

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
107TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

(Filing No. H-1165)

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 2208, L.D. 2308, Bill, "AN ACT to Provide for a Line Budget Procedure for All School Systems."

Amend said Amendment by adding at the end of section 3 the following new paragraph and subsections:

'Notwithstanding any other provisions of public or private statutes, a special budget meeting to reconsider the actions taken by the legislative body responsible for budget adoption in any administrative unit or to consider additional appropriations may be called under the following conditions and by following the procedures set forth below.

1. Reconsideration or additional appropriations. Meetings to reconsider action or to ask for additional appropriations must be called within 30 days of the regular budget meeting.

2. Special budget meeting. A special budget meeting may be called by the board of directors in a school administrative district or by the board of trustees in a community school district.

3. Procedure for calling a special budget meeting. A special budget meeting must be called, within 15 days, by the board of directors in a school administrative district or the board of trustees in community school districts whenever 10% of the voters voting in the last gubernatorial election in the member towns of

the district have signed a petition for such a meeting specifying the article or articles to be acted upon at the special budget meeting.

4. Who may call a special budget meeting. A special budget meeting may be called by the school committee in a municipality which is responsible for the operation of its schools or may be called by using the petition procedures set forth in Title 30.

5. Invalidation of actions of a special budget meeting. Whenever a special budget meeting is called to reconsider action taken at a regular budget meeting or to consider additional appropriations, the actions of the meeting shall be invalid if the recorded vote is less than the vote recorded at the regular budget meeting on the appropriation articles.

6. Recording of "yes" and "no" votes. The moderators of each regular or special meeting where appropriations are approved shall require the clerk or secretary to record the number of "yes" votes and the number of "no" votes on each article considered at the meeting.

7. Municipalities. In municipalities where the council approves the school budget, reconsideration or additional appropriations may be initiated using the same procedures as outlined above. Council action shall be governed by the rules set forth in the charter.

8. Line/transfers. Meetings required by school committees or school directors for the purpose of transferring funds from one  
item

category or line item to another must be posted for voter or  
Council action within 15 days of the date of the request.'

Statement of Fact

The purpose of this Amendment is to limit the number of times that a meeting may be called to consider the school budget and to set a minimum requirement for voter attendance so that action at a special meeting to change the voter action of a regular meeting must be carried out by the same or a larger number of voters.

Filed by Mr. Morton of Farmington.

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