

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2024

Legislative Document

No. 2225

H.P. 1426

House of Representatives, February 22, 2024

**An Act to Provide Funding to Rebuild Infrastructure Affected by
Extreme Inland and Coastal Weather Events**

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)
Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook.

1 **Emergency preamble.** Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3 **Whereas,** recent storms have damaged critical infrastructure; and

4 **Whereas,** this legislation provides funding for infrastructure adaptation, repair and
5 improvements that support public safety, protection of essential community assets, regional
6 economic needs and long-term infrastructure resiliency and this funding is needed as soon
7 as possible; and

8 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within
9 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as
10 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,
11 therefore,

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

13 **Sec. 1. Transfer from Maine Budget Stabilization Fund; Infrastructure**
14 **Adaptation Fund.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State
15 Controller shall transfer \$50,000,000 by the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024
16 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and
17 Financial Services to the Department of Transportation, Infrastructure Adaptation Fund,
18 Other Special Revenue Funds account for municipal, state or regionally significant
19 infrastructure adaptation, repair and improvements that support public safety, protection of
20 essential community assets, regional economic needs and long-term infrastructure
21 resiliency. These funds may be transferred by financial order upon the recommendation of
22 the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor.

23 **Sec. 2. Administration of funds.** Funds provided by this Act must be administered
24 by the Department of Transportation and must be awarded by interagency boards using
25 competitive processes. Project rating criteria may include the potential extent of public
26 safety, emergency management and infrastructure resiliency benefits, future climate
27 conditions, ability to leverage federal and other funding and community, economic and
28 environmental benefits.

29 **Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
30 allocations are made.

31 **TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

32 **Infrastructure Adaptation Fund Z318**

33 Initiative: Provides one-time funding for municipal, state or regionally significant
34 infrastructure adaptation, repair and improvements that support public safety, protection of
35 essential community assets, regional economic needs and long-term infrastructure
36 resiliency. Project types may include working waterfront infrastructure, culverts, storm
37 water systems, water system upgrades and other interventions that support reducing or
38 eliminating climate impacts, especially coastal and inland flooding. Funds may be used to
39 support project planning and federal matching funds. Funds will be used for public
40 infrastructure projects with project exemptions available for some types of private
41 infrastructure upgrades with significant community benefits, such as working waterfronts.

42 **OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS** **2023-24** **2024-25**

1	All Other	\$20,000,000	\$30,000,000
2			
3	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$20,000,000</u>	<u>\$30,000,000</u>

4 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation
5 takes effect when approved.

6 **SUMMARY**

7 This bill transfers \$50,000,000 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund to the
8 Department of Transportation, Infrastructure Adaptation Fund, Other Special Revenue
9 Funds account for municipal, state or regionally significant infrastructure adaptation, repair
10 and improvements that support public safety, protection of essential community assets,
11 regional economic needs and long-term infrastructure resiliency. Project types may include
12 working waterfront infrastructure, culverts, storm water systems, water system upgrades
13 and other interventions that support reducing or eliminating climate impacts, especially
14 coastal and inland flooding.