

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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NINETY - EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 1172

H. P. 826

House of Representatives, March 6, 1957.

On motion of Mrs. Mann of Paris, Tabled Pending reference. 750 copies ordered printed. Tomorrow assigned.

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk

Presented by Mrs. Mann.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-SEVEN

AN ACT to Incorporate the Town of West Paris.

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

Sec. 1. Incorporation. All that part of the town of Paris, including North Paris and West Paris, so called, being all that part of the town of Paris lying northerly of the following described line, namely: Beginning at the point of intersection of the town line between said town of Paris and the town of Buckfield and the lot line between lot 18 and lot 19 in said town of Paris; thence in a westerly direction along the lot line between lot 18 and lot 19 in said town of Paris to the intersection of said lot line between lot 18 and lot 19 in said town of Paris and the town line of the town of Norway and the town line of the town of Paris; thence in a northerly direction along the town line between the towns of Paris and Norway to the town line between the town of Paris and the town of Greenwood; thence continuing in the same northerly direction along the town line between the towns of Paris and Greenwood to the Woodstock town line; thence in an easterly direction along the town line between the towns of Paris and Woodstock to the town line of the town of Sumner; thence in a southerly direction along the town line between the town of Paris and the town of Sumner to the Buckfield town line; thence continuing in the same southerly direction along the town line between the town of Paris and the town of Buckfield to the point where the line between lot 18 and lot 19 in said town of Paris intersects the town line between the towns of Paris and Buckfield, and the point of beginning, together with the inhabitants thereof, is hereby incorporated into a town by the name of West Paris; and said town of West Paris is hereby invested with all the powers and privileges and subject to all the duties and obligations incident to other towns of the State.

Sec. 2. Taxes assessed before this act becomes effective. The several inhabitants of the town of West Paris shall be holden to pay all taxes which have been legally assessed upon them by the town of Paris and the collectors of taxes for said town of Paris are hereby authorized and required to collect and pay over all unpaid taxes to them already committed agreeably to their respective warrants. All moneys now in the treasury of said town of Paris and all sums which shall hereafter be received from taxes heretofore assessed shall be applied to the several purposes for which they were raised.

Sec. 3. Officers. The existing town officers and by-laws of the town of Paris shall continue in full force and effect over the geographical area of the town of Paris until the town of West Paris is organized pursuant to this act.

Sec. 4. Apportionment of liabilities and obligations. The existing liabilities and obligations of the town of Paris shall be borne by said town in proportion to the valuation of their respective territories as taken by the assessors in April, 1957, except that the bonded indebtedness of the town of Paris in connection with the new high school at South Paris shall be borne by the town of Paris and no part thereof shall be borne by the town of West Paris. All paupers now supported by the aid of the town of Paris shall, after division, be maintained and supported by the town in whose territory they resided when they became paupers. Each town shall henceforth bear all expenses for the care and maintenance of all roads and bridges within its respective limits. The existing surplus of the town of Paris shall be apportioned between said towns in proportion to the valuation of their respective territory as taken by the assessors in April, 1957.

Sec. 5. Division of property. All the real property of the town of Paris shall be held and owned by the town of Paris and the town of West Paris respectively, by the town where said property is located. All personal property of the town of Paris shall be held and owned by the town in possession thereof on the date this law becomes effective, subject to the provision, however, that personal property customarily used for the benefit of the property situated in either of said towns shall be the property of said town, notwithstanding its geographical location on the date this act becomes effective. Neither town shall be required to pay any consideration to the other in connection with the division of real and personal property herein provided.

Sec. 6. Town records. The books and papers and records of the town of Paris shall be retained by said town of Paris, but the town of West Paris shall have access to the same.

Sec. 7. First meeting, how called. Any justice of the peace in the county of Oxford may issue his warrant to any legal voter in the town of West Paris, directing his to notify the inhabitants thereof to meet at a time and place specified in said warrant, giving at least 7 days' notice therefor, for the choice of town officers and to transact such business as towns are authorized to do.

Sec. 8. Local referendum provided for; procedure of election; form of question; certificate to Secretary of State. This act shall take effect 90 days after adjournment of the Legislature, only for the purpose of permitting its submission to the legal voters within the territory embraced within the limits of said

proposed town of West Paris, voting by ballot at an election to be specially called and held for the purpose within 60 days of the effective date of this act. The board of selectmen of the town of Paris shall call said election to be held at a place within said territory and upon a date to be specified in writing by them. Said board of selectmen shall make and provide a separate check list for such of the voters within said territory as are then legal voters therein, and the call for such election shall be varied accordingly to show that only such voters are entitled to vote therein. Such election shall otherwise be called, advertised and conducted according to the law relating to municipal elections; providing, however, that the selectmen shall not be required to prepare, nor the town clerk to post, a new check list of voters, and for the purpose of registration of voters, said board shall be in session the 2 secular days next preceding such election, the first day thereof to be devoted to the registration of voters and the last day to enable the board to verify the corrections of said list and to complete and close up the records of said sessions. The town clerk shall prepare the required ballots, on which he shall reduce the subject matter of this act to the following question: "Shall the Act to Incorporate the Town of West Paris, passed by the 98th Legislature, be accepted?" and the voters shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed against the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same. This act shall take effect for all the purposes thereof immediately upon its acceptance by a majority of the legal voters voting at said election; provided that the total number of votes cast for and against the acceptance of this act at said election equals or exceeds 65% of the total number of the qualified voters within said territory.

The result of the vote shall be declared by the municipal officers of the town of Paris, and due certificate thereof shall be filed by the town clerk with the Secretary of State.