MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NEW DRAFT.

SEVENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE

HOUSE.

No. 655

STATE OF MAINE.

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND SEVEN.

AN ACT to incorporate the Wilton Water District.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in Legislature assembled, as follows:

- - 2 the same, namely, the town of Wilton, except lot number

The following territory and the people within

- 3 sixteen (16), according to a plan of said town, shall con-
- 4 stitute a public municipal corporation under the name of the
- 5 Wilton Water District for the purposes of supplying the
- 6 inhabitants of said district and of the villages of North Jay
- 7 and Bean's Corner in the town of Jay, and said municipal-
- 8 ities with pure water for domestic, sanitary and municipal
- 9 purposes.
- Sect. 2. The said district for the purposes of its incor-
- 2 poration is hereby authorized to take, hold, divert, use and
- 3 distribute water from Varnum Pond, Wilson Lake, or from

- 4 any spring not in actual use for domestic purposes, or any 5 pond, brook or other waters in the town of Wilton, or from 6 Hill's Pond in Perkins plantation.
- Sect. 3. The said district, for the purposes of its incor2 poration, is hereby authorized to take and hold, as for public
 3 uses, by purchase or otherwise, any land or interest therein
 4 or water rights necessary for erecting and maintaining dams,
 5 for flowage, for power for pumping its water supply through
 6 its mains, for reservoirs, for preserving the purity of the
 7 water and water shed, for laying and maintaining aqueducts
 8 and other structures for taking, distributing, discharging and
 9 disposing of water and for rights of way or roadways to its
 10 sources of supply, dams, power stations, reservoirs, mains,
 11 aqueduct, structures and lands.
- Sect. 4. The said district is hereby authorized to lay in 2 and through the streets, roads, ways and highways thereof 3 and of said villages of North Jay and Bean's Corner in the 4 town of Jay and across private lands therein, and to main-5 tain, repair and replace all such pipes, aqueducts and fixtures 6 as may be necessary and convenient for its corporate pur-7 poses, and whenever said district shall lay any pipes or aque-8 ducts in any street, road, way or highway it shall cause the 9 same to be done with as little obstruction as practicable to the 10 public travel and shall at its own expense without unneces-11 sary delay cause the earth and pavement removed by it to be 12 replaced in proper condition.
 - Sect. 5. The said district is hereby authorized for the 2 purposes of its incorporation, to erect and maintain all dams, 3 reservoirs and structures necessary and convenient for its 4 corporate purposes.

Sect. 6. In exercising any right of eminent domain con-2 ferred upon it by law, from time to time, or any right of 3 eminent domain through or under the franchises of any 4 water company by it acquired, the said district shall file in 5 the office of the county commissioners of Franklin county 6 and record in the registry of deeds in said county plans of 7 the location of all lands or interests therein or water rights, 8 to be taken, with an appropriate description and the names 9 of the owners thereof, if known. When for any reason the 10 district fails to acquire the property authorized to be taken, II and which is described in such location, or the location re-12 corded is defective or uncertain, it may at any time, correct 13 and perfect such location and file a new description thereof, 14 and in such case the district is liable in damages only for 15 property for which the owner had not previously been paid, 16 to be assessed as of the time of the original taking and the 17 district shall not be liable for any acts which would have been 18 justified if the original taking had been lawful. No entry 19 shall be made on any private lands, except to make surveys, 20 until the expiration of ten day from such filing, whereon 21 possession may be had of all said lands or interests there-22 in or water rights so taken, but title thereto shall not vest 23 in said district until payment therefor.

Sect. 7. If any person, sustaining damages by any taking 2 as aforesaid, shall not agree with said district upon the sum 3 to be paid therefor, either party, upon petition to the county 4 commissioners of Franklin county, may have said damages 5 assessed by them; the procedure and all subsequent proceed-6 ings and right of appeal thereon shall be had under the same 7 restrictions, conditions and limitations as are or may be by

8 law prescribed in the case of damages by the laying out of 9 highways.

Sect. 8. In case of any crossing of a railroad, unless con2 sent is given by the company owning or operating such
3 railroad as to place, manner and conditions of the crossing,
4 within thirty days after such consent is requested by said
5 district, the railroad commissioners shall determine the place,
6 manner and conditions of such crossing; and all work within
7 the limits of such railroad location shall be done under the
8 supervision and to the satisfaction of such railroad company,
9 but at the expense of the district.

