



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

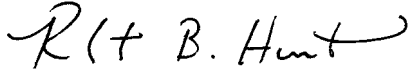
No. 62

H.P. 26

House of Representatives, January 8, 2025

An Act to Support Municipal and County Actions on Dam Ownership

Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Received by the Clerk of the House on January 6, 2025. Referred to the Committee on
Environment and Natural Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant
to Joint Rule 401.


ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §901, sub-§1, ¶C**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 630, §3, is amended
3 to read:

4 C. A plan of the dam and brief descriptions of the condition of the dam and recent
5 operation of the dam; and

6 **Sec. 2. 38 MRSA §901, sub-§1, ¶C-1** is enacted to read:

7 C-1. Information necessary for the persons listed in section 902, subsection 3 to
8 determine whether to assume ownership of the dam; and

9 **Sec. 3. 38 MRSA §908, first ¶**, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 630, §3, is amended to
10 read:

11 The municipal legislative body, as defined in Title 30-A, section 2001, of any
12 municipality notified pursuant to section 901, subsection 2 must consider and act on the
13 issue of dam ownership at a public meeting. The meeting must be held no later than ~~60~~
14 180 days after the municipal officers receive notice under section 901 and the department
15 determines the petition is complete for processing. County commissioners notified under
16 section 901 must also hold a public meeting to act on the issue of dam ownership not later
17 than ~~60~~ 180 days after receiving notification.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 This bill amends the process for Department of Environmental Protection proceedings
20 for release of dam ownership by changing the information that must be submitted by the
21 dam owner and changing the time frame for the required municipal public meeting.