

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

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ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 2068

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S.P. 759

In Senate, February 8, 1984

Reference to the Committee on Public Utilities. Ordered printed and sent down for concurrence.

Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.

JOY J. O'BRIEN, Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator Erwin of Oxford.

Cosponsors: Representative Dexter of Kingfield and Representative Mills of Bethel.

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STATE OF MAINE

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IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR

---

AN ACT Creating the Rangeley Water  
District.

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

Whereas, the Rangeley Water Company has not complied with the United States Safe Drinking Water Act, Public Law 93-523, requirements of 1977 as they pertain to water purity and storage because it cannot finance the necessary improvements; and

Whereas, the residents of the Town of Rangeley will not approve the purchase of the Rangeley Water Company, at the company's asking price, by the Town of Rangeley; and

Whereas, the Rangeley Water Company is advertising the sale of its assets to private investors,

1 which would necessitate compliance with the United  
2 States Safe Drinking Water Act, Public Law 93-523,  
3 and create a hardship to the users by resulting in an  
4 increase in the users' fees by not less than 183%;  
5 and

6       Whereas, the Town of Rangeley and those sections  
7 of Sandy River and Rangeley Plantations now served by  
8 the Rangeley Water Company are desirous of clean  
9 healthful drinking water at an affordable rate and of  
10 continued and uninterrupted water service; and

11       Whereas, the formation of a water district is  
12 urgently needed to assure that vitally needed water  
13 is supplied to many inhabitants of the Town of  
14 Rangeley and Sandy River and Rangeley Plantations;  
15 and

16       Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature,  
17 these facts create an emergency within the meaning of  
18 the Constitution of Maine and require the following  
19 legislation as immediately necessary for the preser-  
20 vation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
21 therefore,

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

24       **Sec. 1. Territorial limits; corporate name; pur-**  
25 **poses.** Subject to section 13, the inhabitants and  
26 territory within the Town of Rangeley, Rangeley  
27 Plantation and Sandy River Plantation, beginning on  
28 the easterly shore of Rangeley Lake at the Rangeley  
29 and Rangeley Plantation town line, thence southerly  
30 along the easterly shore of Rangeley Lake to Long  
31 Pond Stream, thence along the easterly side of Long  
32 Pond Stream to a point on the westerly side of Cas-  
33 cade Stream, thence due east to a point 1,320 feet  
34 east of Route 4, thence due north to a point in the  
35 middle of Cascade Stream, thence northwesterly to the  
36 common corner of the townships of Rangeley, Dallas,  
37 Sandy River Plantation and Rangeley Plantation,  
38 thence northerly along the Dallas and Rangeley town  
39 line to a point 500 feet northerly from Route 16,  
40 thence due west to a point in the center of Hatchery  
41 Brook, thence due south to the shore of Rangeley

1 Lake, thence along the northerly and easterly shore  
2 of Rangeley Lake to the point of beginning; and also  
3 all real properties of the Rangeley Water Company in  
4 Sandy River and Rangeley Plantations in the County of  
5 Franklin shall be and hereby are constituted a public  
6 municipal corporation under the name of "Rangeley Wa-  
7 ter District" for the purpose of supplying the inhab-  
8 itants of the district with pure water for domestic,  
9 sanitary, manufacturing and municipal purposes.

10       **Sec. 2. Source of supply.** The water district,  
11 for the purposes of its incorporation, is authorized  
12 to take, collect, store, hold, divert, use, flow, de-  
13 tain and distribute water from any lake, pond, stream  
14 or river and from any surface or underground brook,  
15 spring or vein of water in the Town of Rangeley and  
16 from any other source from which the Rangeley Water  
17 Company is now authorized to take any water, includ-  
18 ing sources outside of the Town of Rangeley.