Sect. 9. All the affairs of said district shall be managed 2 by a board of trustees composed of three members, to be 3 elected by a plurality vote of the legal voters within said 4 water district at an election to be specially called and held 5 therefor on the fourth Monday of April, nineteen hundred 6 and seven. Such special election shall be called, advertised 7 and conducted according to the law relating to municipal 8 elections in said town of Wilton. The result of such election 9 shall be declared by the municipal officers and due certificate 10 thereof filed with the town clerk thereof. The term of office II of the trustees shall begin on the said fourth Monday of 12 April. As soon as convenient after the members of said 13 board have been chosen, said trustees shall hold a meeting 14 at the town office in the town of Wilton and organize by 15 the election of a president and a clerk, adopt a corporate seal 16 and when necessary may choose a treasurer and all other 17 needful officers and agents for the proper conduct and man-18 agement of the affairs of said district. They may also ordain

10 and establish such by-laws as are necessary for their own 20 conveniences and the proper management of the affairs of 21 the district. At said first meeting the trustees so elected 22 shall determine by lot the term of office of each trustee so 23 that one trustee shall retire each year and whenever the 24 term of office of a trustee expires his successor shall be 25 elected by a plurality vote by the legal voters of the said 26 water district, and for the purpose of such election a meet-27 ing of said water district shall be called and held on the 28 fourth Monday of April in each year, the same to be called 29 in the manner hereinbefore provided for the first election 30 of trustees. The trustees so elected shall serve the full term 31 of three years; and in case any vacancy arises in the member-32 ship of the board of trustees it shall be filled in like manner, 33 for the unexpired term, by special election to be called by 34 the municipal officers of the town of Wilton. All such trus-35 tees shall be eligible to re-election, but no person holding a 36 municipal office in said town of Wilton shall be eligible to 37 election as trustees. Said trustees may procure an office and 38 incur such expenses as may be necessary. Each member 39 shall receive in full compensation of his services an allow-40 ance of fifty dollars per annum. At the close of each fiscal 41 year the trustees shall make a detailed report of their doings, 42 of the receipts and expenditures of said water district, of its 43 financial and physical condition, and of such other matters 44 and things pertaining to said district as shall show the inhabi-45 tants of said district how said trustees are fulfilling the duties 46 and obligations of their trust, such reports to be made and 47 filed with the municipal officers of the town of Wilton.

Said water district is hereby authorized and 2 empowered to acquire by purchase or by the exercise of the 3 right of eminent domain, which right is hereby expressly 4 delegated to said district for said purpose, the entire plant, 5 properties, franchises, rights and privileges of the Wilton 6 Water Company, except its cash assets, including all lands, 7 waters, water rights, dams, structures, reservoirs, pipes, 8 machinery, fixtures, hydrants, tools and all apparatus and o appliances owned by said company and used or usable in sup-10 plying water in said district and in the villages of North Jay 11 and Bean's Corner in the town of Jay. The said water 12 company is hereby authorized to sell and transfer its fran-13 chises and properties to said water district. All said fran-14 chises and properties shall be taken subject to all mortgages, 15 liens and encumbrances thereon, all of which mortgages, 16 liens and encumbrances shall be assumed and paid by said 17 water district.

Sect. 11. The Wilton Water Company may, at its option, 2 on or before the second Monday of May, nineteen hundred 3 and seven, file with said trustees an offer in writing stating 4 therein the price at which the company signing the same 5 will sell and transfer its entire plant, property, franchises. 6 rights and privileges, except its cash assets, subject to all 7 liens, mortgages and encumbrances, to the said water district. 8 Said offer shall provide that actual possession of the plant 9 and property shall not be given until payment therefor but 10 that delivery of possession, when made, shall be as of the 11 first day of July, nineteen hundred and seven, from which 12 day interest on said price shall run at the rate of five per

