

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION (EMERGENCY)

ONE-HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1658

H. P. 1205 Committee on Legal Affairs suggested.

Presented by Mr. Bearce of Bucksport.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE

AN ACT Relating to Town of Bucksport School District.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, voters of the Town of Bucksport at a special town meeting held March 20, 1961, voted to incorporate the Town of Bucksport School District pursuant to the provisions of chapter 29, private and special laws of 1961; and

Whereas, the District desires to go forward with arrangements made for the construction of a new school building; and

Whereas, the said District has sought to obtain a loan of \$750,000 for the purpose of erecting and equipping said new school building but has been unable to do so because counsel have expressed doubts as to the validity of such loans while another school district of the same name exists, even though inactive, and while the purposes for which the District was created remain broadly stated; and

Whereas, the existing school buildings in the town are overcrowded, inadequate and in need of repair and such conditions are detrimental to the health, safety and quality of the education of the pupils; and

Whereas, it is imperative that action be taken at the earliest possible moment to relieve these conditions; 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 P. & S. L., 1935, c. 40, repealed. Chapter 40 of the private and special laws of 1935 is hereby repealed.

Sec. 2. P. & S. L., 1961, c. 29, § 1, amended. Section 1 of chapter 29 of the private and special laws of 1961 is hereby amended to read as follows:

'Sec. 1. Incorporation; name; purposes. Subject to the provisions of section 7 and the referendum, the inhabitants of and the territory within the Town of Bucksport are created a body politic and corporate under the name of "Town of Bucksport School District" for the purpose of acquiring property within the said town for school and related athletic and recreational purposes; for the purpose of erecting, enlarging, repairing, equipping and maintaining on said property a school building or school buildings, school bus garage, and related athletic and recreational facilities and for the purpose of completing, grading, furnishing, rebuilding, renovating and otherwise bettering the condition of any or all buildings within said town used for school purposes or which may hereafter be used for school purposes for the purpose of maintaining a school or schools with the right to lease or let leasing or letting any property of said district to said town; and for the purpose of receiving, accepting and holding gifts, grants or devises of property real, personal or mixed to be used for school and related athletic and recreational purposes; all for the benefit of the inhabitants of said town.'

Sec. 3. Validation of proceedings and appointment of trustees. The proceedings taken in the town meeting held March 20, 1961, in the Town of Bucksport wherein it was voted to accept said chapter 29 of the private and special laws of 1961 are hereby validated, confirmed and made effective and the trustees of the Town of Bucksport School District appointed by the superintending school committee and the board of selectmen of said town are hereby declared to have been duly appointed and qualified for the respective terms for which each was appointed and all proceedings of the trustees of said district as from time to time constituted as shown by the records of said district and all the action duly taken in accordance therewith by the officers and agents of said district are hereby validated, confirmed and made effective.

Sec. 4. Emergency clause; referendum; certificate to the Secretary of State. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble this act shall take effect when approved, only for the purpose of permitting its submission to the legal voters of the town of Bucksport at the next annual town meeting or at a special town meeting called for the purpose not later than six months after the approval of this act. In the event a special meeting is called for the purpose, it shall be called, advertised and conducted according to the law relating to municipal elections; provided that the Registrar of Voters shall not be required to prepare nor the town clerk to post, a new list of voters, and for the purpose of registration of voters, said Registrar shall be in session 2 hours next preceding such meeting.

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The town clerk shall prepare the required ballots on which he shall reduce the subject matter of this act to the following question: "Shall the Act amending chapter 29 of the private and special laws of 1961 establishing the Town of Bucksport School District and validating the appointment of and the actions taken by the trustees be accepted?" The voters shall indicate by a cross or checkmark placed against the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same.

This act shall take effect for all purposes hereof immediately upon its acceptance by a majority vote by the legal voters voting on the question at said meeting, provided the total number of votes cast for and against the acceptance of this act equals or exceeds 10% of the total vote for the candidates for Governor in said town at the next preceding gubernatorial election.

The result of said vote shall be declared by a municipal officer of the Town of Bucksport and a due certificate thereof filed by the town clerk with the Secretary of State.