19       **Sec. 3. Right of eminent domain conferred.** The  
20 district, for the purposes of its incorporation, is  
21 authorized to take and hold, as for public uses, by  
22 purchase, gift or by exercise of the right of eminent  
23 domain, which right is expressly delegated to the wa-  
24 ter district for those purposes, any lands or inter-  
25 ests therein or water rights necessary for erecting  
26 and maintaining dams, for flowage, for power, for  
27 pumping its water supply through its mains, for res-  
28 ervoirs and standpipes, for preserving the purity of  
29 the water and watershed, for laying and maintaining  
30 aqueducts, mains and other structures for taking,  
31 distributing, purifying, discharging and disposing of  
32 water and for rights-of-way or roadways to its  
33 sources of supply, dams, power stations, reservoirs,  
34 standpipes, mains, aqueducts, structures and lands.  
35 Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed as  
36 authorizing the water district to take by right of  
37 eminent domain any of the property or facilities of  
38 any other public service corporation or district used  
39 or acquired for future use by the owner thereof in  
40 the performance of a public duty, unless expressly  
41 authorized in this Act or by subsequent Act of the  
42 Legislature, or as provided in section 7.

43       **Sec. 4. Authorized to lay pipes; public ways and**  
44 **across private lands.** The district is authorized to

1 lay in and through the streets, roads, ways and high-  
2 ways within the district and across private lands in  
3 the district, and to maintain and replace all such  
4 pipes, aqueducts, mains and fixtures as may be neces-  
5 sary, and may excavate through any lands when neces-  
6 sary and convenient for its corporate purposes; and  
7 whenever the district lays any pipes, aqueducts or  
8 mains in any street, road, way or highway, it shall  
9 cause the same to be done with as little obstruction  
10 as practicable to the public travel, and shall at its  
11 own expense without unnecessary delay cause the earth  
12 and pavement removed by it to be replaced in proper  
13 condition.

14       **Sec. 5. Authorized to erect and maintain dams,**  
15 **reservoirs, etc.** The district is authorized, for the  
16 purposes of its incorporation, to erect and maintain  
17 all dams, pumping stations, with all necessary appli-  
18 ances required therefor, reservoirs, standpipes and  
19 structures necessary and convenient for its corporate  
20 purposes.

21       **Sec. 6. Procedure in exercising rights of emi-**  
22 **nent domain; assessment of damages; appeal proce-**  
23 **dure.** The water district is liable for all damage  
24 that is sustained by any person or corporation in his  
25 or its property by the taking of any land or interest  
26 therein whatsoever, for water, or by flowage, or by  
27 excavating through any land for the purpose of laying  
28 pipes, aqueducts or mains, building dams or con-  
29 structing reservoirs or any other construction neces-  
30 sary to the taking, distributing, purifying, dis-  
31 charging and disposing of water for its users.

32       In exercising any right of eminent domain con-  
33 ferred upon it by law, from time to time, in the tak-  
34 ing of lands or interests therein, or water rights,  
35 the district shall file in the office of the county  
36 commissioners of Franklin County and record in the  
37 registry of deeds in that county plans of the loca-  
38 tion of all such lands or interests therein or water  
39 rights, with an appropriate description and the names  
40 of the owners, if known. Notice of the filing shall  
41 be sent by mail to the owners at the address appear-  
42 ing on the tax records of the municipality in which  
43 the land is located. When for any reason the dis-  
44 trict fails to acquire the property authorized to be

1 taken, and which is described in that location, or  
2 the location recorded is defective or uncertain, it  
3 may, at any time, correct and perfect that location  
4 and file a new description, and in such case the dis-  
5 trict is liable in damages only for property for  
6 which the owner had not previously been paid, to be  
7 assessed as of the time of the original taking, and  
8 the district is not liable for any acts which would  
9 have been justified if the original taking had been  
10 lawful. No entry may be made on any private lands,  
11 except to make surveys, until the expiration of 10  
12 days from that filing, at which time possession may  
13 be had of all lands or interest therein or water  
14 rights so taken, but title shall not vest in the dis-  
15 trict until payment therefor.

