MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION
ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE
Legislative Document No. 1715
H. P. 1730 Submitted by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services pursuant to Joint Rule 24. Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and 1,500 ordered printed. Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26.
EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk Presented by Representative Rolde of York. Cosponsor: Representative Murphy of Kennebunk. Senator Clark of Cumberland. Representative O'Rourke of Camden.
STATE OF MAINE
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-TWO
AN ACT to Clarify the Procedure for Budget Meetings.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and
Whereas, budget meetings following failure of referendum votes in some administrative units may be held prior to the end of June 1982; and
Whereas, clarification of the procedure used in such budget meetings is vital in the process of budget approval; 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,

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

 20 MRSA §226-A, sub-§6, 2nd and 3rd sentences, as enacted by PL 1977, c. 695, §2, are amended to read:

These meetings shall be held solely for the purpose of approving the same or an alternate operating school budget to replace the proposed budget or the part thereof which the voters failed to approve. These meetings shall be held in accordance with the provisions and procedures set out in section 226 and may continue in this manner until the same or an alternate budget is adopted.

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

Statement of Fact

School administrative units that approve budgets by referendum voting in each municipality need clarification of that procedure in the event of failure to approve a budget or a part of the budget. This proposed legislation will allow a budget meeting to reconsider action on the budget without prejudice as to what is expected. The citizens at the budget meeting will be able to approve any desired budget amount.