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Date: (Filing No. H-)

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 1426, L.D. 2225, “An Act to Provide Funding to Rebuild Infrastructure Affected by Extreme Inland and Coastal Weather Events”

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the emergency clause and inserting the following:

'PART A

Sec. A-1. Transfer from Maine Budget Stabilization Fund; Infrastructure 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 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to the Department of Transportation, Infrastructure Adaptation Fund, Other Special Revenue Funds account for municipal, state or regionally significant infrastructure adaptation, repair and improvements that support public safety, protection of essential community assets, regional economic needs and long-term infrastructure resiliency.

Sec. A-2. Administration of funds. Funds provided under section 1 of this Part must be administered by the Department of Transportation and must be awarded by interagency boards using competitive processes. The interagency boards shall identify and document an equitable basis for allocating funds between inland and coastal projects. 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. Funds must be used for public infrastructure projects and may be used for some types of private infrastructure upgrades with significant community benefits, such as working waterfront infrastructure. For the purposes of this Part, "working waterfront infrastructure" means wharves and piers that support commercial fisheries and aquaculture businesses in this State. Projects must demonstrate increased resilience to future storm and flooding impacts. The award criteria must prioritize proposals that demonstrate a significant and

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 compelling community benefit; recipients that are not covered by Federal Emergency
 2 Management Agency disaster funds; and recipients that demonstrate that the damage is not
 3 covered by insurance and that all emergency relief currently available has been exhausted.
 4 The administration of the funds must include sufficient documentation and record-keeping
 5 requirements to provide assurance that funds have been awarded consistent with the
 6 program guidelines and used for the intended purpose.

7 **Sec. A-3. Transfers from Infrastructure Adaptation Fund authorized.**

8 Funds provided under section 1 of this Part may be transferred by financial order upon the
 9 recommendation of the State Budget Officer and approval of the Governor for purposes
 10 described in section 1 of this Part and to facilitate the administration of the funds as
 11 described in section 2 of this Part.

12 **Sec. A-4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
 13 allocations are made.

14 **TRANSPORTATION, DEPARTMENT OF**
 15 **Infrastructure Adaptation Fund Z318**

16 Initiative: Provides one-time funding for municipal, state or regionally significant
 17 infrastructure adaptation, repair and improvements that support public safety, protection of
 18 essential community assets, regional economic needs and long-term infrastructure
 19 resiliency. Project types may include working waterfront infrastructure, culverts, storm
 20 water systems, water system upgrades and other interventions that support infrastructure
 21 repair and reducing or eliminating climate impacts, especially coastal and inland flooding.
 22 Funds may be used to support project planning and federal matching funds. Funds will be
 23 used for public infrastructure projects with project exemptions available for some types of
 24 private infrastructure upgrades with significant community benefits, such as working
 25 waterfronts. For the purposes of this fund, working waterfront infrastructure is defined as
 26 wharves and piers that support the State's commercial fisheries and aquaculture businesses.

27 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
28 All Other	\$50,000,000	\$500
29		
30 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	<u>\$50,000,000</u>	<u>\$500</u>

31 **PART B**

32 **Sec. B-1. Business Recovery and Resilience Fund program established.** The
 33 Business Recovery and Resilience Fund program is established in the Department of
 34 Economic and Community Development to provide grant opportunities for businesses and
 35 organizations, including nonprofit organizations, affected by severe weather-related
 36 events.

37 **Sec. B-2. Transfer from Maine Budget Stabilization Fund; Business**
 38 **Recovery and Resilience Fund program, Other Special Revenue Funds**
 39 **account.** Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the State Controller shall
 40 transfer \$10,000,000 by the close of the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024 from the Maine
 41 Budget Stabilization Fund within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services
 42 to the Department of Economic and Community Development, Business Recovery and
 43 Resilience Fund program, Other Special Revenue Funds account for economic recovery

1 and resilience grants to businesses and nonprofit organizations within areas that were
 2 impacted in the December 18, 2023 storm, the January 10, 2024 storm or the January 13,
 3 2024 storm. Projects may include a recovery component for damage sustained and must
 4 include efforts to increase business resilience to future storms and other climate conditions.

5 **Sec. B-3. Administration of funds.** Funds provided under section 2 of this Part
 6 must be administered by the Department of Economic and Community Development and
 7 must be awarded using competitive processes. Project rating criteria may include the
 8 viability of the business or nonprofit organization, the ability to match grant funds and the
 9 efficacy of the recovery and resilience plan offered in the application. The award criteria
 10 must require that recipients demonstrate that the damage or project costs are not covered
 11 by Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster funds, or other insurance, and that the
 12 recipient has exhausted all emergency relief funding programs currently available. The
 13 administration of the funds must include sufficient documentation and record-keeping
 14 requirements to provide assurance that funds have been awarded consistent with the
 15 program guidelines and used for the intended purpose.

16 **Sec. B-4. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
 17 allocations are made.

18 **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, DEPARTMENT OF**
 19 **Business Recovery and Resilience Fund N491**

20 Initiative: Allocates funds for grants to businesses and nonprofit organizations impacted by
 21 the December 18, 2023 storm, the January 10, 2024 storm or the January 13, 2024 storm
 22 for recovery, rebuilding and investments in more resilient infrastructure. Infrastructure
 23 project types may include infrastructure upgrades, improvements or installation of drainage
 24 systems, moving electrical or business equipment, relocating the business to a more
 25 protected location and investing in additional insurance.

26 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	2023-24	2024-25
27 All Other	\$10,000,000	\$500
28		
29 OTHER SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS TOTAL	\$10,000,000	\$500

30
 31 Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section
 32 number to read consecutively.

33 **SUMMARY**

34 This amendment, which is the majority report of the committee, replaces the bill. As
 35 in the bill, the amendment transfers \$50,000,000 from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund
 36 to the Department of Transportation, Infrastructure Adaptation Fund, Other Special
 37 Revenue Funds account for municipal, state or regionally significant infrastructure
 38 adaptation, repair and improvements that support public safety, protection of essential
 39 community assets, regional economic needs and long-term infrastructure resiliency. Project
 40 types may include working waterfront infrastructure, culverts, storm water systems, water
 41 system upgrades and other interventions that support reducing or eliminating climate
 42 impacts, especially coastal and inland flooding. The amendment also creates the Business
 43 Recovery and Resilience Fund program within the Department of Economic and

1 Community Development and transfers \$10,000,000 from the Maine Budget Stabilization
2 Fund for economic recovery and resilience grants for businesses and nonprofit
3 organizations affected by the December 18, 2023 storm, the January 10, 2024 storm or the
4 January 13, 2024 storm.

5 **FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED**

6 **(See attached)**