

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

**AS PASSED BY THE**

**ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

**August 26, 2019**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**January 8, 2020 to March 17, 2020**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS  
NOVEMBER 25, 2019**

**THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS  
JUNE 16, 2020**

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

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**Augusta, Maine  
2020**

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PUBLIC LAWS OF THE STATE OF MAINE  
AS PASSED AT  
THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF THE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
2019

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**CHAPTER 531**  
**S.P. 633 - L.D. 1849**

**An Act Regarding the Laws  
Governing the Maine School  
for Marine Science,  
Technology, Transportation  
and Engineering**

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

**Whereas,** this legislation changes the termination date of the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering; and

**Whereas,** this legislation is necessary for the continuation of the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering; and

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

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

**Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §8238,** as enacted by PL 2015, c. 363, §4, is amended to read:

**§8238. Implementation; limited authorization**

The school may implement the plan established for the statewide education programs pursuant to section 8236, subsection 2 during the 2017-2018 school year.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all powers, duties and authority of the school under this chapter and under any other law terminate 90 days after the adjournment of the ~~First~~ Second Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

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

Effective August 30, 2019.

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**CHAPTER 532**  
**S.P. 634 - L.D. 1850**

**An Act To Authorize a General  
Fund Bond Issue To Improve  
Highways, Bridges and  
Multimodal Facilities**

**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 as described in this Act,

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

**Sec. 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 \$105,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Act. 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. 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. 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 this Act lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general obligation 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 from General Fund bond issue.** The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Act must be expended as designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies and entities set forth in this section.

**TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF**

Provides funds to construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate and preserve Priority 1, Priority 2 and Priority 3 state highways under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 73, subsection 7 and associated improvements, to replace and rehabilitate bridges and to fund the municipal partnership initiative.

Total \$85,000,000

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

Total \$15,000,000

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, DEPARTMENT OF**

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 how it meets the following criteria:

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
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 \$4,000,000

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**

Provides funds for the renovation of a wharf and bulkhead at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute in Portland to bring the wharf back into operation as secured access and berthing for commercial fishing vessels and to support vessels for marine research at sea that supports continued long-term marine job development.

Total \$1,000,000

**Sec. 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 Act.

**Sec. 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. 8. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but 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 for an additional amount of time not to exceed 5 years.

**Sec. 9. Referendum for ratification; submission at election; form of question; effective date.** This Act 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 Act by voting on the following question:

"Do you favor a \$105,000,000 bond issue to build or improve roads, bridges, railroads, airports, transit and ports and make other transportation investments, to be used to match an estimated \$137,000,000 in federal and other funds?"

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. 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 purposes of this referendum.

Effective pending referendum.

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