

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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UTILITIES AND ENERGY

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
117TH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1361, L.D. 1869, Bill, "An Act to Increase the Debt Limit of the Madawaska Water District"

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the statement of fact and inserting in its place the following:

Sec. 1. P&SL 1953, c. 17, §11, first ¶, as amended by P&SL 1989, c. 94, §2, is further amended to read:

For accomplishing the purposes of this act and for such other expenses as may be necessary for the carrying out of said purposes, said district, through its trustees, subject to the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 6304, is authorized to issue its notes and bonds in one series or in separate series from time to time and to make subsequent renewals of the same in whole or in part to an amount not exceeding the sum of \$500,000, \$1,500,000 outstanding at any one time, unless the district obtains approval of the voters of the district for a higher debt limit pursuant to this section. Said notes and bonds shall--be are the legal obligation of said district, which is hereby declared to be a quasimunicipal quasi-municipal corporation within the meaning of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 5701, as amended, and all provisions of said section shall-be are applicable thereto,--said to those notes and bonds. The notes and bonds shall-be are a legal investment for savings banks in the State of Maine, and shall-be are exempt from all present taxes. The said district may refund and reissue, subject to the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 6304, from time to time,

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

R.O.S.

2 any of its notes and bonds and other evidence of indebtedness.
3 Each bond or note shall ~~shall~~ must have inscribed on its face the words
4 "Madawaska Water District Bond," or "Madawaska Water District
5 Note," as the case may be, and ~~shall bear~~ bears interest at such
6 rates as the trustees shall determine. ~~If said bonds be issued~~
7 ~~from time to time, The district may refund and reissue, from time~~
8 ~~to time, in one or in separate series, its bonds, notes and other~~
9 ~~evidences of indebtedness and each authorized issue shall~~
10 ~~constitute constitutes~~ a separate loan. Each loan shall ~~be is~~
11 payable in annual amounts of principal, beginning not more than
12 one year from its date and ~~made-to-run~~ runs for such period as
13 said trustees shall determine.

14 **Sec. 2. P&SL 1953, c. 17, §11**, as amended by P&SL 1989, c. 94,
15 §2, is further amended by adding after the first paragraph the
16 following new paragraphs to read:

17 In order to establish a higher debt limit for the district,
18 the trustees shall propose a new debt limit for the district,
19 which the trustees shall submit for approval in a districtwide
20 referendum. The referendum must be called, advertised and
21 conducted according to the law relating to municipal elections,
22 except that the registrar of voters is not required to prepare or
23 the town clerk to post a new list of voters. For the purpose of
24 registering voters, the registrar of voters must be in session on
25 the regular workday preceding the election. The town clerk of
26 the Town of Madawaska shall prepare the required ballots with the
27 following question:

28 "Do you favor changing the debt limit of the Madawaska Water
29 District from (insert current debt limit) to (insert
30 proposed debt limit)?"

31 The voters shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed
32 against the word "Yes" or "No" their opinion on the question.

33 The results must be declared by the municipal officers of
34 the Town of Madawaska and due certificate of the results filed by
35 the town clerk with the Secretary of State.

36 A debt limit proposal becomes effective immediately upon its
37 acceptance by a majority of the legal voters within the district
38 voting at the election. Failure of approval by the necessary
39 majority of voters at the referendum does not prevent subsequent
40 referenda from being held for the same purpose. The district may
41 increase its debt limit to any amount or as often as approved by
42 the legal voters within the district pursuant to this section.

43 **Sec. 2. P&SL 1953, c. 17, §13** is repealed and the following
44 enacted in its place:

R. d. S.

2 Sec. 13. Rates. The rates established pursuant to this
4 section must be sufficient to provide revenue for the purposes of
6 this Act and for all other purposes of the district, without the
8 need for any financial assistance from the Town of Madawaska,
10 other than the normal payment of water charges for services
12 rendered. Individuals, firms and corporations, whether private,
 public or municipal, shall pay to the treasurer or other
 designated officer of the district the rates established by the
 board of trustees for the water service provided to them. The
 rates must be established in accordance with the Maine Revised
 Statutes, Title 35-A, chapter 61.'

14

STATEMENT OF FACT

16

18 This amendment replaces the bill. The amendment permits the
20 Madawaska Water District to issue, through its trustees, notes
22 and bonds to an amount not exceeding \$1,500,000 without obtaining
 the approval of the voters for a higher debt limit and specifies
 procedures for establishing a higher debt limit through a local
 referendum.

24

 The amendment also replaces archaic language that pertains
 to water rates with newer language.

26