16 If any person or corporation sustains damages by  
17 any taking and the water district does not mutually  
18 agree upon the sum to be paid therefor, either party,  
19 upon petition to the county commissioners of Franklin  
20 County, may have those damages assessed by them; and  
21 the procedure and all subsequent proceedings and  
22 right of appeal shall be had under the same restric-  
23 tions, conditions and limitations as are or may be by  
24 law prescribed in the case of damages by the laying  
25 out of town ways.

26 Sec. 7. Procedures in crossing of railroads or  
27 utility rights-of-way. In case of any crossing of a  
28 railroad or the right-of-way occupied by the trans-  
29 mission or distribution lines of an electric company  
30 or telephone company, unless consent is given by the  
31 company owning or operating that railroad or trans-  
32 mission line, as to place, manner and conditions of  
33 the crossing, within 30 days after that consent is  
34 requested by the district, the Public Utilities Com-  
35 mission shall, upon petition setting forth a descrip-  
36 tion of the premises and the reasons for the cross-  
37 ing, after notice given as the commission may pre-  
38 scribe, determine the place, manner and conditions of  
39 that crossing; and all work within the limits of that  
40 railroad location or right-of-way shall be done under  
41 the supervision and to the satisfaction of the rail-  
42 road company, telephone company or electric company,  
43 as the case may be, but at the expense of the dis-  
44 trict, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Utili-  
45 ties Commission, which shall award to the railroad,

1 telephone company or electric company any damage suf-  
2 fered by it occasioned by the crossing.

3       **Sec. 8. Board of trustees; appointment; compen-**  
4 **sation.** All the affairs of the district shall be  
5 managed by a board of trustees composed of 5 members  
6 of the legal voters of the district from the Town of  
7 Rangeley, Sandy River Plantation and Rangeley  
8 Plantation. Initially 3 of the trustees shall be  
9 chosen by the municipal officers of Rangeley and one  
10 by the municipal officers of Sandy River Plantation  
11 and one by the municipal officers of Rangeley  
12 Plantation. At the first meeting, the trustees from  
13 Rangeley may determine by agreement or, failing to  
14 agree, they shall determine by lot, the term of of-  
15 fice of each Rangeley trustee so that no more than  
16 one may retire each year. The term of office of the  
17 Rangeley trustees shall end at the annual town meet-  
18 ing held in March. The trustees from Rangeley  
19 Plantation and Sandy River Plantation shall be ap-  
20 pointed by the municipal officers in March at their  
21 annual town meeting for a term of 3 years. Whenever  
22 the term of office of the Rangeley trustees expires,  
23 a successor is elected by Australian ballot at the  
24 regular yearly municipal election to serve the full  
25 term of 3 years; in case any other vacancy arises  
26 from any cause, it shall be filled in like manner for  
27 the unexpired term. When any trustee ceases to be a  
28 resident of the town or plantation from which he was  
29 elected or appointed, he vacates the office of trust-  
30 ee.

31       The trustee shall hold a meeting at the town con-  
32 ference room at the town office in Rangeley and or-  
33 ganize by the election of a president and clerk,  
34 adopt a corporate seal, and when necessary may choose  
35 a treasurer and all other needful officers and agents  
36 for the proper conduct and management of the affairs  
37 of the district. The trustees may also ordain and  
38 establish such bylaws as are necessary for their own  
39 convenience and the proper management of the affairs  
40 of the district. The trustees may procure an office  
41 and incur such expenses as may be necessary. The  
42 treasurer shall furnish bond in such sum and with  
43 such sureties as the trustees may approve. The  
44 trustees, as such, shall receive as compensation for  
45 their services \$30 for each meeting attended, and re-

1 imbursement for travel and expenses each year up to a  
2 maximum of \$600 each, and the treasurer may be al-  
3 lowed such compensation as the trustees shall deter-  
4 mine, but the treasurer shall not vote on his own  
5 salary. A quorum of the board of trustees shall be 3  
6 trustees. All decisions of the board of trustees  
7 shall be by a majority of those present and voting.  
8 The trustees shall be sworn to the faithful perform-  
9 ance of their duties as such, which shall include the  
10 duties of any member who shall serve as clerk or  
11 clerk protem.

