial and recreational
30 harvest, to ensure effective enforcement of marine resource laws and to
31 achieve cost savings at state facilities of the Department of Marine
32 Resources?"

33 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question
34 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
35 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and
36 declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of
37 State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall
38 review the returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Act, the

1 Governor shall proclaim the result without delay and this Act becomes effective 30 days
2 after the date of the proclamation.

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

6 **SUMMARY**

7 The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$2,373,000, will be used to
8 protect public health while preserving access to marine resources for commercial and
9 recreational harvest, ensure effective enforcement of the marine resources laws and
10 achieve cost savings at state facilities of the Department of Marine Resources.