

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2024

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Legislative Document

No. 2257

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S.P. 974

In Senate, March 7, 2024

**An Act to Allow School Administrative District No. 52 to Issue  
Temporary Notes for a Wastewater Treatment Project**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D M Grant'.

DAREK M. GRANT  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.  
Cosponsored by Representative WOOD of Greene and  
Representative: MORRIS of Turner.

1           **Emergency preamble. Whereas,** acts and resolves of the Legislature do not  
2 become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

3           **Whereas,** School Administrative District No. 52, referred to in this preamble as "the  
4 district," owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant in the Town of Turner for its  
5 school facilities and other private users; and

6           **Whereas,** the Department of Environmental Protection authorized a project to replace  
7 the wastewater treatment plant with a new system with subsurface disposal to address  
8 overboard discharge affecting the Nezinscot River; and

9           **Whereas,** the voters of the district authorized the issuance of up to \$1,612,000 in  
10 bonds to fund the wastewater treatment project; and

11           **Whereas,** on March 31, 2021, the district issued a temporary note in the principal  
12 amount of \$1,612,000 through the State's Clean Water State Revolving Fund to provide  
13 temporary financing for the wastewater treatment project through project completion; and

14           **Whereas,** the wastewater treatment project has been unexpectedly delayed due to the  
15 COVID-19 emergency and difficulties locating a suitable site for subsurface disposal and  
16 is not expected to be completed until August 2025; and

17           **Whereas,** under state law, temporary notes issued by the district must mature not later  
18 than 3 years from the date the first temporary note is issued; and

19           **Whereas,** under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, the district may not issue  
20 long-term bonds for the project until the project is completed; and

21           **Whereas,** the unexpected delays have made it necessary for the district to issue  
22 temporary notes later than 3 years from the date the first temporary note was issued; and

23           **Whereas,** in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within  
24 the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as  
25 immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now,  
26 therefore,

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

28           **Sec. 1. Validation and authorization.** Notwithstanding the Maine Revised  
29 Statutes, Title 20-A, section 1311, subsection 3, paragraph C, School Administrative  
30 District No. 52, referred to in this section as "the district," may issue temporary notes in a  
31 total principal amount not to exceed \$1,612,000 that mature not later than March 31, 2026  
32 as necessary to finance a project authorized by the Department of Environmental Protection  
33 to replace the wastewater treatment plant with a new system with subsurface disposal in  
34 the Town of Turner. The district may, as necessary, issue refunding notes or renewal notes  
35 pursuant to this section. Any refunding notes or renewal notes issued pursuant to this  
36 section must meet the same requirements applicable to temporary notes as described in this  
37 section.

38           **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation  
39 takes effect when approved.

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## **SUMMARY**

This bill extends the time period in which School Administrative District No. 52 may issue temporary notes to finance a wastewater treatment plant project, which has been unexpectedly delayed due to the COVID-19 emergency and difficulties locating a suitable site for subsurface disposal.