

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 7, 2026 to APRIL 29, 2026

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NONEMERGENCY LAWS IS
JULY 29, 2026

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TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2026

PRIVATE AND SPECIAL LAWS OF THE STATE OF MAINE
AS PASSED AT
THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
2025

CHAPTER 11
H.P. 1371 - L.D. 2041

**An Act to Increase the Debt
Limit of the North Jay Water
District**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, a new water main is needed to allow the North Jay Water District to protect the health of residents served by the district; and

Whereas, the needed funds would exceed the current borrowing capacity of the district; and

Whereas, the district needs an immediate increase in its borrowing authority in order to timely schedule the needed improvements; and

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

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

Sec. 1. P&SL 1951, c. 107, §9, first sentence, as amended by P&SL 2003, c. 10, §1, is further amended to read:

For accomplishing the purposes of this act, the district, through its trustees, is authorized to borrow money from time to time, not exceeding ~~\$900,000~~ **\$15,000,000** and to issue therefor the interest-bearing negotiable notes or bonds of the district, maturing serially or otherwise, and to make subsequent renewals of the same in whole or in part, and for said purposes and for the purpose of refunding any notes, bonds or other lawful indebtedness, to establish a fund therefor, and for the purpose of obtaining or providing money to pay or to meet any necessary expenses and liabilities incurred or assumed under the provisions of this act, including expenses in the creation of this district, in securing sources of supply, taking water and land, paying damages, laying pipes, constructing, maintaining and operating a water plant and making extensions, additions and improvements to the same, the district, through its trustees, may, from time to time, issue bonds of the district to an amount

necessary in the judgment of the trustees therefor, maturing at ~~4~~ **one** time or in uniform or varying installments, with or without call provisions and at such rates of interest and on such terms and conditions as the trustees determine.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective March 3, 2026.

CHAPTER 12
H.P. 1374 - L.D. 2050

**An Act to Dissolve the Great
Salt Bay Community School
District**

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the towns of Bremen, Damariscotta and Newcastle are members of the Great Salt Bay Community School District that voted to approve a reorganization plan to form Regional School Unit No. 48, effective July 1, 2025; and

Whereas, the method for voters to dissolve a community school district under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 1751 was repealed in 2007; and

Whereas, the Great Salt Bay Community School District has no connection to the reorganized Regional School Unit No. 48 and no longer serves a purpose but has not been formally dissolved; and

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

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

Sec. 1. Great Salt Bay Community School District dissolved. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the Great Salt Bay Community School District is dissolved.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

Effective March 3, 2026.

CHAPTER 13

S.P. 833 - L.D. 2043

An Act to Raise the Ogunquit Sewer District Debt Limit

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

Sec. 1. P&SL 1963, c. 87, §17, first ¶, as amended by P&SL 2021, c. 15, §14, is further amended to read:

Sec. 17. Authorized to borrow money and to issue bonds and notes. To procure funds for the purposes of this Act and for such other expenses as may be necessary for the carrying out of the purposes, the district without a district vote but by action of its board of trustees is authorized to raise funds from sources other than operational activities by receiving governmental aid and also by borrowing money in accordance with this section. The district may issue its notes and bonds in one series or in separate series from time to time, as long as the aggregate outstanding principal balance at any one time does not exceed ~~\$12,000,000~~ \$17,000,000, unless a higher debt obligation limit is established pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1054, except that the district may employ the procedures set forth in Title 30-A, section 2354 as an alternative to the procedures in Title 30-A, chapter 121.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 14

H.P. 1447 - L.D. 2158

An Act to Address Vacancies on the Knox County Budget Committee

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, current law establishes the Knox County budget committee and requires the membership, consisting of 9 members, to be elected to the budget committee in an even-numbered year; and

Whereas, under the Knox County charter, business may not be conducted without the presence of a quorum, which is at least 5 members; and

Whereas, due to vacancies on the budget committee and the failure to fill those vacancies at the 2024 election, the budget committee no longer has a quorum; and

Whereas, this legislation provides for a temporary alternative method of appointment of members to the budget committee; and

Whereas, this legislation must take effect as soon as possible to allow the budget committee to complete its work on the Knox County budget for 2026; and

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

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

Sec. 1. Temporary appointment of members to Knox County budget committee. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 751 or in the Knox County charter regarding the election of members to the Knox County budget committee and the filling of vacancies on the Knox County budget committee, the following provisions apply.

1. Definitions. As used in this Act, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. "Budget committee" means the Knox County budget committee established in Title 30-A, section 751.

B. "County commissioners" means the county commissioners of Knox County.

C. "District" means the budget committee districts established in Title 30-A, section 757, subsection 2.

D. "Eligible resident" means an individual registered to vote in Knox County who is a resident of the district for which that individual is nominated and elected.

2. Appointment of eligible residents. The county commissioners may appoint an eligible resident to fill a vacancy on the budget committee when there are fewer than 5 members of the budget committee who have been duly elected or who have been appointed pursuant to this subsection and seated.

3. Candidates recommended by municipalities. Notwithstanding Title 30-A, section 751, subsection 1, paragraph B, a municipality may submit a written recommendation identifying an eligible resident to fill a vacancy on the budget committee. The county commissioners shall give due regard to such a recommendation