

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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EIGHTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE

House Document

No. 135

H. P. 422

House of Representatives, Jan. 31, 1929.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs and 500 copies ordered printed. Sent up for concurrence.

CLYDE R. CHAPMAN, Clerk.

Presented by Mr. Melcher of Rumford.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE

AN ACT to Incorporate the Town of Rumford School District.

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

Section 1. *School District Corporation Created; Pur-*
2 *poses.* The town of Rumford, its territory and the people
3 therein subject to the provisions of this act, shall constitute
4 a body politic and corporate under the name of the town of
5 Rumford school district for the purpose of providing addi-
6 tional school facilities within said district, for the purpose
7 of erecting and constructing an addition to the present
8 Stephens high school building upon land provided and se-
9 cured for school purposes and located on Penobscot street
10 of Rumford Falls Village in said town of Rumford, and

11 for the further purposes of equipping and maintaining said
12 building and grading the grounds about the same, all as
13 hereinafter provided and for the benefit of the inhabitants
14 of said district.

Sect. 2. *Authority to acquire property.* The town of
2 Rumford is hereby authorized to convey to said town of
3 Rumford school district the land and buildings thereon now
4 constituting the Stephens high school property situated in
5 Rumford Falls Village in the town of Rumford, Oxford
6 county, Maine, described as follows: Bounded on the north
7 by Essex avenue, on the east by York street, on the south
8 by Oxford avenue, and on the west by Penobscot street,
9 or so much of the aforesaid lot with the buildings thereon
10 as may be necessary for the purposes of this act.

Before conveying as aforesaid, the municipal officers shall
2 be duly authorized to make such conveyance by a majority
3 vote of the legal voters of said town voting at a special
4 meeting called for that purpose. Said town of Rumford
5 school district is hereby authorized and empowered by ac-
6 tion of its trustees to accept from the town of Rumford
7 conveyance of the property above described.

Sect. 3. *Trustees; How Chosen; Organization.* All the
2 affairs of said district as are herein provided shall be man-
3 aged by a board of trustees composed of five members who
4 shall hold office for the period of five years from the date
5 of their appointment. Said trustees shall be chosen by the
6 municipal officers of the town of Rumford as soon as may

7 be after the acceptance of this act as hereinafter provided.
8 Three of the five so appointed shall be members of the
9 superintending school committee of the town of Rumford
10 at the time of their appointment. Removal from the town
11 of Rumford by any trustee shall ipso facto vacate his office.
12 Vacancies upon the board of trustees occurring because of
13 expiration of the official term of five years, removal from
14 town, resignation, death or any cause shall be filled by the
15 municipal officers of the town of Rumford in the same
16 manner in which the original board was chosen.

The members of the board as soon as convenient after they
2 have been chosen as above provided, shall meet upon call of
3 one of their number, after such reasonable notice as he shall
4 deem proper. They shall then elect from their membership
5 a president, clerk and treasurer, adopt a corporate seal and
6 do all other acts, matters and things necessary to perfect
7 their organization. Thus organized, the trustees shall have
8 the right and authority to employ such officers and agents
9 as they may deem necessary for the proper conduct and
10 management of the affairs of the district.

The trustees shall serve the district without compensation
2 except that the treasurer shall receive for his services an
3 amount to be fixed by the board of trustees not to exceed
4 one hundred dollars per year. The treasurer shall give a
5 bond to the district in such sum and with such sureties as
6 the trustees may determine, which bond shall be deposited
7 with the president. The expense of said bond shall be paid

8 by the district. The treasurer's salary, bond premium, and
9 all expenses of the district shall be paid from the funds of
10 the district. At the close of each fiscal year the trustees
11 shall make a detailed report of their doings, of the financial
12 condition of said district and the physical condition of said
13 school building, and also such other matters and things
14 pertaining to said district as shall show the inhabitants
15 thereof how said trustees are fulfilling the duties and obli-
16 gations of their trust, said reports to be made, attested to
17 and filed with the municipal officers of said town.

