

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 140

H. P. 96

House of Representatives, January 12, 1971

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

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Finemore of Bridgewater.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-ONE

**AN ACT to Increase the Borrowing Capacity of the Four Corners
Community School District.**

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

Whereas, the Four Corners Community School District, consisting of the towns of Dyer Brook, Merrill, Oakfield and Smyrna, are in need of new school facilities; and

Whereas, the debt limit imposed on community school districts is unnecessarily restrictive; and

Whereas, the following legislation is necessary to prevent undue hardship on elementary school children in the area; 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:

Power to borrow money. The trustees of the Four Corners Community School District, consisting of the towns of Dyer Brook, Merrill, Oakfield and Smyrna, are authorized and empowered to borrow a sum of money not to exceed \$500,000 for the purpose of building elementary school facilities in said community school district notwithstanding any limitations contained in the Revised Statutes, Title 20, sections 351 to 360.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

FISCAL NOTE

The state's share of a \$500,000 construction project in this district would be \$300,000. The money would be paid from the \$50,000,000 school construction bond issue which was ratified in November of 1970.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The four-town area has an elementary school enrollment of approximately 300 students. The law relating to borrowing in community school districts limits debt to 5% of the state valuation. The district needs to construct a building containing from 12-15 classrooms, plus an all-purpose room and cafeteria. The towns currently have no debt on existing school buildings. The district is eligible for 60% school construction aid under the provisions contained in the Revised Statutes.