

March 6, 2024

Chair Lawrence, Chair Zeigler, esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. Good afternoon. I am Jack Ducharme and I serve on the Board of Trustees and am the Treasurer of Anson Madison Water District. I am submitting testimony in favor of LD 2242, An Act to Set a Debt Limit for the Anson and Madison Water District. Anson Madison Water District was formed by merger of the Anson Water District and Madison Water District in 2005. These two districts were quasi-governmental organizations that operated the municipal water system of the area. Since the water source was common to both districts, it made sense to merge the districts who were separated by the Kennebec River.

When the charter for this combined district was drafted and approved, the drafters and the board failed to include a debt service limit in the charter. Since that time, the Anson Madison Water District has gone through some considerable changes in the last several years. The District is governed by a 7 member elected Board of Trustees, elected by both towns. There are 4 trustees from Madison and 3 from Anson. The Board understands that this addition is merely a technical correction to fix an oversight in the drafting of the Charter in 2005.

In 2021 the board entered an operations contract with Maine Rural Water Association to be the operator of the District. Maine Rural Water Association is a professional organization who has responsibility for operating many districts throughout the State of Maine and is well respected in the water system operating community in Maine. They are in favor of the addition of the debt service limit to the charter of the District.

I urge you to pass this bill to include this debt service limit in the charter of the Anson Madison Water District. We have letters of support from both Select Boards for this action.

Thank you for your consideration,

Jack Ducharme

Jack Ducharme, Treasurer
Anson Madison Water District



WHERE TWO
RIVERS
 MEET

Town of
Anson

INCORPORATED MARCH 1, 1798
 P.O. Box 297 Main Street, Anson 04911

February 15, 2024

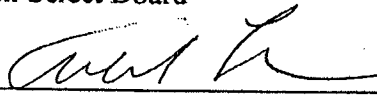
Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
 100 State House Station
 Augusta, ME 04333

Chairman Senator Lawrence, Chairman Representative Ziegler, esteemed members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology. Please consider this letter of support for the addition of the debt service limit language to the charter of Anson-Madison Water District from the Madison Select Board.

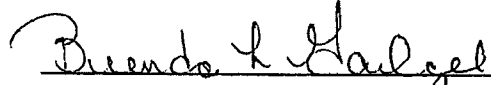
We understand that in 2005 when the Madison Water District merged with the Anson Water District, this language was inadvertently omitted from the charter. The inclusion of a debt service limit in this District's charter is good public policy and we support legislative action to include it. We acknowledge that the Select Boards of both towns must provide a letter of support for this correction. *Not to Exceed 20 Million Debt Service Limit (TUM)*

Thank you,

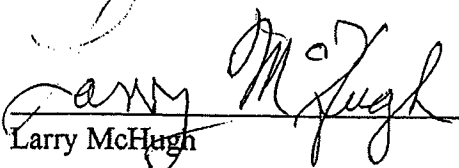
Anson Select Board



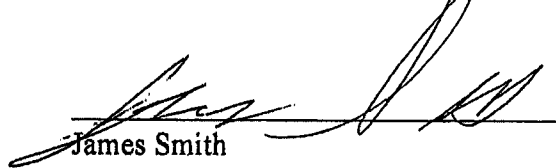
 Arnold Luce (Chair)



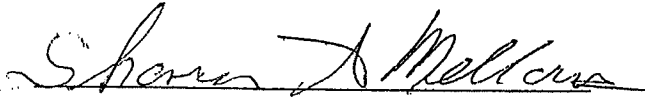
 Brenda Garland



 Larry McHugh



 James Smith



 Sharon Mellows



LD 2242
A great place to live, work & play!

February 12, 2024

Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
100 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

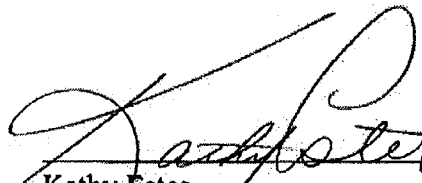
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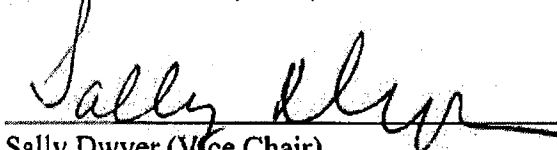
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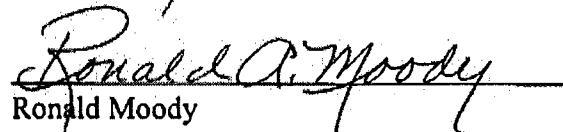
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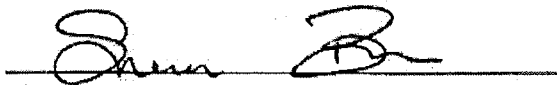
Madison Select Board


Albert Veneziano (Chair)


Kathy Estes


Sally Dwyer (Vice Chair)


Ronald Moody


Shawn Bean