# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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### ONE-HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

### Legislative Document

No. 483

H. P. 331

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Johnson of Stockholm.

#### STATE OF MAINE

## IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE

#### AN ACT Creating the Limestone Medical District.

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

- Sec. 1. Territorial limits, corporate name and purpose. The inhabitants of and territory within the Town of Limestone, in the County of Aroostook, shall be constituted a body politic and corporate under the name of the "Limestone Medical District" for the purpose of supplying, owning, constructing, operating and maintaining facilities for providing medical care to all citizens and for any and all types of related health services.
- Sec. 2. Powers of Limestone Medical District. The Limestone Medical District is authorized for the purpose aforesaid to own, build, maintain, enlarge or expand real property in form of land and buildings, and to charge rent or fees for use of said facilities, and to maintain, purchase or accept as gifts, any and all types of personal property deemed necessary to properly provide for all health services. All incidental powers, rights and privileges necessary to accomplish the main objective herein set forth are granted to the district hereby created.
- Sec. 3. Board of directors. All the affairs of said district shall be managed by a board of directors, composed of at least 3 but not more than 5 residents of the Town of Limestone, and who shall be appointed by the Limestone board of selectmen for a term of 3 years, except for the first board, which shall be appointed for 1, 2 and 3 year terms, as determined by the selectmen. The selectmen shall designate one to be chairman and one as recorder.

As soon as convenient after the board is appointed, said directors shall hold a meeting in the Town of Limestone and adopt a corporate seal, choose a treasurer, and when necessary, all other agents, who, with the treasurer, shall serve

at the pleasure of the directors and the directors shall have authority to fix any compensation for the treasurer or agents. The board of directors shall not receive any salary, but may be reimbursed for actual expenses involved in carrying out their duties.

The directors may establish such by-laws as are necessary for their convenience and the proper management of the affairs of the district, as long as they do not conflict with this charter.

The directors are granted authority to borrow money, accept money or gifts and expend money on behalf of the district. They have authority to mortgage the property of the district up to 2/3 its value.

Sec. 4. Authorized to negotiate temporary loans and to issue notes and bonds, declared a quasi-municipal corporation; notes and bonds legal investment for all types of banks. For accomplishing the purposes of this act, said district, through its directors, is authorized to borrow money temporarily in the amount not in excess of \$50,000, and to issue therefor the interest-bearing negotiable notes of the district, and for the purpose of refunding the indebtedness so created, of paying any necessary expenses incurred under this act, including the expense incurred in the creation of the district, in reimbursing said town for its expenses or for extending or expanding on any or all properties owned by the district, the said district, through its directors, may from time to time issue bonds of this district to an amount necessary in the judgment of the directors for carrying out the objectives of the district so created, maturing at one time, or in uniform or varying installments, with or without recall provisions and at or without premium. Said notes and bonds shall be the legal obligations of said district, which is declared to be a quasi-municipal corporation within the provisions of the Revised Statutes of 1954, chapter 53, section 137 and chapter 90-A, section 23, as enacted by public laws of 1957, chapter 405, section 1, and all the provisions of said sections shall be applicable thereto. The said notes and bonds shall be legal investments for any and all types of banks and exempt from taxation.

The debt limit of the district is established at \$50,000.

- **Sec. 5. Property tax exempt.** The property of said Limestone Medical District shall be exempt from all taxation in said Town of Limestone, and shall be exempt from all sales and excise taxes.
- Sec. 6. Execution of instruments. Any and all instruments to be executed by the district may, by authorization of the directors, be executed in its behalf by its president and treasurer who may impress its corporate seal and make any necessary acknowledgments thereof, except that upon interest coupons attached to any bond to be issued, the facsimile signature of the treasurer may be sufficient.
- Sec. 7. Districts financial activities included in town report. The board of directors shall prepare an annual report of the district's financial activities to be included in the annual town report, and said district shall pay the town for the actual cost of printing the district report.
- Sec. 8. Rates; application of revenue; sinking fund. All individuals, firms or corporations, whether private or public, shall pay to the treasurer of said

district the rent or fees established by the board of directors for any services or facilities provided. Said rates shall be so established as to provide revenue for the following purposes:

- I. To pay current expenses for operating facilities;
- II. To provide for payment of the interest on the indebtedness created by the district;
- III. To provide each year, a sum equal to not less than 1% or more than 6% of the entire indebtedness created by the district, which sum shall be turned into a sinking fund and there kept to provide for the extinguishment of said indebtedness. The money set aside for the sinking fund shall be devoted to the retirement of the obligations of the district, or invested in such securities as saving banks are allowed to hold. The directors may, in their discretion and in lieu of the establishment of a sinking fund, issue the bonds of the district so that not less than 1% of the amount of the bonds so issued shall mature and be retired each year.
- IV. If any surplus remains at end of year, it may be turned into the sinking funds.

Local referendum; effective date; certificate to Secretary of State. This act shall take effect 90 days after the adjournment of the Legislature only for the purpose of permitting its submission to the legal voters of the Town of Limestone, present and voting at a special election or elections to be called by the selectmen of the Town of Limestone and held not later than one year after adjournment of the Legislature. Any such special election shall be called, advertised and conducted according to the law relating to municipal elections; provided that the selectmen of said town shall not be required to prepare for posting, nor the town clerk to post, a new list of voters, and for the purpose of registration of voters said selectmen shall be in session on the secular day next preceding any such special election.

The town clerk of said Town of Limestone shall prepare the required ballots on which he shall reduce the subject matter of this act to the following question: "Shall the Act Creating the Limestone Medical District, passed by the 100th Legislature, be accepted?" The voters shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed against the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same.

This act shall take complete effect for all purposes immediately upon its acceptance by a majority of the legal voters voting thereon at any such election, provided that the total number of votes cast for and against acceptance of this act equals or exceeds 20% of the total vote for all candidates for Governor cast in said town at the next previous gubernatorial election. If, at the first such special election, the total number of votes cast for and against acceptance of this act is less than 20% of the total vote for all candidates for Governor cast in said town at the next preceding gubernatorial election, the selectmen may call not more than one more such special election to be held within the time prescribed above.

The result of such elections shall be declared by the selectmen of the Town of Limestone and due certificate thereof filed by the town clerk with the Secretary of State.