

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LAWS
OF THE
STATE OF MAINE

AS PASSED BY THE

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
September 29, 2021

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
January 5, 2022 to May 9, 2022

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND SPECIAL SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
DECEMBER 29, 2021

THE GENERAL EFFECTIVE DATE FOR
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
NON-EMERGENCY LAWS IS
AUGUST 8, 2022

PUBLISHED BY THE REVISOR OF STATUTES
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED,
TITLE 3, SECTION 163-A, SUBSECTION 4.

Augusta, Maine
2022

school board of the respective member school administrative units shall continue to be the employer under its collective bargaining agreements with respect to the teachers and employees that have not transferred to the community school district under this Act.

Sec. 15. Dispute resolution. If the community school district is formed, the Commissioner of Education or the commissioner's designee is authorized to settle any disputes that may arise between the community school district and its member school administrative units or between the member school administrative units under sections 9 to 12 and with respect to administrator contracts under section 13. The commissioner's decision is final and binding.

Sec. 16. Borrowing; lease purchasing. The school board of the community school district has the same authority to borrow for capital project and capital equipment needs that a community school district board of trustees has under the general law in effect on the effective date of this Act to borrow for minor capital costs. Except as provided by this section, in order to issue bonds or notes for capital borrowing, the voters of the community school district must approve a warrant article authorizing the school board to issue bonds or notes at a district meeting or district referendum of the community school district called and held as provided by this Act. If the principal amount to be borrowed added to the then remaining total principal of all outstanding bonds or notes for capital project and capital equipment needs that the voters approved at a district meeting exceeds 0.25% of the adjusted state valuation of the municipalities of the member school administrative units, voter approval must be by referendum. Borrowing for school construction projects must be approved by referendum to the extent required by the general law. Bonds and notes are general obligations of the community school district secured by its full faith and credit. Bonds or notes issued during the transitional period are payable after the start of the first operational year of the community school district. The school board of the community school district may borrow for operating costs and may enter into lease-purchase agreements to the extent and for the purposes permitted under the general law.

Sec. 17. Budget format and procedure. The format and procedure for the operating budget of the school operated by the community school district to be presented to the voters of the community school district must be the cost center summary budget format and the budget validation referendum procedure of the general law or as may be otherwise provided by the general law. The format and procedure may be changed to the extent permitted or required by the general law.

Sec. 18. Cost sharing; assessment. The community school district shall apportion amounts to the municipalities of its member school administrative units for the required local contribution based on the

Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 606-B and amounts to the municipalities of its member school administrative units for additional local funds based on the number of resident secondary pupils in each municipality as calculated under chapter 606-B. The community school district shall:

1. Assess and collect school taxes from the municipalities of its member school administrative units as provided by the general law; and
2. Follow procedure of the general law for amendment of cost sharing. The referendum procedure used to form the community school district is the manner of adoption of the original formula for cost sharing.

Sec. 19. District meeting procedures. The community school district shall conduct budget meetings and special budget meetings in the manner provided under the general law. The community school district may conduct other district meetings in the manner provided for school district budget meetings under the general law.

Sec. 20. District referendum procedures. The community school district shall conduct referenda for purposes described in this Act or the general law in the manner provided for regional school units under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 103-A.

Sec. 21. Controlling law. If any provision of this Act conflicts with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, chapter 105, the provisions of this Act control. For purposes of applying a provision of Title 20-A, chapter 105 to the community school district's member school administrative units, "school board" may be substituted for "municipal officers" and "school administrative district" or "regional school unit" may be substituted for "municipality" or "town," when the substitution is necessary to fulfill the purpose and intent of that provision and does not conflict with this Act.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 23

H.P. 1475 - L.D. 1989

**An Act To Authorize School
Administrative District No. 6
To Lease a Former
Administrative Building for a
Term of Not More than 20
Years**

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

Sec. 1. Authority to lease. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 4103, subsection 2, paragraph A, the board of directors of Regional School Unit 6, doing business as School Admin-

istrative District No. 6, may lease the former administrative building located at 100 Main Street in Buxton to the Buxton-Hollis Historical Society for a term of not more than 20 years, as long as the lease addresses the terms of withdrawal from the lease by either party.

See title page for effective date.

CHAPTER 24

S.P. 747 - L.D. 2037

An Act To Allow the Assessor of the Cyr Plantation Board of Assessors To Facilitate the Election of Vacant Assessor Seats

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

Whereas, Cyr Plantation currently only has one assessor elected to the Board of Assessors and the functions of the Cyr Plantation Board of Assessors cannot be carried out without the appointment of temporary staff and election of additional board members to ensure a quorum exists; and

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

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

Sec. 1. Cyr Plantation temporary authority of assessor; filling vacancies through appointment. The assessor of the Cyr Plantation Board of Assessors may appoint a municipal clerk, registrar of voters and treasurer to fill existing vacancies for the purpose of facilitating an election to fill empty seats on the Board of Assessors. The terms of these appointments end upon the election of a quorum to the Board of Assessors unless the appointees are later confirmed as otherwise required by law or procedure.

Sec. 2. Cyr Plantation authority of assessor; authority to call town meetings and elections and designate shortened paper process. The assessor of the Cyr Plantation Board of Assessors may issue a warrant calling a town meeting and an election to fill the vacancies on the Board of Assessors pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, sections 2521, 2528 and 7006. The assessor may also designate a shortened nomination paper process for the election pursuant to Title 30-A, section 2528, subsection 4, par-

agraph E and may appoint the necessary number of ballot clerks to carry out the election pursuant to Title 30-A, section 2528, subsection 8.

Sec. 3. Cyr Plantation authority of assessor; disbursement warrants. Until a quorum of assessors is elected to the Cyr Plantation Board of Assessors, the assessor may approve and sign disbursement warrants under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 5603, subsection 2.

Sec. 4. Cyr Plantation authority of assessor; general assistance program administration. Until a quorum is elected to the Cyr Plantation Board of Assessors, the assessor may approve any general assistance applications and perform any necessary functions to administer Cyr Plantation's general assistance program that would otherwise require a quorum of assessors.

Sec. 5. Repeal. This Act is repealed December 31, 2022.

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

Effective April 18, 2022.

CHAPTER 25

S.P. 725 - L.D. 2011

An Act To Allow the Annexation of Certain Lands by Columbia Falls

Mandate preamble. This measure requires one or more local units of government to expand or modify activities so as to necessitate additional expenditures from local revenues but does not provide funding for at least 90% of those expenditures. Pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 21, 2/3 of all of the members elected to each House have determined it necessary to enact this measure.

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

Sec. 1. Annexation of a portion of Centerville Township to the Town of Columbia Falls. A portion of the unorganized territory of Centerville Township consisting of the lot of land adjacent to the Town of Columbia Falls in Washington County described by the following metes and bounds is annexed to the Town of Columbia Falls:

Beginning at a point on the southeast corner of Town of Northfield town line, thence southerly along the westerly boundary of the Town of Whitneyville a distance of four thousand (4000') feet, more or less, thence westerly along a line parallel to the southerly town line of the Town of Northfield a distance of twelve