MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SENATE 106TH LEGISLATURE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" to H. P. 1945, L. D. 2479 Bill, "AN ACT Relating to the Budgetary Process of the Eleven New Regions for Vocational Education."

Amend said Bill in section 1 by striking out in the last 2 lines the following: "3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th paragraphs" and inserting in place thereof the following: 'last paragraph before that part designated "Region 1."' (same in L.D.)

Further amend said Bill in section 2 by striking out in the 4th line (same in L.D.) the figure and abbreviation "2nd" and inserting in place thereof the figure and abbreviation '5th'

Further amend said Bill in section 2 by striking out everything after the amending clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

'If the budget fails of passage, the cooperative board shall prepare a new budget and shall submit it to a budget meeting of the vocational region called in the manner set forth below:

- A. Warrant. Each regional meeting shall be called by a warrant. The warrant shall be signed by a majority of the cooperative board membership.
 - (1) It shall specify the time and place of the meeting.
 - (2) It shall be directed to any resident living within the vocational region by name ordering him to notify all voters within the region to assemble at the time and place appointed.
 - (3) An attested copy of the warrant shall be posted by the person to whom it is directed in some conspicuous public place in each of the municipalities within the vocational region at least 7 days before the meeting.

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- (4) The person who gives notice of the meeting shall make his return on the warrant stating the manner of notice in each municipality and the time when it was given.
- B. Form. The warrant for calling the budget meeting of the vocational region shall include such articles as the cooperative board deems necessary to place before the voters for their consideration the vocational programs and the authorization to expend funds of the region for the fiscal year. A detailed supportive budget document shall be available to the legislative body which has responsibility for final budget approval. The supportive document shall contain a summary of anticipated revenues and estimated expenditures for the fiscal year. Any budget adopted under this section prior to the effective date of this Act shall be validated, approved and declared legal. The 1974-1975 budget may be adopted using the procedures set forth in this section even though the budget meeting is called after the effective date of this Act.

C. Budget procedure.

a resident of the region to make and keep a voting list of all residents in the region eligible to vote. This person shall be known as the registration clerk. The registration clerk shall compile the voting list from the voting lists of all the municipalities lying within the region the town or city clerk shall deliver to the vocational region registration clerk, business days prior to the regional district budget meeting, a certified corrected copy of the voting list of the member municipality. No additions or deletions shall be made during the 5 business days prior to said meeting and

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only those citizens whose names appear on the voting list may vote on the budget presented by the cooperative board.

- (2) The chairman of the cooperative board, or in his absence his designee, shall open the budget meeting by calling for the election of a moderator, receiving and counting votes for the moderator, and swearing in the moderator.
- (3) As soon as he has been elected and sworn, the moderator shall preside at the meeting and the annual budget shall be adopted by a majority vote of those present and voting. The moderator shall appoint from the certified voting lists such ballot clerks as he deems necessary for the efficient operation of the meeting. Such ballot clerks shall be sworn by the moderator.
- (4) The secretary of the cooperative board, or in his absence his designee, shall record accurately all the votes of the regional meeting.
- (5) The cooperative board shall, forthwith upon the adoption of a budget, compute the share to be paid by each municipality within the region and shall notify the school officials to include said share in the administrative unit's annual school budget.
- (6) The school officials shall place on the school payroll for payment the first of each month a sum equivalent to 1/12 of the municipality's share of the cooperative school budget as adopted.

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Statement of Fact

This amendment would clarify the method approving vocational budgets in the new vocational regions. It would provide that, in the event that a majority of the units representated within the vocational region voted to disapprove of the vocational budget submitted by the cooperative board, the cooperative board would then be required to prepare a new budget and submit it to a regional budget meeting for the voters of the region to act upon the revised vocational budget.

COUNTY: Kennebec

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