



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, VETERANS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS, MAINE NATIONAL GUARD
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AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0033

NGME-ARD

15 October 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Public Affairs Guidance for Question 1: Bond Issue

1. **BACKGROUND:** On 16 August, Governor Paul R. LePage and the Maine Legislature announced the introduction of a \$149.5 million bond package that will be added to the November ballot in the form of five questions. Question One is a proposal that would provide \$14 million for the Maine National Guard, including \$11 million for facility maintenance and capital repair and \$3 million to purchase 6,000 acres of training land for the Army National Guard. Soldiers and Airmen of the Maine National Guard are encouraged to educate themselves on the bond issue and exercise their constitutional right to vote.

2. **QUESTION 1:** The question on the ballot will read: **Do you favor a \$14,000,000 bond issue to provide funds for the State's share of maintenance, repair, capital improvement, modernization and energy efficiency projects for Maine Army National Guard readiness centers and support facilities and the purchase of land for training and to draw down federal matching funds?**

3. **FACTS:**

This Bond provides \$11.0 Million dollars for National Guard Readiness Centers and support facilities for State responsibility of maintenance, repair, capital improvement, and modernization projects leveraging up to \$14.0 Million in federal matching funds from FY15 through FY19. It includes three parts:

- a. \$2.0 Million in State share for National Guard Readiness Center maintenance and repair projects.
- b. \$6.0 Million in State share for National Guard Readiness Center capital repairs.
- c. \$3.0 Million in State share for Air and Army National Guard Readiness Center modernization and energy savings projects.

The second portion of this bond is ARNG Training facility modernization. This bond provides \$3 Million for the purchase of up to 6,000 acres of training land for the Army National Guard to offset current shortfall of training lands and facilities.

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4. TALKING POINTS:

a. Bond passage brings critically needed facility upgrades which contribute to readiness:

1) Facilities will receive modern upgrades that increase soldier/airman safety, and the quality of our training programs. These upgrades include fire alarms, sprinkler systems, electrical safety and adequate and energy efficient lighting systems.

b. We have facilities in many communities but our soldiers and airmen come from hundreds of communities:

1) Every city and town either has or have had members in the National Guard.

2) We are from all areas of Maine and often travel long distances in order to serve.

3) Our Armories are not only used for mobilization/readiness training, but also as staging platforms for state emergency response.

4) We have already sold five armories in five communities throughout the state to fill the gap in maintenance and repair funds; we simply do not have any more to sell.

c. Bond passage benefits not only the soldiers and airmen but the local economy:

1) Maine based consultants will be used for designs.

2) Maine based contractors will most likely be used for the repairs/maintenance.

3) Local supply stores will be used for the materials.

d. Bond passage enables energy efficiency and promotes “green facilities”:

1) Outdated construction and lack of improvements result in energy loss throughout the system.

2) Replace 1950 vintage steam boilers and heating systems with energy efficient hydronic systems.

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3) Perform a life cycle cost analysis to determine which type of fuel (natural gas, wood pellets, #2 fuel oil, etc.) is more efficient.

4) Replace single pane windows with energy efficient double pane windows.

e. The success and safety of our service members is directly affected by modern and safe facilities.

1) Our soldiers are trained to go into harm's way both in time of disaster and war.

2) Updated and modernized armories and training facilities enhance their safety by letting them train as they respond and fight.

3) We have facilities that do not meet code.

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MICHAEL R. STEINBUHEL
Major, MEARNG
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