



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2023

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Legislative Document

No. 1480

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S.P. 601

In Senate, April 5, 2023

### **An Act to Protect Union Wharf and Sustain Maine's Maritime Industries**

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative MOONEN of Portland and  
Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, DUSON of Cumberland, President JACKSON of Aroostook,  
Representative: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor.

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 issuance  
3 of bonds on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds as described in this Act,

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

5           **Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is authorized, under the  
6 direction of the Governor, to issue bonds in the name and on behalf of the State in an  
7 amount not exceeding \$4,000,000 for the purposes described in section 5 of this Act. The  
8 bonds are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The bonds may not run for a  
9 period longer than 10 years from the date of the original issue of the bonds.

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

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

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

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

29           **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

30           Provides funds to compensate the Gulf of Maine Research Institute for the loss in value,  
31 based on a qualified, independent real estate appraisal, resulting from restricting the uses  
32 of Union Wharf in Portland Harbor to commercial fishing, aquaculture, seafood  
33 processing, piloting, marine salvage, marine hazard response, marine construction,  
34 marine operations, marine research and development, marine exploration and other  
35 marine-dependent and marine-related industries or similar uses that may emerge over  
36 time. A minimum of 35% of the linear feet designated by the Gulf of Maine Research  
37 Institute for vessel berthing at Union Wharf must be allocated to berth commercial  
38 fishing vessels and aquaculture vessels if there is demand. The restrictions must be set  
39 forth in a recorded declaration of covenants and restrictions encumbering Union Wharf.  
40 The restrictions will be monitored and enforced by the Department of Administrative  
41 and Financial Services or an independent conservation trust or working waterfront trust  
42 approved by the State.

43           Total \$4,000,000



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