



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 836

H.P. 585

House of Representatives, March 7, 2017

**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Build Maine's
Workforce Development Capacity by Modernizing and Improving
the Facilities and Infrastructure of Maine's Public Universities**

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative JORGENSEN of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator DILL of Penobscot and
Representatives: HARVELL of Farmington, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, MARTIN of Eagle
Lake, PIERCE of Falmouth, STEWART of Presque Isle, Senators: BREEN of Cumberland,
MAKER of Washington, SAVIELLO of Franklin.

1	Total	\$2,471,964
2	Provides funds for renovation and rehabilitation of existing facilities and other	
3	facility and infrastructure improvements at the University of Maine at Farmington.	
4	Total	\$7,723,605
5	Provides funds for renovation and rehabilitation of existing facilities and other	
6	facility and infrastructure improvements at the University of Maine at Fort Kent.	
7	Total	\$2,318,107
8	Provides funds for renovation and rehabilitation of existing facilities and other	
9	facility and infrastructure improvements at the University of Maine at Machias.	
10	Total	\$2,933,534
11	Provides funds for renovation and rehabilitation of existing facilities and other	
12	facility and infrastructure improvements at the University of Maine at Presque Isle.	
13	Total	\$2,871,991
14	Provides funds for renovation and rehabilitation of existing facilities and other	
15	facility and infrastructure improvements at the University of Southern Maine.	
16	Total	\$21,139,907

17 **Sec. A-6. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to 5 do not
18 become effective unless the people of the State ratify the issuance of the bonds as set
19 forth in this Part.

20 **Sec. A-7. Appropriation balances at year-end.** At the end of each fiscal year,
21 all unencumbered appropriation balances representing state money carry forward. Bond
22 proceeds that have not been expended within 10 years after the date of the sale of the
23 bonds lapse to the Office of the Treasurer of State to be used for the retirement of general
24 obligation bonds.

25 **Sec. A-8. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized but not
26 issued within 5 years of ratification of this Part are deauthorized and may not be issued,
27 except that the Legislature may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period,

1 extend the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds for an additional amount of
2 time not to exceed 5 years.

3 **Sec. A-9. Referendum for ratification; submission at election; form of**
4 **question; effective date.** This Part must be submitted to the legal voters of the State at
5 a statewide election held in the month of November following passage of this Part. The
6 municipal officers of this State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns
7 and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding a statewide election,
8 to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Part by voting on the following question:

9 "Do you favor a \$75,000,000 bond issue to build Maine's workforce
10 development capacity by modernizing and improving the facilities and
11 infrastructure of Maine's public universities?"

12 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question
13 and designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square
14 below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and
15 declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of
16 State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall
17 review the returns. If a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of this Part, the
18 Governor shall proclaim the result without delay and this Part becomes effective 30 days
19 after the date of the proclamation.

20 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all
21 ballots, returns and copies of this Part necessary to carry out the purposes of this
22 referendum.

23 **PART B**

24 **Sec. B-1. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
25 allocations are made.

26 **UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM, BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**
27 **Debt Service - University of Maine System 0902**

28 Initiative: Provides funding to bring facilities into compliance while improving the
29 safety, accessibility and general condition of the University of Maine's aging facilities
30 and making investments in technology upgrades and enhancements.

31	GENERAL FUND	2017-18	2018-19
32	All Other	\$0	\$2,500,000
33			
34	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$0	\$2,500,000

35 **SUMMARY**

36 The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of \$75,000,000, will be used to
37 build Maine's workforce development capacity by modernizing and improving the

1 facilities and infrastructure of Maine's public universities. The bill also provides
2 \$2,500,000 in debt service beginning in fiscal year 2018-19 to make critical information
3 technology investments in wireless communications and classrooms across the University
4 of Maine System.