

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 2094

Date:

3/30/26 Majority

(Filing No. H-922)

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
132ND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1409, L.D. 2094, "An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Support Maine's Agricultural and Forestry Sectors"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Authorize General Fund Bond Issues to Support Maine's Agricultural and Forestry Sectors, Wastewater Treatment Facilities, Public Water and Public Sewer Systems, Housing, Culverts, the University of Maine System, Transportation Infrastructure and Court Facilities'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'PART A

Sec. A-1. Authorization of bonds. The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding \$45,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Part. The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

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

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 **Sec. B-3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The Treasurer of State
 2 may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be
 3 loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the
 4 bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State
 5 upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set
 6 forth in this Part. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project
 7 in this Part lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of
 8 general obligation bonds.

9 **Sec. B-4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State shall pay interest
 10 due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Part and all sums coming due for payment
 11 of bonds at maturity.

12 **Sec. B-5. Disbursement of bond proceeds from General Fund bond issue.**
 13 The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Part must be expended as
 14 designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies
 15 and entities set forth in this section.

16 **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

17 **Wastewater treatment facility planning and construction grants**

18 Provides funds for grants to assist municipalities, quasi-municipal entities and
 19 unorganized townships with wastewater treatment facility planning and construction of
 20 infrastructure projects facilitating proper management and disposal of wastewater sludge
 21 or biosolids.

22 Total \$20,000,000

23 **Sec. B-6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 5 do not
 24 become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth
 25 in this Part.

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

31 **Sec. B-8. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not issued
 32 within 5 years of ratification of this Part are deauthorized and may not be issued, except
 33 that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend
 34 the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds for an additional amount of time not
 35 to exceed 5 years.

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

1 "Do you favor a \$20,000,000 bond issue for grants to assist municipalities,
2 quasi-municipal entities and unorganized townships with wastewater
3 treatment facility planning and construction of infrastructure projects
4 facilitating proper management and disposal of wastewater sludge or
5 biosolids?"

6 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question
7 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
8 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared
9 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in
10 the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the
11 returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Part, the Governor shall
12 proclaim the result without delay and this Part becomes effective 30 days after the date of
13 the proclamation.

14 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
15 ballots, returns and copies of this Part necessary to carry out the purposes of this
16 referendum.

17 **PART C**

18 **Sec. C-1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the
19 direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an
20 amount not exceeding \$20,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Part. The
21 bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a
22 period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

23 **Sec. C-2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State.** The Treasurer of State
24 shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the name
25 of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale
26 and the date when payable.

27 **Sec. C-3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The Treasurer of State
28 may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be
29 loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the
30 bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State
31 upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set
32 forth in this Part. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project
33 in this Part lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of
34 general obligation bonds.

35 **Sec. C-4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State shall pay interest
36 due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Part and all sums coming due for payment
37 of bonds at maturity.

38 **Sec. C-5. Disbursement of bond proceeds from General Fund bond issue.**
39 The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Part must be expended as
40 designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies
41 and entities set forth in this section.

42 **MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY**

43 **New programs**

1 Provides \$20,000,000 for expansion of public water and public sewer systems in areas
2 zoned for residential use with a 100% local match requirement.

3 Total \$20,000,000

4 **Sec. C-6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 5 do not
5 become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth
6 in this Part.

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

12 **Sec. C-8. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not issued
13 within 5 years of ratification of this Part are deauthorized and may not be issued, except
14 that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend
15 the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds for an additional amount of time not
16 to exceed 5 years.

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

23 "Do you favor a \$20,000,000 bond issue to support the expansion of
24 residential public water and public sewer systems with a 100% local match
25 requirement?"

26 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question
27 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
28 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared
29 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in
30 the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the
31 returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Part, the Governor shall
32 proclaim the result without delay and this Part becomes effective 30 days after the date of
33 the proclamation.

34 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
35 ballots, returns and copies of this Part necessary to carry out the purposes of this
36 referendum.

37 **PART D**

38 **Sec. D-1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the
39 direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an
40 amount not exceeding \$20,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Part. The
41 bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a
42 period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

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

5 **Sec. D-3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The Treasurer of State
 6 may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be
 7 loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the
 8 bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State
 9 upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set
 10 forth in this Part. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project
 11 in this Part lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of
 12 general obligation bonds.

13 **Sec. D-4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State shall pay interest
 14 due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Part and all sums coming due for payment
 15 of bonds at maturity.

