



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 292

H.P. 225

House of Representatives, January 31, 2017

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Invest in Maine's Rail Infrastructure and Expand Passenger Rail Service

Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative SHEATS of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of Androscoggin and
Representatives: ACKLEY of Monmouth, BICKFORD of Auburn, BROOKS of Lewiston,
FULLER of Lewiston, GOLDEN of Lewiston, HANDY of Lewiston, SYLVESTER of
Portland, Senator: CHIPMAN of Cumberland.

1 **Preamble.** Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature deeming it necessary in
2 accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 14 to authorize the
3 issuance of bonds on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds as described in this
4 Act,

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

6 **Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the
7 direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an
8 amount not exceeding \$50,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Act.
9 The bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for
10 a period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

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

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

23 **Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State shall pay interest
24 due or accruing on any bonds issued under this Act and all sums coming due for payment
25 of bonds at maturity.

26 **Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds from General Fund bond issue.**
27 The proceeds of the sale of the bonds authorized under this Act must be expended as
28 designated in the following schedule under the direction and supervision of the agencies
29 and entities set forth in this section.

30 **TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT**
31 **OF**

32 Provides funds to repair and reconstruct state-owned railroad lines.

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34 Total \$24,000,000

35 Provides funds to improve infrastructure on the railway crossing at Royal Junction in
36 the Town of Yarmouth.

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SUMMARY

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The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$50,000,000, will be used to repair and reconstruct state-owned railroad lines, improve infrastructure on a railway crossing in the Town of Yarmouth and improve the railroad line between the cities of Lewiston and Auburn and the City of Portland.