



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

---

Legislative Document

No. 280

---

H.P. 178

House of Representatives, January 26, 2023

**An Act to Make Maine Schools Safer and Healthier by Increasing  
the Maximum Debt Service Limit**

---

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

Handwritten signature of Robert B. Hunt in cursive.

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

Presented by Representative MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth.  
Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and  
Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, KUHN of Falmouth, LaROCHELLE of Augusta,  
Senators: CARNEY of Cumberland, DUSON of Cumberland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15905, sub-§1, ¶A**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 616, Pt. C,  
3 §9, is further amended to read:

4 A. The state board may approve projects as long as no project approval will cause debt  
5 service costs, as defined in section 15672, subsection 2-A, paragraph A and pursuant  
6 to Resolve 2007, chapter 223, section 4, to exceed the maximum limits specified in  
7 Table 1 and Table 2 in subsequent fiscal years.

8 **Table 1**  
9 **Major Capital** **Integrated, Consolidated**  
10 **Secondary and Postsecondary**  
11 **Project**

12 Fiscal year	13 Maximum Debt Service Limit	14 Maximum Debt Service Limit
15 1990	\$ 48,000,000	
16 1991	\$ 57,000,000	
17 1992	\$ 65,000,000	
18 1993	\$ 67,000,000	
19 1994	\$ 67,000,000	
20 1995	\$ 67,000,000	
21 1996	\$ 67,000,000	
22 1997	\$ 67,000,000	
23 1998	\$ 67,000,000	
24 1999	\$ 69,000,000	
25 2000	\$ 72,000,000	
26 2001	\$ 74,000,000	
27 2002	\$ 74,000,000	
28 2003	\$ 80,000,000	
29 2004	\$ 80,000,000	
30 2005	\$ 84,000,000	
31 2006	\$ 90,000,000	
32 2007	\$ 96,000,000	
33 2008	\$100,000,000	
34 2009	\$104,000,000	
35 2010	\$108,000,000	
36 2011	\$126,000,000	
37 2012	\$116,000,000	
38 2013	\$116,000,000	
39 2014	\$126,000,000	\$10,000,000
40 2015	\$126,000,000	\$10,000,000
41 2016	\$126,000,000	\$10,000,000
42 2017	\$126,000,000	\$10,000,000
43 2018	\$126,000,000	\$10,000,000
44 2019	\$126,000,000	\$10,000,000
45 2020	\$126,000,000	\$20,000,000
46 2021	\$126,000,000	\$20,000,000
	\$126,000,000	\$20,000,000
	\$126,000,000	\$20,000,000

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10

Table 2

Fiscal year	Maximum Debt Service Limit
2024	<del>\$150,000,000</del> <u>\$250,000,000</u>
2025	<del>\$150,000,000</del> <u>\$250,000,000</u>
2026	<del>\$150,000,000</del> <u>\$250,000,000</u>
2027	<del>\$150,000,000</del> <u>\$250,000,000</u>

**SUMMARY**

This bill changes the maximum debt service limit for school capital improvements for fiscal year 2024 to fiscal year 2027 from \$150,000,000 to \$250,000,000.