

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2026

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Legislative Document

No. 2111

H.P. 1426

House of Representatives, January 7, 2026

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### An Act to Amend the Charter of the Boothbay-Boothbay Harbor Community School District

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Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative STOVER of Boothbay.  
Cosponsored by Senator: RENY of Lincoln.

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

2        **Sec. 1. P&SL 1953, c. 156, §3**, as repealed and replaced by P&SL 2023, c. 12, §1,  
3        is amended to read:

4        **Sec. 3. Board of trustees; district school committee.** Except as provided by  
5        this Act, the board of trustees and district school committee have the duties and authority  
6        pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 105. The board of trustees may  
7        shall act as a building and facilities governing committee and has authority over capital  
8        expenditures and the district's capital reserve fund, including authority in consultation with  
9        the district school committee over the budget for maintaining, repairing, replacing and  
10        improving the community school district's buildings and other facilities and ever the  
11        district's capital reserve funds for noninstructional capital purchases. The board and the  
12        district school committee shall jointly create bylaws or procedures as necessary to further  
13        assist them in the understanding of and execution of their duties and responsibilities to the  
14        community school district. The Notwithstanding Title 20-A, section 1651, subsection 4,  
15        the community school district may not vote in accordance with Title 20-A, section 1651,  
16        subsection 4 to have the district school committee perform the duties of the board of  
17        trustees.

18        **Sec. 2. P&SL 1953, c. 156, §5**, as repealed and replaced by P&SL 2023, c. 12, §1,  
19        is amended to read:

20        **Sec. 5. Borrowing authority; voter authorization.** Except as provided by this  
21        Act, the board of trustees has the authority to borrow pursuant to the Maine Revised  
22        Statutes, Title 20-A, section 1651, subsection 2, paragraph E. Capital project bonds or  
23        notes of the community school district that are general obligations must be approved by the  
24        district voters. The board of trustees shall issue a warrant to initiate a district referendum  
25        meeting on a general obligation capital bond issue of \$250,000 or more and a warrant to  
26        initiate either a district meeting or district referendum on a general obligation bond issue  
27        in an amount of less than \$250,000.

28        **Sec. 3. P&SL 1953, c. 156, §6**, as repealed and replaced by P&SL 2023, c. 12, §1,  
29        is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

30        **Sec. 6. Budget approval.** The board of trustees shall prepare the revenues and  
31        expenditures for the capital portion of the budget in accordance with section 3. The district  
32        school committee shall prepare the revenues and expenditures for the operating portion of  
33        the budget. The district school committee shall integrate the capital and operating portions  
34        of the budget into cost centers in accordance with the cost center summary budget format  
35        and shall submit the budget to the budget meeting for the budget validation referendum  
36        procedure under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 105, subchapter 3. The  
37        board of trustees may prepare other articles related to capital needs, such as capital reserve  
38        fund articles, for the budget meeting. The district school committee shall include these  
39        articles in the warrant for the budget meeting.

40        **SUMMARY**

41        This bill amends the charter of the Boothbay-Boothbay Harbor Community School  
42        District to require the district's board of trustees to act as a building and facilities governing  
43        committee. It reserves authority over capital expenditures and the district's capital reserve

1 fund for the board of trustees and prohibits the district from voting to have the district  
2 school committee perform the duties of the board of trustees. It directs the board of trustees  
3 and the district school committee to jointly create bylaws or procedures as necessary.

4 It removes language requiring the board of trustees to issue a warrant to initiate either  
5 a district meeting or district referendum on a general obligation bond issue in an amount of  
6 less than \$250,000.

7 It directs the board of trustees to prepare the revenues and expenditures for the capital  
8 portion of the budget and the district school committee the operating portion. The district  
9 school committee is directed to integrate those portions and submit the budget to the budget  
10 meeting for the budget validation referendum procedure.