Sect. 4. *Authority to Raise District Fund; Requirements.*

2 To procure funds for the purpose of this act and such other
3 expenses as may be necessary to the carrying out of said
4 purposes, the district is hereby authorized to issue its notes
5 and bonds, but shall not incur a total indebtedness exceeding
6 the sum of one hundred twenty-five thousand (\$125,000)
7 dollars. Each bond shall have inscribed upon its face the
8 words: "Town of Rumford School District" and shall bear
9 interest at such rates as the trustees shall determine, pay-
10 able semi-annually. Said bonds shall be issued to mature
11 serially over a period beginning in one thousand nine hun-
12 dred and thirty-five and terminating not later than one
13 thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven. Terms and con-
14 ditions of any such bond issue within the limits herein pre-
15 scribed shall be wholly within the discretion of the trustees.
16 All notes or bonds issued by said district shall be signed
17 by the treasurer and countersigned by the president of the

18 district, and if coupon bonds be issued, each coupon shall
19 be attested by a facsimile signature of the president and
20 treasurer printed thereon.

Sect. 5. *Trustees to Determine Annual Amount Required
2 for District Purposes; Taxes; How Assessed and Collected.*

3 The trustees of the town of Rumford school district shall
4 annually determine the sum required each year to meet the
5 bonds falling due, the interest on bonds or other obligations,
6 and other necessary expenses of the district, and shall each
7 year thereafter, before the first day of April, issue their
8 warrant in the same form as the warrant of the state treas-
9 urer for taxes, with proper changes, to the assessors of the
10 town of Rumford, requiring them to assess the sum so de-
11 termined upon the taxable polls and estates within said
12 district and to commit their assessment to the constable or
13 collector of said town of Rumford, who shall have all and
14 the same authority and powers to collect said taxes as is
15 vested by law to collect state, county and municipal taxes.
16 On or before the thirty-first day of December of the year
17 in which said tax is so levied the treasurer of said town
18 shall pay the amount of the tax so assessed against said
19 district to the treasurer of said district. In the case of the
20 failure on the part of the treasurer of the town to pay said
21 sum, or in case of his failure to pay any part thereof on or
22 before said thirty-first day of December of the year in
23 which said tax is so levied, the treasurer of said district
24 may issue his warrant for the amount of said tax or so much

25 thereof as shall then remain unpaid, to the sheriff of Oxford
26 county, requiring him to levy by distress and sale on real
27 and person property of any of the inhabitants of said dis-
28 trict, and the sheriff or either or any of his deputies shall
29 execute said warrant except as is otherwise provided herein.
30 The same authority as is vested in county officials for the
31 collection of county taxes, under the provisions of the re-
32 vised statutes, is hereby vested in the trustees of said dis-
33 trict in relation to the collection of taxes within said district.

Sect. 6. *Property of District to Become Property of Town*
2 *When Conveyed.* At such time as the school building shall
3 have been completed, equipped, and occupied by pupils of
4 said district and the board of trustees of the district shall
5 have discharged all of its principal obligations and the
6 property of said district shall be free and clear of all in-
7 debtedness the board of trustees shall automatically cease
8 to function and all of the duties, management, care and
9 maintenance in respect to such school building shall revert
10 to the school board of the town of Rumford or such other
11 board as may, at that time, have jurisdiction over similar
12 school property, and the then president and treasurer shall
13 cause to be executed, signed and delivered, a good and
14 sufficient deed of all the property in said district, to the
15 town of Rumford. All money, if any remaining in the
16 treasury of the board of trustees at the time it ceases to
17 function, shall be given to the town treasurer of Rumford.
18 This money shall be used only for school purposes and shall

19 be kept separate from all other money until authorized by
20 the selectmen of the town of Rumford to be expended as
21 hereinbefore stated.

Sect. 7. *Legal Referendum Provided; Form of Ballot;*
2 *Return Secretary of State.* This act shall not take effect
3 unless accepted and approved by a majority vote of the
4 legal voters of the territory embraced within the limits of
5 said district present and voting at an election to be specially
6 called by the selectmen of the town of Rumford and held
7 for that purpose within sixty days after the approval of
8 this act. Such special election shall be called, advertised
9 and conducted according to the law relating to municipal
10 elections, provided, however, that the selectmen of the town
11 of Rumford shall not be required to prepare for posting
12 or the town clerk to post a new list of voters, and for the
13 purpose of registration of voters, said selectmen of the town
14 of Rumford shall be in session the three secular days next
15 preceding such elections. The town clerk shall reduce the
16 subject matter of this act to the following question: "Shall
17 the Act to incorporate the town of Rumford School District
18 be accepted?" and the voters shall indicate by a cross placed
19 over the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same.
20 The result in said district shall be declared by the municipal
21 officers of the town of Rumford and due certificate filed by
22 the town clerk with the secretary of state.