16 **Sec. D-5. Disbursement of bond proceeds from General Fund bond issue.**
 17 The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Part must be expended as
 18 designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies
 19 and entities set forth in this section.

20 **MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY**

21 **Ongoing programs**

22 Provides \$15,000,000 for the authority's rural affordable housing rental program and
 23 \$5,000,000 for a pilot program supporting the construction of new homes in mobile
 24 home parks through infill, expansion or new development, with restrictive covenants on
 25 the newly created units to ensure affordability.

26 Total \$20,000,000

27 **Sec. D-6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 5 do not
 28 become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth
 29 in this Part.

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

35 **Sec. D-8. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not issued
 36 within 5 years of ratification of this Part are deauthorized and may not be issued, except
 37 that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend
 38 the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds for an additional amount of time not
 39 to exceed 5 years.

40 **Sec. D-9. Referendum for ratification; submission at election; form of**
 41 **question; effective date.** This Part must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at
 42 a statewide election held in the month of November following passage of this Act. The

1 municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns
 2 and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election,
 3 to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Part by voting on the following question:

4 "Do you favor a \$20,000,000 bond issue to support the Maine State Housing
 5 Authority's rural affordable housing rental program and a pilot program supporting
 6 the construction of new homes in mobile home parks?"

7 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question
 8 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
 9 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared
 10 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in
 11 the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the
 12 returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Part, the Governor shall
 13 proclaim the result without delay and this Part becomes effective 30 days after the date of
 14 the proclamation.

15 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
 16 ballots, returns and copies of this Part necessary to carry out the purposes of this
 17 referendum.

18 **PART E**

19 **Sec. E-1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the
 20 direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an
 21 amount not exceeding \$15,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Part. The
 22 bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a
 23 period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

24 **Sec. E-2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State.** The Treasurer of State
 25 shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the name
 26 of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale
 27 and the date when payable.

28 **Sec. E-3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The Treasurer of State
 29 may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be
 30 loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the
 31 bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State
 32 upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set
 33 forth in this Part. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project
 34 in this Part lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of
 35 general obligation bonds.

36 **Sec. E-4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State shall pay interest
 37 due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Part and all sums coming due for payment
 38 of bonds at maturity.

39 **Sec. E-5. Disbursement of bond proceeds from General Fund bond issue.**
 40 The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Part must be expended as
 41 designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies
 42 and entities set forth in this section.

43 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

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Provides funds for a competitive grant program that matches local funding for the upgrade of municipal culverts at stream crossings in order to improve fish and wildlife habitats and increase community safety. Eligible project sponsors include local governments, municipal conservation commissions, soil and water conservation districts and private nonprofit organizations. A proposal for funding from an eligible project sponsor must include a map and summary of the proposed project, describing:

1. Contribution to competitive grant program goals. The extent to which the proposed project allows communities to more effectively prepare for storm and flood events and advances the goals of restoring habitat for fish, including sea-run fish and native brook trout, and wildlife, including:

A. The priority status of the culvert to be upgraded or replaced for native brook trout and sea-run fish restoration, based on available stream survey data, statewide prioritization for aquatic connectivity and presence in priority watersheds of salmon, alewives and other diadromous fishes;

B. The extent to which the proposed project meets the Department of Transportation design standard of at least 1.2 times the stream's bankfull width, with a natural stream bottom or embedded structure, and meets or exceeds the Department of Transportation's 50-year flood standard;

C. The degree of urgency of the proposed project, including whether a culvert is at high risk of failure due to age or location within a watershed or reach with high flood risk or severe flood history; and

D. The expected contribution to reducing the frequency or severity of flooding to upstream and downstream communities and improving storm water management within the proposed project area.

The description must include confirmation that the culvert proposed for upgrade or replacement is on a municipal road, not a state road or private road; and

2. Cost-effectiveness. The extent to which the proposed project represents an efficient and cost-effective investment, including the proportion of total project funding that will be provided from other sources and the potential avoided costs associated with the proposed project. Funds may not be used to cover all of the costs associated with a proposed project.

Total \$15,000,000

Sec. E-6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 5 do not become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth in this Part.

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

Sec. E-8. Bonds authorized but not issued. Any bonds authorized but not issued within 5 years of ratification of this Part are deauthorized and may not be issued, except that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend

1 the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds for an additional amount of time not
2 to exceed 5 years.