12       **Sec. 9. Temporary loans negotiated; issue of**  
13 **bonds.** For accomplishing the purposes of this Act,  
14 the water district, through its trustees, is autho-  
15 rized to borrow money temporarily and to issue there-  
16 for the negotiable notes of the district, and for the  
17 purpose of refunding the indebtedness so created, for  
18 paying any necessary expenses and liabilities in-  
19 curred under the provisions of this Act, including  
20 the expenses incurred in the creation of a district,  
21 in securing sources of supply, taking water and land,  
22 paying damages, taking rights-of-way or other inter-  
23 ests in real estate, by purchase or otherwise, laying  
24 pipes, aqueducts and mains, constructing, installing,  
25 maintaining and operating reservoirs, standpipes,  
26 dams, pumping stations and whatever equipment may be  
27 necessary or incidental to the construction and in-  
28 stallation of that system of water works and making  
29 renewals of or extensions, additions and improvements  
30 to the same, the district by votes of its board of  
31 trustees, without district vote except as provided in  
32 this Act, is also authorized to issue, from time to  
33 time, bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness  
34 of the district in the amount or amounts, not exceed-  
35 ing the sum of \$1,500,000 outstanding at any one  
36 time, bearing interest at such rate or rates, and  
37 having such terms and provisions as the trustees de-  
38 termine; provided that in the case of a vote by the  
39 trustees to authorize bonds or notes to pay for the  
40 acquisition of property, for the cost of a water sys-  
41 tem or part thereof, for renewal or additions or for  
42 other improvements in the nature of capital costs, or  
43 for renewing or refunding existing indebtedness, no-  
44 tice of the proposed debt and of the general purpose  
45 or purposes for which it was authorized shall be  
46 given by the clerk by publication at least once in a

1 newspaper having a general circulation in the Town of  
2 Rangeley. No debt may be incurred under the vote of  
3 the trustees until the expiration of 7 full days fol-  
4 lowing the date on which the notice was first pub-  
5 lished. Prior to the expiration of the period, the  
6 trustees may call a special district meeting for the  
7 purpose of permitting the voters of the district to  
8 express approval or disapproval of the amount of debt  
9 so authorized, and the trustees shall call a special  
10 district meeting if, within 7 days following the pub-  
11 lication of the notice, there is filed with the clerk  
12 of the district a petition or petitions signed by not  
13 less than 50 qualified voters of the district re-  
14 questing that a special meeting be called. If, at  
15 the district meeting, a majority of voters present  
16 and voting thereon express disapproval of the amount  
17 of debt authorized by the trustees, the debt may not  
18 be incurred and the vote of the trustees authorizing  
19 the same shall be void and of no effect. The bonds,  
20 notes and evidences of indebtedness may be issued to  
21 mature serially in annual installments of not less  
22 than 1% of the face amount of the issue and beginning  
23 not later than 2 years from the date thereof, or may  
24 be issued with equal annual payments, applied first  
25 to interest and the balance to principal, or made to  
26 run for such periods as the trustees may determine,  
27 but no issue shall run for a longer period than 40  
28 years from the date of original issue. Bonds, notes  
29 or evidences of indebtedness may be issued with or  
30 without provision for calling the same prior to matu-  
31 rity and, if callable, may be made callable at par or  
32 at such premium as the trustees may determine. All  
33 bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness shall  
34 have inscribed upon their faces the words "Rangeley  
35 Water District," shall be signed by the treasurer and  
36 countersigned by the chairman of the board of trust-  
37 ees of the district and, if coupon bonds are issued,  
38 the interest coupons attached thereto shall bear the  
39 facsimile of the signature of the treasurer. All  
40 bonds, notes and evidences of indebtedness so issued  
41 by the district shall be legal obligations of the  
42 district, which is declared to be a quasi-municipal  
43 corporation within the meaning of the Revised Stat-  
44 utes, Title 30, section 5053, and as amended, and all  
45 provisions of this section shall be applicable there-  
46 to.