13 cent per annum and all net rents and profits accruing there-14 after shall belong to said water district. Such offer shall 15 further provide that payment of said price shall be made 16 by said district at its option on or before the first day of 17 October, nineteen hundred and seven. The said water dis-18 trict shall in writing accept or reject all said offers on or 19 before the second Monday in June of said year, but it may 20 accept either of such offers and reject the other, but in that 21 event it shall not be entitled to actual possession nor be 22 required to make payment in the case of acceptance until 23 after its aguisition by eminent domain, as hereinafter pro-24 vided, of the plant, property and franchise of the company 25 whose offer is rejected. In all cases of acceptance as afore-26 said the water company shall forthwith cause proper deeds 27 of transfer and conveyance to be made and filed in the 28 clerk's office of the supreme judicial court for the county of 29 Franklin, for the inspection of said water district, and to be 30 approved by the court, or any justice thereof, in term time or 31 vacation. The said water district through its trustees, shall 32 file its petition, in each case where acceptance is made as 33 afcresaid, in the clerk's office of the supreme judicial court 34 for the county of Franklin, in term time or vacation, ad-35 dressed to any justice of said court, alleging its willingness 36 to pay the agreed purchase price and interest in each case, 37 into court before the first day of October, nineteen hundred 38 and seven, for the benefit of the water company interested 39 therein, and said court, through any justice thereof, in term 40 time or vacation, after notice to the water company interested 41 therein and its mortgagees, and hearing thereon, shall make 42 all necessary decrees for the vesting of full title in said 43 water district to the entire plant, property and franchises of 44 the defendant water company in such petition subject to all 45 liens, mortgages and encumbrances thereon; after such final 46 decree and before transfer of the plant, property and fran-47 chises in accordance therewith, and before payment there-48 for, the court sitting in said county of Franklin, by a single 49 justice thereof, as hereinbefore provided, shall upon motion 50 of either party, after notice and hearing take account of all 51 receipts and expenditures properly had or incurred by the 52 defendant water company, belonging to the period from and 53 after July first, nineteen hundred and seven, and all the net 54 rents and profits accruing thereafter, and shall order the net 55 balance due to either party to be added to or deducted from 56 the amount to be paid under said final decree as the case may 57 be. All findings of law or fact by any single justice at the 58 hearings aforesaid shall be final. After any such acceptance 50 as aforesaid, the water company interested therein may com-60 pel said water district, by appropriate process in equity to 61 perform its contract of acceptance and to pay for the plant, 62 property and franchises in accordance therewith.

Sect. 12. Where the said trustees fail to agree with said 2 water company upon terms of purchase, as hereinbefore 3 provided, on or before July first, nineteen hundred and seven, 4 then said water district, through its trustees, is hereby author-5 ized to take all the plants, properties and franchises of such 6 water company, subject, however, to all mortgages, liens 7 and incumbrances thereon as provided in section ten, so 8 failing to agree, as for public uses, by a petition therefor

9 in the manned hereinafter provided, wherein such water to company and its mortgagees shall be the parties defendant. II And said water district, through its trustees. is hereby auth-12 orized on or before July fifteenth, nineteen hundred and 13 seven, to file a petition in the clerk's office of the supreme 14 judicial court for the county of Franklin, in term time or 15 in vacation, addressed to any justice thereof, who, after 16 notice to said defendant water company and its mortgagees, 17 shall, after hearing and within thirty days after the filing of 18 said petition, appoint three disinterested appraisers, none of 19 whom shall be residents of the county of Franklin, one of 20 whom shall be learned in the law, for the purpose of fixing 21 the valuations respectively of the plant, property and fran-22 chises of said defendant water company, as described in 23 section ten. Said petition shall not be dismissed after filing 24 but may and shall be amended in any manner required to 25 enable the court to make all necessary decrees thereon. At 26 the hearing aforesaid, such justice, upon motion of the peti-27 tioner, may order the production and filing in court, for the 28 inspection of the petitioner, of all books and papers pertinent 29 to the issues to be heard by said appraisers, the terms and con-30 ditions of so producing and filing such books and papers to be 31 determined by said justice in his order therefor and to be en-32 forced from time to time as any justice of said supreme judi-33 cial court, in term time or in vacation, upon motion of either 34 party, may deem reasonable and proper in the premises. At 35 such hearing, such justice, upon motion of the petitioner, may 36 fix a time at which the defendant water company shall file 37 in the clerk's office of the supreme judicial court for the

