

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LAWS**  
**OF THE**  
**STATE OF MAINE**

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**December 2, 1998 to June 19, 1999**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS**  
**SEPTEMBER 18, 1999**

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

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**J.S. McCarthy Company**  
**Augusta, Maine**  
**1999**

respective municipal officers and due certification thereof must be filed by the city, town or plantation clerk with the Secretary of State.

Effective June 10, 1999.

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**CHAPTER 39**

**H.P. 1527 - L.D. 2180**

**An Act to Promote Participation in the Maine Residents Property Tax Program**

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

**Sec. 1. Maine Residents Property Tax Program; outreach.** The Bureau of Revenue Services, within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, shall conduct outreach activities to encourage maximum participation in the Maine Residents Property Tax Program by eligible taxpayers. The costs of these outreach activities must be paid from the amounts appropriated for the Maine Residents Property Tax Program.

**Sec. 2. Report by Bureau of Revenue Services.** The Bureau of Revenue Services shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters by March 1, 2001 reviewing the impact of the promotional campaign and outreach provided for in this Act. The report may include suggested legislation, and the committee is authorized to report out legislation to the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature based upon the report.

See title page for effective date.

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**CHAPTER 40**

**H.P. 451 - L.D. 614**

**An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$26,420,000 for Maine's 7 Technical Colleges**

**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 provide funds for the Maine Technical College System for high-technology laboratories and libraries, facility improvements and expansions and upgrading telecommunications and information technology.

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

**Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds to provide funds for the Maine Technical College System for high-technology laboratories and libraries, facility improvements and expansions and upgrading telecommunications and information technology.** 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 \$26,420,000 to raise funds for the Maine Technical College System for high-technology laboratories and libraries, facility improvements and expansions and upgrading telecommunications and information technology as authorized by section 6. This amount must be matched by at least \$7,000,000 in private or in-kind donations over the term of the bond. 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 6 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. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of the bonds must be expended as set out in section 6 under the direction and supervision of the Board of Trustees of the Maine Technical College System.

**Sec. 6. Allocations from General Fund bond issue; high-technology laboratories and libraries; facility improvements and expansions; telecommunications and information**

**technology upgrades.** The proceeds of the sale of bonds must be expended as designated in the following schedule except that, with the approval of the Governor, any of the amounts may be exceeded by the transfer from one item to another, not exceeding 10% of the aggregate.

**MAINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**

Central Maine Technical College	\$3,250,000
Eastern Maine Technical College	\$4,370,000
Kennebec Valley Technical College	\$3,400,000
Northern Maine Technical College	\$3,000,000
Southern Maine Technical College	\$5,000,000
Washington County Technical College	\$3,100,000
York County Technical College	\$4,300,000

**TOTAL ALLOCATIONS** \$26,420,000

**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 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 \$26,420,000 bond issue for infrastructure improvements at Maine's 7 technical colleges that must be matched by at least \$7,000,000 of private or in-kind donations?"

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 this Act, the Governor shall proclaim the result without delay, and this 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 41**

**H.P. 407 - L.D. 549**

**An Act to Fund Maine Agricultural Education Programs**

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

**Sec. 1. Appropriation.** The following funds are appropriated from the General Fund to carry out the purposes of this Act.

	1999-00	2000-01
<b>AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES, DEPARTMENT OF</b>		
<b>Office of the Commissioner</b>		
All Other	\$20,000	\$20,000
Appropriates funds to be provided as grants to statewide agricultural organizations for the purpose of furthering the development of		