

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2308

H. P. 2208

House of Representatives, March 17, 1976

Referred to Committee on Education. Sent up for concurrence and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Dam of Skowhegan.

(Cosponsors: Messrs. Wilfong of Stow, McMahon of Kennebunk, Greenlaw of Stonington.)

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SIX

AN ACT to Provide for a Line Budget Procedure for All School Systems.

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

Sec. 1. 20 MRSA § 226, sub-§ 3, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 623, § 20, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

The school budget shall be prepared by specific line categories with a specific amount for each category and each category shall be included in a separate warrant article. The categories shall include administration, instruction, including salaries, textbooks and supplies, attendance services, health services, pupil transportation services, operation of plant and equipment, maintenance of plant and equipment, fixed charges, food services, student body activities, community services, capital outlay from current funds, debt service, tuition charges and adult education. Whenever any specific appropriation for a specific line category shall prove insufficient to pay the required expenditures for which the appropriation was made, the directors may authorize transfer from any other specific line appropriation to meet such expenditures, provided the authorization is in writing, approved and signed by $\frac{2}{3}$ of the directors.

Sec. 2. 20 MRSA § 362, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 510, § 19, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

The school budget shall be prepared by specific line categories with a specific amount for each category and each category shall be included in a separate warrant article. The categories shall include administration, instruction,

including salaries, textbooks and supplies, attendance services, health services, pupil transportation services, operation of plant and equipment, maintenance of plant and equipment, fixed charges, food services, capital outlay from current funds, debt service, tuition charges and adult education. Whenever any specific appropriation for a specific line category shall prove insufficient to pay the required expenditures for which the appropriation was made, the trustees may authorize transfer from any other specific line appropriation to meet such expenditures, provided the authorization is in writing, approved and signed by $\frac{2}{3}$ of the trustees.

Sec. 3. 20 MRSA § 3716, as last amended by PL 1975, c. 42, § 2, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

The school budget shall be prepared by specific line categories with a specific amount for each category and each category shall be included in a separate warrant article. The categories shall include administration, instruction, including salaries, textbooks and supplies, attendance services, health services, pupil transportation services, operation of plant and equipment, maintenance of plant and equipment, fixed charges, food services, capital outlay from current funds, debt service, tuition charges and adult education. Whenever any specific appropriation for a specific line category shall prove insufficient to pay the required expenditures for which the appropriation was made, the superintending school committee may authorize transfer from any other specific line appropriation to meet such expenditures, provided the authorization is in writing, approved and signed by $\frac{2}{3}$ of the superintending school committee.

Sec. 4. **Effective date.** This Act shall become effective January 1, 1977.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to require all public, elementary and secondary school systems to use specific line item budgeting procedures. It will enable the school legislative body to vote on specific items in the budget rather than simply on the block grant basis.