

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

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2026

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