

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 669

H.P. 438

House of Representatives, February 16, 2023

An Act to Create the Public Art Fund

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

Robert B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative COLLINGS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and
Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, BRENNAN of Portland, CRAVEN of Lewiston, DANA
of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, TERRY of Gorham, THERIAULT of Fort Kent, Senators:
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, CURRY of Waldo.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 27 MRSA §410-B** is enacted to read:

3 **§410-B. Public Art Fund**

4 There is established the Public Art Fund, an interest-bearing nonlapsing General Fund
5 account, referred to in this section as "the fund." The fund is administered by the Maine
6 Arts Commission. Money deposited in the fund and the earnings on that money remain in
7 the fund to be used to provide a grant to a public entity, including a school, library or
8 government office, that applies for a grant for the installation or performance of art that is
9 publicly accessible. For the purposes of awarding grants, "public art" must be construed
10 broadly, and may include a mural, sculpture, painting, audio or visual presentation, digital
11 presentation, musical or theatrical performance, demonstration of or instruction in an
12 activity or performing a task or lecture. A recipient of a grant under this section shall
13 endeavor to contract or commission a provider, maker or performer of art that resides or is
14 located in the State to the extent possible.

15 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
16 allocations are made.

17 **ARTS COMMISSION, MAINE**

18 **Public Art Fund Program N420**

19 Initiative: Provides one-time funds for grants to public entities for the installation or
20 performance of art that is publicly accessible. Funds appropriated for this purpose do not
21 lapse but must be carried forward into the next fiscal year to be used for the same purpose.

22 GENERAL FUND	2023-24	2024-25
23 All Other	\$6,000,000	\$0
24		
25 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$6,000,000	\$0

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill creates the Public Art Fund, to be administered by the Maine Arts
28 Commission, and authorizes the fund to be used to provide grants to public entities for
29 public art.