

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
101st LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 343, L.D. 556, Bill, "An Act to Grant a Charter to the City of Brunswick."

Amend said Bill by striking out all of the emergency preamble.

Further amend said Bill by striking out all of that part designated "Article VI." and inserting in place thereof the following:

'ARTICLE VI.

Tax Administration

Sec. 601. Assessor. The city assessor shall have such powers, including the power to make abatements, and be subject to such liabilities and duties as are prescribed for assessors under the laws of the State.

Sec. 602. Board of assessment review. There shall be a board of assessment review, consisting of 3 regular members and one alternate, none of whom shall be elected officials of the city. Members shall be appointed for terms of 3 years, except that of those regular members first appointed, one shall be appointed for a term of 2 years, and one for one year. The alternate shall act only in the absence of one of the regular members. If a member of such board shall cease to be a resident of the city, his office shall become immediately vacant. The board shall elect annually a chairman and a Secretary from its own membership.

Sec. 603. Powers and duties. The board of assessment review shall have the power to review, on complaint of property owners, the assessments made by the city assessor, and in pursuance thereof may administer oaths, hold hearings, take testimony and adopt procedural regulations.

Sec. 604. Basis for complaint. No complaint shall be considered by the board of assessment review unless there shall have been:

I. Compliance by the complainant with the provisions of chapter 91-A, section 34, of the Revised Statutes of 1954, and

II. Denial of an abatement by the city assessor after application therefor under chapter 91-A, Section 48, of the Revised Statutes of 1954.

Sec. 605. Hearings on complaints. Complaints to the board of assessment review shall be in writing and hearings shall be held upon complaints within 30 days of receiving the same. The attendance and testimony of the city assessor shall be required at all hearings.

(Filing No. H-234)

Within 10 days thereafter the determination of the board of assessment review shall be certified by the Secretary of the board to the complainant and to the city assessor, who shall make such abatement as the board may have recommended.

Sec. 606. Appeal. Appeal from the determination of the board of assessment review may be taken by the taxpayer to the county commissioners or to the Superior Court in accordance with chapter 91-A, Sections 50 to 55, of the Revised Statutes of 1954. The determination of the board of assessment review shall not be admissible in evidence in a hearing before the county commissioners or the Superior Court.'

Further amend said Bill by striking out all of the first sentence of the Referendum, including the headnote, and inserting in place thereof the following:

'Referendum; effective date; certificate to Secretary of State. This act shall take effect 90 days after adjournment of the Legislature, only for the purpose of permitting its submission to the legal voters of the Town of Brunswick at a special meeting called and held for the purpose not later than 45 days after the effective date of this act.'

Reported by the Committee on Municipal Affairs.

Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the House.

(Filing No. H-234)

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