38 county of Franklin, for the inspection of the petitioner, the 39 following: First, schedule showing the names, residence, 40 street number (if any) and water service of each customer 41 on July first, A. D. 1907, with rate charged therefor; second, 42 copies of all contracts in force on said July first, with all 43 municipal corporations and water companies; third, an item-44 ized statement of the gross income earned during its last 45 complete fiscal year and all operating expenses and fixed 46 charges paid or incurred during such year and property 47 chargeable thereto; fourth, a memorandum of all real estate, 48 or interest therein, owned or controlled on said July first, 49 with such brief description thereof as will reasonably iden-50 tify the same; fifth, a memorandum of all water rights used 51 or owned on said July 1st with a brief description thereof 52 and a concise statement of the method of acquiring the same; 53 sixth, duplicate plans of all dams owned in whole or in part 54 on said July first with specifications thereof; seventh, de-55 scription and specifications of all reservoirs and standpipes 56 owned on said July first; eighth, a description of all pipes, 57 service pipes, hydrants, gates, gate boxes, shut off boxes, 58 valves, fixtures and machinery, and all the physical elements 59 in such water system, giving in detail all quantities, sizes, 60 lengths, specifying the streets, roads or ways where situated; 61 ninth, an itemized list of all tools, apparatus and appliances 62 used or usable in supplying water on said July first. 63 orders may be enforced from time to time by any justice of 64 said supreme judicial court, in term time or in vacation, upon 65 motion of either party as such justice may deem reasonable 66 and proper in the premises. At such hearing the justice then

67 sitting may, upon motion of the petitioner, make all such 68 decrees as he deems reasonable and proper to enable the 69 petitioner, through its servants and employes, to ascertain 70 the condition of the mains and pipes of the defendant water 71 company externally and internally, all work connected there-72 with to be in the presence of the agents of the water com-73 pany, and, at the election of the water company by its ser-74 vants, otherwise by the petitioner, but wholly at the expense 75 of said water district, said decree to fix the number of such 76 examinations and to impose such conditions as may to the 77 court seem just and proper in the premises. The said 78 appraisers shall have the power of compelling attendance of 79 witnesses and the production of books and papers pertinent 80 to the issue and may administer oaths; and any witness or 81 person in charge of such books or papers refusing to attend 82 or to produce the same shall be subject to the same penalties 83 and proceedings, so far as applicable, as witnesses summoned 84 to attend the supreme judicial court. Depositions may be 85 taken as in civil actions. The said appraisers may appoint 86 a sufficient number of stenographers to enable a full report 87 of the proceedings of each day to be in readiness for use the 88 following day, each of said appraisers to so have one copy 89 thereof and the parties to receive such number of copies as 90 the appraisers may deem necessary. The compensation and 91 expenses of said stenographers shall be taxed and allowed by 92 the appraisers and be paid and borne as hereinafter pro-93 vided. Their reports, certified by said appraisers as correct, 94 shall be filed with the award, to be made by said appraisers 95 and shall be legal evidence of all proceedings so reported. 96 They shall make full report as required in trials had in the 97 supreme judicial court. The appraisers so appointed shall, 98 after due notice and hearing, fix the respective valuations of 99 the plants, properties and franchises of said defendant water 100 company at what they are fairly and equitably worth, so 101 that said water company shall receive just compensation 102 for all the same. The first day of July, nineteen hundred 103 and seven, shall be the date as of which the valuation afore-104 said shall be fixed, from which date interest on said award 105 at the rate of five per cent per annum shall run, and all net 106 rents and profits accruing thereafter shall belong to said 107 water district. The report of said appraisers or of a 108 majority of them, shall be filed in said clerk's office within 109 six months after their appointment, but, if at the expira-110 tion of said six months the hearing before said appraisers III should then be in progress and unfinished, their report may 112 be so filed within thirty days after close of said hearing. 113 After said report is filed, such single justice, so appointing 114 said appraisers, or in case of his inability to act, then any 115 justice designated for the purpose, by the chief justice, 116 may, after notice and hearing, confirm or reject the same 117 or recommit, if justice so requires, and in case of such 118 rejection or recommittal such justice may fix the times for 110 new hearing and new report thereon. The award of the 120 appraisers shall be conclusive as to valuations. Upon the 121 confirmation of their report, the court so sitting, in term 122 time or vacation, shall thereupon, after hearing, make final 123 decree upon the whole matter including transfer of the 124 properties and franchises, jurisdiction over which is hereby