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

9 "Do you favor a \$15,000,000 bond issue to match local funding for the
10 upgrade of municipal culverts at stream crossings in order to enhance and
11 restore rivers, streams and fish and wildlife habitats and to allow
12 communities to better prepare for extreme storms and floods?"

13 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question
14 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
15 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared
16 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in
17 the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the
18 returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Part, the Governor shall
19 proclaim the result without delay and this Part becomes effective 30 days after the date of
20 the proclamation.

21 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
22 ballots, returns and copies of this Part necessary to carry out the purposes of this
23 referendum.

24 **PART F**

25 **Sec. F-1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the
26 direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an
27 amount not exceeding \$18,522,412 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Part. The
28 bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a
29 period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

30 **Sec. F-2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State.** The Treasurer of State
31 shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the name
32 of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale
33 and the date when payable.

34 **Sec. F-3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The Treasurer of State
35 may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be
36 loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the
37 bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State
38 upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set
39 forth in this Part. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project
40 in this Part lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of
41 general obligation bonds.

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Sec. F-4. Interest and debt retirement. The Treasurer of State shall pay interest due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Part and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity.

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

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM

Provides funds, to be matched by private and other funds, to strengthen the universities' fiscal positions through reductions in vacant and underutilized space across the campuses of the University of Maine System to improve student recruitment and retention and public safety and reduce ongoing operation and maintenance costs and energy usage. Projects must be aligned with the universities' respective capital plans and the University of Maine System's and the State's strategic plans and approved consistent with the policies of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maine System.

Total \$18,522,412

Sec. F-6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 5 do not become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth in this Part.

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

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

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

"Do you favor an \$18,522,412 bond issue, to be matched by private and other funds, for the removal of vacant and underutilized buildings across Maine's public universities to improve student recruitment and retention and public safety and reduce ongoing operating and maintenance costs and energy usage?"

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

1 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in
2 the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the
3 returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Part, the Governor shall
4 proclaim the result without delay and this Part becomes effective 30 days after the date of
5 the proclamation.

6 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
7 ballots, returns and copies of this Part necessary to carry out the purposes of this
8 referendum.

9 **PART G**

10 **Sec. G-1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the
11 direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an
12 amount not exceeding \$65,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Part. The
13 bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a
14 period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

15 **Sec. G-2. Records of bonds issued; Treasurer of State.** The Treasurer of State
16 shall ensure that an account of each bond is kept showing the number of the bond, the name
17 of the successful bidder to whom sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale
18 and the date when payable.

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

27 **Sec. G-4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State shall pay interest
28 due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Part and all sums coming due for payment
29 of bonds at maturity.

30 **Sec. G-5. Disbursement of bond proceeds from General Fund bond issue.**
31 The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Part must be expended as
32 designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies
33 and entities set forth in this section.

34 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

35 Provides funds to construct, reconstruct or rehabilitate Priority 1, Priority 2 and Priority
36 3 state highways under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 73, subsection 7
37 and associated improvements, for the department's municipal partnership initiative and
38 to replace and rehabilitate bridges.

39 Total \$60,000,000

40 Provides funds for facilities or equipment related to ports, harbors, marine transportation,
41 aviation, freight and passenger railroads, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails that
42 preserve public safety or otherwise have demonstrated high transportation economic
43 value, including property acquisition.

1 Total \$5,000,000

2 **Sec. G-6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 5 do not
3 become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth
4 in this Part.

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

10 **Sec. G-8. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not issued
11 within 5 years of ratification of this Part are deauthorized and may not be issued, except
12 that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend
13 the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds for an additional amount of time not
14 to exceed 5 years.

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

21 "Do you favor a \$65,000,000 bond issue for reconstruction and
22 rehabilitation of highways and bridges and for facilities or equipment
23 related to ports, harbors, marine transportation, aviation, freight and
24 passenger railroads, transit and bicycle and pedestrian trails, to be used to
25 match an estimated \$164,450,000 in federal and other funds?"

26 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question
27 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
28 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared
29 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in
30 the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the
31 returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Part, the Governor shall
32 proclaim the result without delay and this Part becomes effective 30 days after the date of
33 the proclamation.

34 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
35 ballots, returns and copies of this Part necessary to carry out the purposes of this
36 referendum.