1           The district may, from time to time, issue its  
2 bonds, notes and other evidences of indebtedness for  
3 the purpose of paying, redeeming or refunding out-  
4 standing bonds, notes or evidences of indebtedness  
5 and each authorized issue shall constitute a separate  
6 loan. All bonds, notes and evidences of indebtedness  
7 issued by the district shall be legal investments for  
8 savings banks in the State and shall be tax exempt.  
9 The district is authorized and empowered to enter in-  
10 to agreements with the State or Federal Government,  
11 or any agency of either or any corporation, commis-  
12 sion or board authorized by the State or Federal Gov-  
13 ernment to grant or loan money to or otherwise assist  
14 in the financing of projects, such as the district is  
15 authorized to carry out, and to accept grants and  
16 borrow money from any government agency, corporation,  
17 commission or board as may be necessary or desirable  
18 to enforce this Act. All notes and bonds with the  
19 maturity of more than one year in connection with the  
20 water system shall first be approved by the Public  
21 Utilities Commission.

22           **Sec. 10. Sinking fund provided for.** In case any  
23 of the bonds or notes are made to run for a period of  
24 years, a sinking fund shall be established by the  
25 trustees of the district for the purpose of redeeming  
26 the bonds or notes when they become due and a sum  
27 equal to not less than 1% and not more than 5% of the  
28 aggregate principal of the outstanding bonds or  
29 notes, except for serial bonds issued on account of  
30 or in behalf of the district, shall be turned into  
31 the sinking fund each year to provide for the final  
32 extinguishment of the district funded debt.

33           The money set aside for the sinking fund shall be  
34 devoted to the retirement of the notes and bonds, and  
35 shall be used for no other purposes, and shall be in-  
36 vested in such securities as savings banks are al-  
37 lowed to hold.

38           Whenever any bonds of the district become due or  
39 can be purchased by the trustees on favorable terms,  
40 the trustees may, if sufficient funds have accumu-  
41 lated in the sinking fund, redeem or purchase the  
42 bonds and cancel them. In no case may bonds so can-  
43 celed or redeemed be reissued.

1           In case the amount in the sinking fund is not  
2 sufficient to pay the total amount of the bonds fall-  
3 ing due at any one time, the trustees may issue new  
4 bonds sufficient to redeem as many of the bonds as  
5 cannot be redeemed from the sinking fund.

6           In the event that the district, with the approval  
7 of bond counsel or a bonding organization, estab-  
8 lishes a payment schedule that does not require the  
9 use of a sinking fund, the provisions of this section  
10 shall not apply.

11           **Sec. 11. Authority to purchase property of**  
12 **Rangeley Water Company.** The Rangeley Water District  
13 may acquire by purchase the entire plant, property,  
14 franchises, rights and privileges, but not obliga-  
15 tions, of the Rangeley Water Company located in or  
16 serving the Town of Rangeley, Sandy River and  
17 Rangeley Plantations, including all land, waters, wa-  
18 ter rights, dams, structures, reservoirs, pipes, ma-  
19 chinery, fixtures, hydrants, tools and all apparatus  
20 and appliances owned by that company, whether the  
21 record title thereto is or is not in the Rangeley Wa-  
22 ter Company. The company is authorized to sell,  
23 transfer and convey its franchises and property to  
24 the water district, subject to Public Utilities Com-  
25 mission approval.

