

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 817

H. P. 619

House of Representatives, February 12, 1973

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

E. LOUISE LINCOLN, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Martin of Eagle Lake.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-THREE

AN ACT Relating to Control of School Water Supplies.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 20, § 306, amended. Section 306 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended by sections 6-A and 6-B of chapter 425 of the public laws of 1967, is further amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read as follows:

When a school building of the district is supplied by a water supply operated by the district and which serves only the school building or buildings under the control of the school directors, such a water supply shall not be considered a public water supply under Title 22, sections 2434 and 2435. The school directors shall be responsible for assuring that any such water supply meets standards set by the Department of Health and Welfare for private water supplies of schools.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 20, § 353, amended. Section 353 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding at the end a new paragraph to read as follows:

When a school building of the district is supplied by a water supply operated by the district and which serves only the school building or buildings under the control of the trustees, such a water supply shall not be considered a public water supply under Title 22, sections 2434 and 2435. The trustees shall be responsible for assuring that any such water supply meets standards set by the Department of Health and Welfare for private water supplies of schools.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 20, § 473, sub-§ 14, additional. Section 473 of Title 20 of the Revised Statutes, as amended, is further amended by adding a new subsection 14, to read as follows:

14. **School water supplies.** When a school building controlled by the committee is supplied by a water supply operated by the committee and which serves only the school building or buildings under the control of the committee, such a water supply shall not be considered a public water supply under Title 22, sections 2434 and 2435. The committee shall be responsible for assuring that any such water supply meets standards set by the Department of Health and Welfare for private water supplies of schools.

STATEMENT OF FACT

Whether or not a school's water supply is a "private water supply" is unclear under existing statutes and legal interpretation has varied. This statute would clarify the legal status of these water supplies and clearly identify the governing body of the school system as responsible for the safety and quality of the school's water.