

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

No. 1423

S.P. 449

In Senate, March 11, 1997

An Act Regarding Sewer District Upgrades.

Reference to the Committee on Utilities and Energy suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by President LAWRENCE of York.
Cosponsored by Representative WRIGHT of Berwick and
Representative: MacDOUGALL of North Berwick.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 23 MRSA §256**, as repealed and replaced by PL 1993, c.
656, §1, is amended to read:

6 **§256. Financial assistance program for utilities**

8 In order to assist water utilities and combination water and
10 sewer utilities that have annual revenues of \$15,000,000 or less
in the relief of extreme financial hardship caused by the
relocation of utility facilities that are part of bridge and
12 highway projects, the Department of Transportation shall loan to
those utilities, interest free, 90% of the utility relocation
14 cost, excluding the cost of upgrades, when the cost of the
utility relocation is 5% 4% or more of the utility's prior fiscal
16 year revenues. The term of the loans may not exceed 20 years.
The maximum amount of all outstanding loans to eligible utilities
18 may not exceed \$3,000,000. In any fiscal year, the amount loaned
for the purposes of this section may not exceed the amount
20 allocated by the Legislature in that fiscal year plus the
unencumbered balance from previous years.
22

24 **SUMMARY**

26 This bill changes the percentage from 5% to 4% of a
utility's prior fiscal year revenues in the formula for
28 reimbursement for the cost of utility relocation.