26           **Sec. 12. Procedure in case trustees and Rangeley**  
27 **Water Company fail to agree on terms of purchase.** In  
28 case the trustees fail to agree with the Rangeley Wa-  
29 ter Company upon the terms of purchase, then the dis-  
30 trict, through its trustees, may take the properties,  
31 interest and franchises of the Rangeley Water Compa-  
32 ny, as set forth in section 11, in the manner pro-  
33 vided in this Act, wherein the Rangeley Water Company  
34 and its mortgagees, if any, or those having an inter-  
35 est in any realty which is of record, shall be the  
36 parties' defendant. The district, through its trust-  
37 ees, may file a petition in the clerk's office of the  
38 Superior Court for the County of Franklin, addressed  
39 to any justice thereof who, after notice to the de-  
40 fendant, shall, after hearing and within 60 days af-  
41 ter the filing of the petition, appoint 3 disinter-  
42 ested appraisers for the purpose of fixing the valua-  
43 tions of the plant, property and franchises of the  
44 Rangeley Water Company described in section 11. The

1 court may order under proper terms the production for  
2 inspection by the trustees or the appraisers of all  
3 books and papers pertaining to the issue, on petition  
4 by the petitioner, unless the same are voluntarily  
5 produced. The appraisers shall, after due notice and  
6 hearing, fix the valuation, as of the date of filing  
7 the petition, of the plants, properties and fran-  
8 chises at what they were fairly and equitably worth  
9 so that the company shall receive just compensation  
10 for the same. The report of the appraisers or of a  
11 majority of them, together with the report of a ste-  
12 nographer certified by the appraisers as correct,  
13 shall be filed in the clerk's office within 6 months  
14 after their appointment and any Justice of the Super-  
15 ior Court may, after notice and hearing, confirm or  
16 reject the same or recommit it if justice so re-  
17 quires. Upon the confirmation of the report, the  
18 court so sitting shall thereupon make final decree  
19 upon the entire matter, including the application of  
20 the purchase money and transfer of the property, ju-  
21 risdiction over which is hereby conferred, and with  
22 the power to enforce the decree as in equity cases.  
23 All findings of fact by the court and the appraisers  
24 shall be final, but any party aggrieved may take ex-  
25 ceptions as to any matters of law, the same to be ac-  
26 companied by so much of the case as may be necessary  
27 to a clear understanding of the question raised.  
28 These exceptions shall be claimed on the docket with-  
29 in 10 days after the final decree is signed, entered,  
30 filed and notice thereof has been given by the clerk  
31 to the parties and the exceptions so claimed shall be  
32 made up, allowed and filed within that time, unless  
33 further time is granted by the court or by agreement  
34 of the parties. They shall be entered at the next  
35 term of the Law Court to be held after the filing of  
36 these exceptions and there heard, unless otherwise  
37 agreed, or the Law Court for good cause shall order  
38 further time for hearing thereon. On payment or  
39 tender by the district of the amount determined by  
40 the final decree and the performance of all other  
41 terms and conditions imposed by the court, the plant,  
42 properties and franchises of Rangeley Water Company,  
43 as described in section 11, shall become vested in  
44 this district.

45       **Sec. 13. Property tax exempt.** The plant and  
46 property of the district within the territorial lim-

1 its of the district shall be exempt from all taxation  
2 in the Town of Rangeley and Sandy River and Rangeley  
3 Plantations.

4       **Sec. 14. Water rates.** Individuals, firms and  
5 corporations, whether private, public or municipal,  
6 shall pay to the treasurer of the district the rates  
7 established by the board of trustees for the water  
8 used by them; and the rates for water so supplied  
9 shall be uniform within the territory supplied by the  
10 district whenever the installation and maintenance of  
11 mains and the cost of service is substantially uni-  
12 form, but nothing in this Act precludes the district  
13 from establishing higher rates than the regular rates  
14 in sections where for any reason the cost of con-  
15 struction and maintenance or the cost of service ex-  
16 ceeds the average, but these higher rates shall be  
17 uniform throughout the sections where they apply.  
18 The rates shall be so established as to provide reve-  
19 nue for the following purposes:

20           A. To pay the current expenses for operating and  
21 maintaining the water system;

22           B. To provide for the payment of the interest on  
23 the indebtedness created or assumed by the dis-  
24 trict;

25           C. To provide each year a sum equal to not less  
26 than 1% and not more than 5% of the entire in-  
27 debtedness created by the district, which sum  
28 shall be used to pay serial bonds or notes when  
29 due or be turned into a sinking fund and there  
30 kept to provide for extinguishment of the indebt-  
31 edness. Money set aside for the sinking fund  
32 shall be devoted to the retirement of the obliga-  
33 tions of the water district and invested in such  
34 securities as savings banks in this State are al-  
35 lowed to hold; and

36           D. If any surplus remains at the end of the  
37 year, it may be turned into the sinking fund or  
38 used for such other purposes of the district as  
39 the trustees may determine.

