

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 106

H. P. 98 House of Representatives, January 9, 1969
Referred to Committee on State Government. Sent up for concurrence and
ordered printed.

BERTHA W. JOHNSON, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SIXTY-NINE

AN ACT to Provide a Uniform Fiscal Year for Municipalities.

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

Sec. 1. R. S., T. 30, § 2055, amended. Section 2055 of Title 30 of the Revised Statutes is amended to read as follows :

§ 2055. Annual meeting

Each town shall hold an annual meeting ~~in March~~, at which time the following town officials shall be elected by ballot: Moderator, clerk, selectmen, assessors, overseers of the poor, treasurer and school committee. Other town officials may be elected by ballot or, if not so elected, they shall be appointed by the selectmen. A town official may not be elected on a motion to cast one ballot.

Sec. 2. R. S., T. 30, § 5101-A, additional. Title 30 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new section 5101-A, to read as follows :

§ 5101-A. Budget

The budget for each municipality shall be submitted and adopted prior to the start of the municipal year.

Sec. 3. R. S., T. 30, § 5151, sub-§ 3, repealed and replaced. Subsection 3 of section 5151 of Title 30 of the Revised Statutes is repealed and the following enacted in place thereof :

3. Municipal year defined. The municipal year shall be the fiscal year commencing on the first day of July and ending on the 30th day of June of each year.

Sec. 4. R. S., T. 30, § 5251, amended. Section 5251 of Title 30 of the Revised Statutes is amended by adding at the end, a new paragraph, as follows:

Each municipality and quasi-municipal corporation, including but not limited to various types of districts or corporations embracing a portion of a municipality, a single municipality or several municipalities, shall adopt a uniform fiscal year commencing on the first day of July and ending on the 30th day of June of each year.

Sec. 5. Transitional provisions. Following January 1, 1970 and in no event later than June 30, 1972, the appropriate authorities of each municipality in this State shall initiate and complete such changes of procedures as are necessary to assure conformity with this Act with respect to the uniform fiscal year and municipal year.

It is intended that during the transitional period municipalities shall vote to appropriate and budget moneys and arrange their fiscal affairs in order to transit from their current fiscal year basis to the uniform fiscal year basis.

The transitional period is defined as the period from January 1, 1970 to June 30, 1972. During the period of transition to the uniform fiscal year basis, a municipality shall vote to appropriate moneys for periods of time sufficient to insure an orderly transition to the uniform fiscal year basis. For example, a municipality that is on a 12-month fiscal year may desire, in order to transit, to appropriate moneys for a period longer than 12 months in order that their next appropriation commence on the uniform fiscal year basis.

Municipalities may determine that taxes for the transitional period be paid in installments for periods of time as determined by their governing body.

Sec. 6. Inconsistent provisions. All laws, parts of laws, rules, regulations and procedures which are inconsistent in any respect with this Act and the rules, regulations and procedures necessary thereunder are repealed or modified on July 1, 1972 to the extent of the inconsistency. This section specifically includes the provisions of any charter of any municipality which is inconsistent herewith.

Sec. 7. Liberal construction. It is the intention of the Legislature that this Act and the statutes of Maine relating to municipal financial affairs and taxation shall be construed liberally to effect the intention of this Act.

Sec. 8. Effective date. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 1970.