

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(EMERGENCY)
(After Deadline)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2151

H. P. 2125

House of Representatives, February 17, 1978

The Committee on Education suggested by Committee on Reference of Bills.
Approved for introduction by a Majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to
Joint Rule 25.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Mr. Strout of Corinth.

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-EIGHT

AN ACT to Extend the School Budget Adoption Date.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, legislative action is required to establish the dates for the adoption of school budgets; and

Whereas, local administrative units will need additional time to prepare and adopt school budgets; and

Whereas, the provisions of the present law are limited to the year 1977 only; and

Whereas, in the absence of an extension, an unnecessary hardship will be created for local administrative units; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

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

20 MRSA § 3754, as last amended by PL 1977, c. 264, §§ 2 and 3, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

§ 3754. School budget adoption; extension

Notwithstanding any provision of statute or charter to the contrary, municipalities, School Administrative Districts and community school districts may adopt their respective annual budgets at any time prior to June 30, 1978, except that the school budgets for vocational regions shall be adopted on or before July 31, 1978. Municipal officers and school directors or trustees may not certify to the assessors any amount to be raised by taxation until such time as a final budget has been approved that includes the total education cost estimates for the current or ensuing fiscal year. Expenditures may be made by municipalities or school districts after the commencement of, and prior to adoption of a final budget for, the current or ensuing fiscal years 1978 and 1979 based on interim or partial budgets adopted by the municipal officers, boards of directors of School Administrative Districts, or boards of trustees of community school districts. A final budget approved by a municipality or school district prior to February 25, 1977, may be reconsidered and any warrants issued to assessors pursuant to the adopted budgets may be revoked. If a municipal charter provides that a budget proposed by a municipal official or body becomes effective when the municipal legislative body fails to adopt a budget by a specified date or within a specified period of time and that date falls prior to July 1st, that date shall be governed by the provisions of this section for the calendar year 1978.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act shall take effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this bill is to provide that all school budgets shall be adopted by June 30, 1978, except that the school budgets for vocational regions shall be adopted on or before July 31, 1978.