

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



118th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1997

Legislative Document

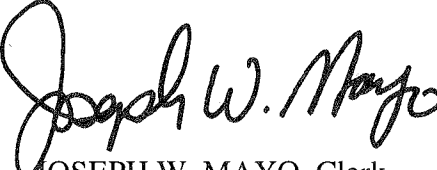
No. 705

H.P. 514

House of Representatives, February 4, 1997

**An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Approval Process of Budgets
of School Administrative Districts.**

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


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative MACK of Standish.
Cosponsored by Senator HALL of Piscataquis and
Representatives: BARTH of Bethel, BROOKS of Winterport, JOY of Crystal, KASPRZAK
of Newport, LANE of Enfield, PINKHAM of Lamoine, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland,
UNDERWOOD of Oxford.

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

4 **Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1305, sub-§3,** as amended by PL 1993, c.
372, §2, is further amended to read:

6 **3. Failure to approve a budget.** If the budget or a portion
of the budget fails to receive a majority vote at the referendum,
8 the board of directors shall decide in a public proceeding
whether subsequent votes on the portion of the budget that was
10 defeated must be conducted in accordance with the referendum
procedure in subsection 2 or at a district budget meeting held at
12 a single place in the district in accordance with procedures in
sections 1303 and 1304. If the budget or a portion of the budget
14 fails to receive a majority vote at the referendum, the board of
16 directors is prohibited, for a period of one year from the
18 referendum date, from submitting any warrant article or
20 referendum question that, if approved by voters, would increase
22 the local assessment beyond that amount that was most recently
24 approved. Subsequent votes conducted in accordance with the
referendum procedure in subsection 2 must be held within 45
26 days. Subsequent votes conducted in accordance with sections
1303 and 1304 must be held within 30 days. These referenda or
meetings must be held solely for the purpose of approving an
alternative operating school budget to replace the part of the
proposed budget that the voters failed to approve. The board may
continue in this manner until an alternative budget is adopted.

28 **SUMMARY**

30 This bill prohibits the board of directors of a school
32 administrative district from resubmitting to voters, for one
year, any ballot or warrant measure that if approved would have
34 the net effect of increasing the district's overall local school
tax assessment beyond the current approved amount. This
36 prohibition would apply in the event a school district budget, or
any portion of a budget, was not approved by voters on the first
38 referendum vote.