# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## 129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

### FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

**Legislative Document** 

No. 1123

S.P. 343

In Senate, March 7, 2019

### An Act Regarding Telecommunications Infrastructure Costs

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

DAREK M. GRANT Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BLACK of Franklin.
Cosponsored by Representative LANDRY of Farmington and

Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DILL of Penobscot, President JACKSON of Aroostook, Representatives: HALL of Wilton, HEAD of Bethel, RILEY of Jay, SKOLFIELD of Weld.

#### 1 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows: 2 **Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §5225, sub-§1,** ¶**C,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 184, §4, is further amended to read: 3 4 C. Costs related to economic development, environmental improvements, fisheries and wildlife or marine resources projects, recreational trails or employment training 5 within the municipality or plantation, including, but not limited to: 6 7 (1) Costs of funding economic development programs or events developed by the municipality or plantation or funding the marketing of the municipality or 8 plantation as a business or arts location: 9 (2) Costs of funding environmental improvement projects developed by the 10 municipality or plantation for commercial or arts district use or related to such 11 activities; 12 13 (3) Funding to establish permanent economic development revolving loan funds, investment funds and grants; 14 (4) Costs of services and equipment to provide skills development and training, 15 including scholarships to in-state educational institutions or to online learning 16 entities when in-state options are not available, for jobs created or retained in the 17 municipality or plantation. These costs must be designated as training funds in 18 19 the development program; 20 (5) Quality child care costs, including finance costs and construction, staffing, training, certification and accreditation costs related to child care; 21 22 (6) Costs associated with new or existing recreational trails determined by the department to have significant potential to promote economic development, 23 including, but not limited to, costs for multiple projects and project phases that 24 may include planning, design, construction, maintenance, grooming and 25 improvements with respect to new or existing recreational trails, which may 26 include bridges that are part of the trail corridor, used all or in part for all-terrain 27 vehicles, snowmobiles, hiking, bicycling, cross-country skiing or other related 28 multiple uses; 29 30 (7) Costs associated with a new or expanded transit service, limited to: 31 (a) Transit service capital costs, including but not limited to: transit vehicles 32 such as buses, ferries, vans, rail conveyances and related equipment; bus shelters and other transit-related structures; and benches, signs and other 33 34 transit-related infrastructure; and (b) In the case of transit-oriented development districts, ongoing costs of 35 adding to an existing transit system or creating a new transit service and 36 limited strictly to transit operator salaries, transit vehicle fuel and transit 37 38 vehicle parts replacements; and

resources projects; and

(8) Costs associated with the development of fisheries and wildlife or marine

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(9) Costs	associated wi	th broadband	and fiber	optics	expansion	projects,
including pr	eparation, plan	ning, engineer	ing and oth	<u>er relate</u>	d costs in ac	ddition to
the construc	ction costs of s	uch projects,	whether or	not suc	h expansion	projects
serve reside	ntial or busines	s areas within	the municip	ality or	plantation;	and

5 SUMMARY

 This bill amends the laws governing development districts designated by a municipality or plantation to provide that costs associated with broadband and fiber optics expansion projects, including preparation, planning, engineering and other related costs in addition to the construction costs of such projects, whether or not such expansion projects serve residential or business areas within the municipality or plantation are authorized project costs.