

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

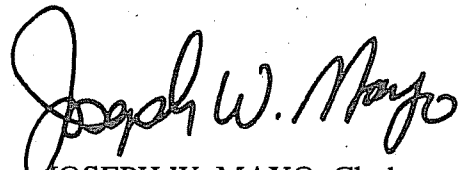
No. 959

H.P. 708

House of Representatives, March 22, 1993

An Act to Authorize Special Property Tax Districts.

Reference to the Committee on Taxation suggested and ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative ADAMS of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representative: SKOGLUND of St. George, Senator: PINGREE of Knox.

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

4 Sec. 1. 36 MRSA c. 105, sub-c. II-C is enacted to read:

6 SUBCHAPTER II-C

8 SPECIAL PROPERTY TAX DISTRICTS

10 §595. Municipalities authorized to create special property tax districts

12 1. Special property tax districts authorized. A
14 municipality that has geographically isolated islands may
16 establish a special property tax district or districts for those
18 islands, or any one of them, by a vote of the municipality's
20 legislative body and may also establish a lower property tax rate
22 to be applied to the assessed property within the district than
the rate that is applied to mainland property. For the purposes
of this section, "geographically isolated" means not connected to
the mainland in a manner that allows motor vehicular access by
bridge.

24 2. Time of voting. The vote establishing or dissolving a
26 special property tax district must be taken at least 60 days
before the beginning of the municipal fiscal year in which it is
to go into effect.

28 3. Tax rate. The tax rate established for property within
30 the district must be set on a percentage basis and must be at
32 least 50% of the rate established for all other property within
34 the municipality. Once established, the rate remains in effect
unless altered by a vote of the municipality's legislative body
taken at least 60 days before the beginning of the municipal
fiscal year in which it is to go into effect.

36

38 STATEMENT OF FACT

40 Several municipalities have islands that are not connected
42 to the mainland. Providing municipal services to these islands
44 is often expensive and difficult and as a result the services
46 actually provided are often less than those received on the
mainland. This bill allows a municipality's legislative body to
create a special property tax district for islands and set a
lower property tax rate to recognize the lower level of municipal
services.

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