125 conferred with the same power to enforce said decree as in 126 equity cases. All the costs and expenses arising under 127 such petition and appraisal shall be paid and borne as 128 directed by the court in said final decree, in manner as fol-129 lows: Such costs and expenses shall include the taxable 130 costs of court, the fees and expenses of the appraisers to 131 be taxed by them and allowed by the court, the fees and 132 expenses of the stenographers as taxed and allowed by the 133 appraisers, the incidental expenses of the hearing before the 134 appraisers as by them taxed and allowed, and the fees of 135 witnesses as paid by the parties and so certified by the 136 appraisers. If said award or awards are below the offers 137 to sell as made by said water company, then all said costs: 138 and expenses shall be paid and borne by said company as 139 the court may direct. If said awards are equal or in excess 140 of said offers, such costs and expenses shall be paid and 141 borne as the court may direct. If one of said awards is 142 below such offer and one equal to or in excess thereof, then 143 such costs and expenses shall be apportioned as follows: 144 The company receiving an award below its offer to sell shall 145 bear its own disbursements and such proportion of the 146 remaining costs and expenses as its award bears to the total 147 awards, and the balance shall be paid and borne by the water 148 district as the court in such final decree may direct. The 140 findings of such justice as to such costs and expenses and 150 their apportionment shall be final. In all other matters the 151 justice so making such final decree shall, upon request of 152 any of the parties, make separate findings of law and fact. 153 All such findings of fact shall be final, but any party

154 aggrieved may take exceptions to any rulings of law so 155 made, the same to be accompanied only by such parts of the 156 case as are necessary to a clear understanding of the ques-157 tions raised thereby. Such exceptions shall be claimed on 158 the docket within ten days after such final decree is signed, 150 entered and filed, and notice thereof has been given by the 160 clerk to the parties or their counsel, and said exceptions so 161 claimed shall be made up, allowed and filed within said time 162 unless further time is granted by the court or by agreement 163 of the parties. They shall be entered at the next term of 164 the law court to be held after the filing of such exceptions 165 and there heard unless otherwise agreed, or the law court 166 shall for good cause order a further time for hearing 167 thereon. Upon such hearing the law court may confirm, 168 reverse or modify the decree of the court below, or remand 160 the cause for further proceedings as it seems proper. Dur-170 ing the pendency of such exceptions the cause shall remain 171 on the docket of the court below marked "Law," and decree 172 shall be entered thereon by a single justice, in term time or 173 in vacation, in accordance with the certificate and opinion 174 of the law court. Before the aforesaid plant, property and 175 franchises, or any of them, are transferred in accordance 176 with such final decree, and before the payment therefor, the 177 court sitting in said county of Franklin, by a single justice 178 thereof, as hereinbefore provided, shall, upon motion of any 179 party, after notice and hearing, take account of all receipts 180 and expenditures properly had and incurred by the said 181 water company belonging to the period from and after July 182 first, nineteen hundred and seven, and all net rents and

183 profits accruing thereafter, and shall order the net balance 184 due to any party to be added to or deducted from the 185 amount to be paid under said final decree as the case may 186 be. All findings of law or fact by such single justice at 187 such hearings shall be final. On payment or tender by said 188 water district of the amounts so fixed and the performance 189 of all of the terms and conditions so imposed by the court, 190 the entire plant, properties and franchises of said water 101 company, as described in section ten, shall become vested in 192 said water district subject to all liens, mortgages and 193 encumbrances thereon heretofore created by said water 194 company. After the filing of said petition it shall not be 195 discontinued or withdrawn by said water district, and the 196 said water company may thereafterwards cause said valua-107 tion to be made as herein provided, and shall be entitled to 198 appropriate process to compel said water district to perform 199 the terms of the final decree and to pay for said plant, prop-200 erties and franchises in accordance therewith. If a vacancy 201 occurs at any time in said board of appraisers, from any 202 cause, any justice of the supreme judicial court, sitting in 203 said county of Franklin, may, in term time or vacation, after 204 notice and hearing, appoint a new appraiser or appraisers, 205 and make all such orders for hearing said cause by the 206 appraisers anew or for any extension of time for making 207 their award, or otherwise, as the circumstances of the case 208 may require.

Sect. 13. All valid contracts made in good faith, now 2 existing between said Wilton Water Company and any per-3 soon or corporations for supplying water within said district 4 and in the villages of North Jay and Bean's Corner in the 5 town of Jay, shall be assessed and carried out by said Wilton 6 Water District.

