MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION September 5, 1996 to September 7, 1996

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION December 4, 1996 to March 27, 1997 FIRST SPECIAL SESSION March 27, 1997 to June 20, 1997

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FIRST REGULAR SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS JUNE 26, 1997

> FIRST SPECIAL SESSION NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS SEPTEMBER 19, 1997

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED, TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

> J.S. McCarthy Company Augusta, Maine 1997

Funds must be used for capital expenses for vocational high schools.

- **Sec. 7. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 6 do not become effective unless the people of the State have ratified the issuance of bonds as set forth in this Act.
- **Sec. 8.** 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 General Fund debt service.
- **Sec. 9. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not issued, or for which bond anticipation notes are not issued within 5 years of ratification of this Act, 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 or bond anticipation notes for an additional amount of time not to exceed 5 years.
- Sec. 10. Referendum for ratification; submission at statewide election; form of question; effective date. This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Maine at the June 1998 primary election 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 Act by voting on the following question:

"Do you favor a \$5,000,000 bond issue for capital expenses for vocational high schools?"

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

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

Effective pending referendum.

CHAPTER 58

S.P. 612 - L.D. 1813

An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$10,000,000 to Address Federal and State Accessibility and Public Safety Issues

Preamble. Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 14, to authorize the issuance of bonds on behalf of the State of Maine to support the Adaptive Equipment Loan Program fund and to address federal and state accessibility and safety requirements at the University of Maine System and at the State House.

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

Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds to provide funding for the Adaptive Equipment Loan Program fund and improve accessibility and address related safety issues at the University of Maine System and at the State House. 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 \$10,000,000 to raise funds to support the Adaptive Equipment Loan Program fund and to provide funds for the University of Maine System and the Legislature to address accessibility and other public health and safety issues related to federal and state requirements as authorized by section 7. 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. At the discretion of the Treasurer of State, with the approval of the Governor, any issuance of bonds may contain a call feature.

- Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued to be kept by the Treasurer of State. The Treasurer of State shall keep an account of each bond 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. 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 Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion of the

project in section 7 lapse to the debt service account established for the retirement of these bonds.

- **Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State shall pay interest due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity.
- **Sec. 5. Taxable bond option.** The Treasurer of State, at the direction of the Governor, shall covenant and consent that the interest on the bonds is includable in the gross income of the holders of the bonds under the United States Internal Revenue Code or any subsequent law. The powers conferred by this section may not be subject to any limitations or restrictions of any law that may limit the power so as to covenant and consent.
- **Sec. 6. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of the bonds must be expended as set out in section 7 under the direction and supervision of the Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine, the Chancellor of the University of Maine System and the Executive Director of the Legislative Council, respectively.
- Sec. 7. Allocations from General Fund bond issue; accessibility and other safety related concerns. The proceeds of the sale of bonds must be expended as designated in the following schedule.

Adaptive Equipment Loan Program fund \$1,500,000

University of Maine System 6,500,000

Reserve Fund for State House Preservation and Maintenance

\$2,000,000

TOTAL \$10,000,000

- **Sec. 8.** Contingent upon ratification of bond issue. Sections 1 to 7 do not become effective unless the people of the State have ratified the issuance of bonds as set forth in this Act.
- **Sec. 9. 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 5 years after the date of the sale of the bonds lapse to General Fund debt service.
- **Sec. 10. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not issued, or for which bond anticipation notes are not issued within 5 years of ratification of this Act, 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 or bond anticipation notes for an additional amount of time not to exceed 5 years.

Sec. 11. Referendum for ratification; submission at statewide election; form of question; effective date. This Act must be submitted to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a statewide election held on the Tuesday following the first Monday 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 Act by voting on the following question:

"Do you favor a \$10,000,000 bond issue to provide funding for the Adaptive Equipment Loan Program fund, which provides loans to individuals with disabilities to purchase adaptive equipment and to small businesses to improve accessibility, and for improving accessibility and addressing related safety issues at the University of Maine System and at the State House?"

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

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

Effective pending referendum.