

STATE OF MAINE

—  
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD  
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-SIX

—  
H.P. 1510 - L.D. 2234

**An Act to Increase the Debt Limit of the Vinalhaven Water District**

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

**Whereas,** a new water main is needed to allow the Vinalhaven Water District to protect the health of residents served by the district; and

**Whereas,** other improvements in the water system are urgently needed to bring the district into compliance with state standards; and

**Whereas,** the needed funds to complete these projects would exceed the current borrowing capacity of the district; and

**Whereas,** the district needs an immediate increase in its borrowing authority in order to timely schedule the needed improvements; 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. P&SL 1977, c. 99, §12,** as repealed and replaced by P&SL 2001, c. 21, §5, is amended to read:

**Sec. 12. Debt limit.** For accomplishing the purposes of this Act, and for any other expenses that may be necessary for the carrying out of those purposes, the district, through its trustees, is authorized to borrow money temporarily and to issue for the money its negotiable notes; and for the purpose of renewing and refunding the indebtedness created, of paying any necessary expenses and liabilities incurred under the provisions of this Act, including organizational and other necessary expenses and liabilities, whether incurred by the district or the municipality, the district being authorized to reimburse the municipality for any such expenses incurred by it, and in acquiring properties, paying damages, laying pipes, mains, aqueducts and conduits, constructing, maintaining and operating a water plant or system and making renewals, additions, extensions and improvements to the same, and

to cover interest payments during the period of construction, the district, through its trustees, is also authorized to issue, from time to time, bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness of the district in one series or in separate series and to make subsequent renewals of the bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness, the amount or amounts, not exceeding the sum of ~~\$1,500,000~~ \$4,000,000 outstanding at any one time, bearing interest at such rate or rates, and having such terms and provisions as the trustees determine; except that, in the case of a vote by the trustees to authorize bonds or notes to pay for the acquisition of property, for the cost of a water system or part of a water system, for renewal or additions or for other improvements in the nature of capital costs, the estimated cost of which, singly or in the aggregate included in any one financing is \$30,000 or more, or for renewing or refunding existing indebtedness, notice of the proposed debt and of the general purpose or purposes for which it was authorized must be given by the clerk by publication at least once in a newspaper having a general circulation in the Town of Vinalhaven.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the district, through its trustees, may issue bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness in amounts exceeding ~~\$1,500,000~~ \$4,000,000 at any one time if a greater debt limit is established by referendum in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 6413. The district may not have outstanding at any one time bonds, notes or other evidences of indebtedness in amounts exceeding any debt limit established by referendum in accordance with Title 35-A, section 6413.

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