Sect. 14. For accomplishing the purposes of this act, said 2 water district, through its trustees, is authorized to borrow 3 money temporarily, and to issue therefor the interest-bearing 4 negotiable notes of the district, and for the purpose of 5 refunding the indebtedness so created of paying any neces-6 sary expenses and liabilities, incurred under the provisions 7 of this act, including the expenses incurred in the creation 8 of the district, in acquiring the properties and franchises of o the Wilton Water Company, by purchase or otherwise, or 10 the purchase or acquisition of the properties and franchises II of said water company of assuming and paying the mort-12 gages, liens and encumbrances thereon, as provided in sec-13 tion ten, of securing sources of supply, taking water and land, 14 paying damages, laying pipes, constructing, maintaining and 15 operating a water plant, and making renewals, extensions, 16 additions and improvements to the same, the said water dis-17 trict, through its trustees, may from time to time issue bonds 18 of the district, to an amount or amounts necessary in the 19 judgment of the trustees therefor. Said notes and bonds 20 shall be legal obligations of said water district, which is 21 hereby declared to be a quasi municipal corporation within 22 the meaning of section ninety-six, chapter forty-seven of the 23 revised statutes, and all the provisions of said section shall 24 be applicable thereto. The said notes and bonds shall be 25 legal investments for savings banks.

- Sect. 15. All individuals, firms and corporations, whether 2 private, public or municipal, shall pay to the treasurer of said 3 district the rates established by said board of trustees for the 4 water used by them, and said rates shall be uniform within 5 the territory supplied by the district. Said rates shall be so 6 established so as to provide revenue for the following purposes:
- I. To pay the current expenses for operating and main-9 taining the water system.
- II. To provide for the payment of the interest on the II indebtedness created or assumed by the district.
- III. To provide each year a sum equal to not less than one13 half of one per cent nor more than five per cent of the entire
 14 indebtedness created or assumed by the district, which sum
 15 shall be turned into a sinking fund and there kept to provide
 16 for the extinguishment of such indebtedness. The money
 17 set aside for the sinking fund shall be devoted to the retire18 ment of the obligations of the district or invested in such
 19 securities as saving banks are allowed to hold.
- IV. If any surplus remains at the end of the year, it may 21 be paid to the town of Wilton.
 - Sect. 16. All incidental powers, rights and privileges neces-2 sary to the accomplishment of the main object herein set 3 forth are granted to the public municipal corporation hereby 4 created.
- Sect. 17. This act, so far as it includes the territory and 2 people constituting the Wilton Water District, as provided in 3 section one hereof, shall not take effect as to said Wilton,

4 unless accepted and approved by a majority vote of the legal 5 voters of said town voting at an election to be specially called 6 and held for the purpose on the second Monday of April, 7 1907. Such special election shall be called, advertised and 8 conducted according to the law relating to municipal elecgions. The town clerk shall reduce the subject matter of 10 this act to the following question: "Shall the act to incorporate the Wilton Water District be accepted?" and the voters 12 shall indicate by the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of 13 the same. The result in said town of Wilton shall be 14 declared by the selectmen and due certificate thereof filed by 15 the town clerk with the secretary of state.

Sect. 18. This act, subject to the provision of section 2 seventeen, shall take effect when approved by a majority 3 vote of the legal voters of the said Wilton Water District 4 voting at an election to be specially called and held for the 5 purpose on the second Monday of April, nineteen hundred 6 and seven. Such special election shall be called, advertised 7 and conducted according to the law relating to municipal 8 elections. The town clerk shall reduce the subject matter 9 of this act to the following question: "Shall the act to incorporate the Wilton Water District be accepted?" and the 11 voters shall indicate by the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same. The result shall be declared by the selection and due certificate thereof filed by the town clerk with 14 the secretary of state.

Sect. 19. Sections two, three, four, five, six, seven and 2 eight shall be inoperative, null and void unless the said water 3 district shall first acquire by purchase or by the exercise of

4 the right of eminent domain as in this act provided, the plant,
5 properties and franchises, rights and privileges of the Wilton
6 Water Company.

Sect. 20. This act shall take effect when approved by the 2 governor, so far as necessary to empower the calling and 3 holding of the elections authorized in sections seventeen and 4 eighteen hereof.

STATE OF MAINE.

House of Representatives,

Augusta, March 20, 1907.

Reported by Mr. WALDRON from Committee on Judiciary, and ordered printed under joint rules.

E. M. THOMPSON. Clerk.