

STATE OF MAINE

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

—
S.P. 974 - L.D. 2257

An Act to Allow School Administrative District No. 52 to Issue Temporary Notes for a Wastewater Treatment Project

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

Whereas, School Administrative District No. 52, referred to in this preamble as "the district," owns and operates a wastewater treatment plant in the Town of Turner for its school facilities and other private users; and

Whereas, the Department of Environmental Protection authorized a project to replace the wastewater treatment plant with a new system with subsurface disposal to address overboard discharge affecting the Nezinscot River; and

Whereas, the voters of the district authorized the issuance of up to \$1,612,000 in bonds to fund the wastewater treatment project; and

Whereas, on March 31, 2021, the district issued a temporary note in the principal amount of \$1,612,000 through the State's Clean Water State Revolving Fund to provide temporary financing for the wastewater treatment project through project completion; and

Whereas, the wastewater treatment project has been unexpectedly delayed due to the COVID-19 emergency and difficulties locating a suitable site for subsurface disposal and is not expected to be completed until August 2025; and

Whereas, under state law, temporary notes issued by the district must mature not later than 3 years from the date the first temporary note is issued; and

Whereas, under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, the district may not issue long-term bonds for the project until the project is completed; and

Whereas, the unexpected delays have made it necessary for the district to issue temporary notes later than 3 years from the date the first temporary note was issued; 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. Validation and authorization. Notwithstanding the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 1311, subsection 3, paragraph C, School Administrative District No. 52, referred to in this section as "the district," may issue temporary notes in a total principal amount not to exceed \$1,612,000 that mature not later than March 31, 2026 as necessary to finance a project authorized by the Department of Environmental Protection to replace the wastewater treatment plant with a new system with subsurface disposal in the Town of Turner. The district may, as necessary, issue refunding notes or renewal notes pursuant to this section. Any refunding notes or renewal notes issued pursuant to this section must meet the same requirements applicable to temporary notes as described in this section.

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