37 **PART H**

38 **Sec. H-1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the
39 direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an
40 amount not exceeding \$4,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Part. The
41 bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a
42 period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

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

5 **Sec. H-3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The Treasurer of State
6 may negotiate the sale of the bonds by direction of the Governor, but no bond may be
7 loaned, pledged or hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of the
8 bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid by the Treasurer of State
9 upon warrants drawn by the State Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set
10 forth in this Part. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the project
11 in this Part lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of
12 general obligation bonds.

13 **Sec. H-4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State shall pay interest
14 due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Part and all sums coming due for payment
15 of bonds at maturity.

16 **Sec. H-5. Disbursement of bond proceeds from General Fund bond issue.**
17 The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Part must be expended as
18 designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies
19 and entities set forth in this section.

20 **JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT**

21 Provides funds for the design, construction, equipping and furnishing of a courthouse
22 facility of approximately 5,000 square feet in the Town of Newport, including related
23 site improvements.

24 Total \$4,000,000

25 **Sec. H-6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 5 do not
26 become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set forth
27 in this Part.

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

33 **Sec. H-8. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not issued
34 within 5 years of ratification of this Part are deauthorized and may not be issued, except
35 that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period, extend
36 the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds for an additional amount of time not
37 to exceed 5 years.

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

1 "Do you favor a \$4,000,000 bond issue to support financing the design,
2 construction, equipping and furnishing of a courthouse facility of
3 approximately 5,000 square feet in the Town of Newport, including related
4 site improvements?"

5 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question
6 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
7 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared
8 in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in
9 the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the
10 returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Part, the Governor shall
11 proclaim the result without delay and this Part becomes effective 30 days after the date of
12 the proclamation.

13 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
14 ballots, returns and copies of this Part necessary to carry out the purposes of this
15 referendum.'

16 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
17 number to read consecutively.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 **PART A**

20 The funds provided by this Part's bond issue, in the amount of \$45,000,000, will be
21 used to support the agricultural and forestry sectors in the State.

22 **PART B**

23 The funds provided by this Part's bond issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, will be
24 used for grants to assist municipalities, quasi-municipal entities and unorganized townships
25 with wastewater treatment facility planning and construction of infrastructure projects
26 facilitating proper management and disposal of wastewater sludge or biosolids.

27 **PART C**

28 The funds provided by this Part's bond issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, will be
29 used to support the expansion of residential public water and public sewer systems.

30 **PART D**

31 The funds provided by this Part's bond issue, in the amount of \$20,000,000, will be
32 used to support the Maine State Housing Authority's rural affordable housing rental
33 program and a pilot program supporting the construction of new homes in mobile home
34 parks.

35 **PART E**

36 The funds provided by this Part's bond issue, in the amount of \$15,000,000, will be
37 used for a competitive grant program that matches local funding for the upgrade of
38 municipal culverts at stream crossings in order to enhance and restore rivers, streams and
39 fish and wildlife habitats and to allow communities to better prepare for extreme storms
40 and floods.

41 **PART F**



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 2094

LR 2657(02)

An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Support Maine's Agricultural and Forestry Sectors

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment **A** (H-922)

Committee: Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

Potential current biennium cost increase - General Fund

Bond Issues	Term (years)	Principal	Rate (%)	Interest	Total Cost
General Fund - Non-Taxable	10	\$45,000,000	5.0%	\$12,375,000	\$57,375,000
General Fund - Non-Taxable	10	\$20,000,000	5.0%	\$5,500,000	\$25,500,000
General Fund - Non-Taxable	10	\$20,000,000	5.0%	\$5,500,000	\$25,500,000
General Fund - Non-Taxable	10	\$20,000,000	5.0%	\$5,500,000	\$25,500,000
General Fund - Non-Taxable	10	\$15,000,000	5.0%	\$4,125,000	\$19,125,000
General Fund - Non-Taxable	10	\$18,522,412	5.0%	\$5,093,663	\$23,616,075
General Fund - Non-Taxable	10	\$65,000,000	5.0%	\$17,875,000	\$82,875,000
General Fund - Non-Taxable	10	\$4,000,000	5.0%	\$1,100,000	\$5,100,000

Referendum Costs	Month/Year	Election Type	Question	Length
	Nov-26	General	Bond Issue	Standard

The Secretary of State's budget includes sufficient funds to accommodate one ballot of average length for the general election in November. If the number or size of the referendum questions requires production and delivery of a second ballot, an additional appropriation of \$411,000 may be required.