40       The water rates, tools, charges and rents shall  
41 be filed with and subject to the approval of the Pub-

1       lic Utilities Commission as required or permitted by  
2       the applicable statutes.

3           Sec. 15. District and town authorized to make  
4       contracts. The district through its trustees is au-  
5       thorized to contract with persons and corporations,  
6       including the Town of Rangeley, and the Town of  
7       Rangeley is authorized to contract with it for the  
8       supply of water for municipal purposes.

9           Sec. 16. Incidental rights and privileges. All  
10       incidental rights, powers and privileges necessary to  
11       the accomplishment of the main object set forth in  
12       this Act are granted to the municipal corporation  
13       created by this Act.

14           Sec. 17. Existing statutes not affected; rights  
15       conferred subject to provisions of law. Nothing is  
16       this Act is intended to repeal, or shall be construed  
17       as repealing, the whole or any part of any existing  
18       statute and all the rights and duties mentioned in  
19       this Act shall be exercised and performed in accord-  
20       ance with all the applicable provisions of the Re-  
21       vised Statutes, Title 35, and all acts amendatory  
22       thereof or additional thereto.

23           Sec. 18. Certain sections inoperative on failure  
24       to acquire Rangeley Water Company plant. If the wa-  
25       ter district fails to acquire the plant, property,  
26       franchises, rights and privileges owned by the  
27       Rangeley Water Company and used or usable in supply-  
28       ing water to the Town of Rangeley and those sections  
29       of Sandy River and Rangeley Plantations now served by  
30       the Rangeley Water Company, then this Act shall be  
31       inoperative.

32           Sec. 19. Acceptance subject to referendum; emer-  
33       gency. This Act shall take effect when approved by a  
34       majority vote of the legal voters within the district  
35       voting at an election to be specially called and held  
36       for the purpose within 3 months of passage of this  
37       Act. The registrars of voters in the Town of  
38       Rangeley, Sandy River and Rangeley Plantations shall  
39       make and provide a separate check list for those vot-  
40       ers within the district as are legal voters of the  
41       town and plantations at that time, and all warrants  
42       issued to the town and plantations shall be varied

1 accordingly to show that only those voters residing  
2 within the district shall be entitled to vote. The  
3 special election shall be called, advertised and con-  
4 ducted according to the law relating to municipal  
5 elections, provided that the registrars of voters  
6 shall not be required to prepare or the clerks to  
7 post a new list of voters, and for this purpose the  
8 registrars of voters shall be in session the 3 secu-  
9 lar days preceding the election, of which the first 2  
10 days will be devoted to registration of voters and  
11 the last day to enable the registrars to verify the  
12 lists and to complete the records of these sessions.  
13 The subject matter of this Act shall be reduced to  
14 the following question:

15 "Shall the Rangeley Water District be created?"

16 The voters shall indicate by a cross or check  
17 mark placed against the words "Yes" or "No" their  
18 opinion of the same.

19 The results shall be declared by the municipal  
20 officers of each town and due certificates thereof  
21 filed by the clerks with the Secretary of State.

22 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited  
23 in the preamble, this Act shall take effect for all  
24 the purposes thereof immediately upon its acceptance  
25 by a majority of the legal voters within the district  
26 voting at the special election held in each munici-  
27 pality and plantation. Failure of approval by the  
28 necessary majority of voters at any such election  
29 shall not prevent a subsequent election or elections  
30 to be held for that purpose within the time limita-  
31 tion of section 12.

32 STATEMENT OF FACT

33 The purpose of this bill is to create the  
34 Rangeley Water District.

35 4905123083