

131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2024

Legislative Document

No. 2225

H.P. 1426

House of Representatives, February 22, 2024

An Act to Provide Funding to Rebuild Infrastructure Affected by Extreme Inland and Coastal Weather Events

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Transportation suggested and ordered printed.

R(+ B. Hunt

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

Presented by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland. (GOVERNOR'S BILL) Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook. 1 **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not 2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, recent storms have damaged critical infrastructure; and

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Whereas, this legislation provides funding for infrastructure adaptation, repair and improvements that support public safety, protection of essential community assets, regional economic needs and long-term infrastructure resiliency and this funding is needed as soon as possible; and

8 **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within 9 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as 10 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, 11 therefore,

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

13 Sec. 1. Transfer from Maine Budget Stabilization Fund; Infrastructure 14 Adaptation Fund. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall transfer \$50,000,000 by the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 15 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and 16 17 Financial Services to the Department of Transportation, Infrastructure Adaptation Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account for municipal, state or regionally significant 18 infrastructure adaptation, repair and improvements that support public safety, protection of 19 20 essential community assets, regional economic needs and long-term infrastructure resiliency. These funds may be transferred by financial order upon the recommendation of 21 the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor. 22

Sec. 2. Administration of funds. Funds provided by this Act must be administered by the Department of Transportation and must be awarded by interagency boards using competitive processes. Project rating criteria may include the potential extent of public safety, emergency management and infrastructure resiliency benefits, future climate conditions, ability to leverage federal and other funding and community, economic and environmental benefits.

Sec. 3. Appropriations and allocations. The following appropriations and allocations are made.

31 TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF

32 Infrastructure Adaptation Fund Z318

Initiative: Provides one-time funding for municipal, state or regionally significant 33 infrastructure adaptation, repair and improvements that support public safety, protection of 34 35 essential community assets, regional economic needs and long-term infrastructure resiliency. Project types may include working waterfront infrastructure, culverts, storm 36 water systems, water system upgrades and other interventions that support reducing or 37 38 eliminating climate impacts, especially coastal and inland flooding. Funds may be used to support project planning and federal matching funds. Funds will be used for public 39 40 infrastructure projects with project exemptions available for some types of private infrastructure upgrades with significant community benefits, such as working waterfronts. 41

42OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS2023-242024-25

1	All Other	\$20,000,000	\$30,000,000
2 3	OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$20,000,000	\$30,000,000
4 5	Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.		
6	SUMMARY		
7	This bill transfers \$50,000,000 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund to the		
8	Department of Transportation, Infrastructure Adaptation Fund, Other Special Revenue		
9	Funds account for municipal, state or regionally significant infrastructure adaptation, repair		
10	and improvements that support public safety, protection of essential community assets,		
11	regional economic needs and long-term infrastructure resiliency. Project types may include		
12	working waterfront infrastructure, culverts, storm water systems, water system upgrades		
13	and other interventions that support reducing or eliminating climate impacts, especially		
14	coastal and inland flooding.		