

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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(After Deadline)

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2195

H.P. 1662

House of Representatives, March 7, 1984

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 27.

Referred to the Committee on Education is suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Ridley of Shapleigh.

Cosponsors: Representative Carroll of Limerick, Senator Wood of York and Representative Seavey of Kennebunkport.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOUR

AN ACT Relating to Local Voting on School
Administrative District Budgets.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1305, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1983, c. 422, §4, is further amended to read:

3. Failure to approve a budget. If, at a district meeting where the voting is done within each municipality within the district, the voters fail to approve the operating school budget, or any part thereof, subsequent district budget meetings shall be held and the voting at these meetings shall be done at a single place within each member municipality within the district. These meetings shall be held solely for the purpose of approving an operating

1 school budget to replace the proposed budget, or the
2 part thereof, which the voters failed to approve in
3 the referendum vote. The board of directors shall
4 submit a revised budget which differs from the oper-
5 ating budget rejected by the voters in the referen-
6 dum. The general meeting may approve any budget
7 which differs from the one rejected by the voters in
8 the referendum vote. These meetings shall be held in
9 accordance with the provisions and procedures set out
10 in ~~section 1304~~ sections 1351 to 1354, and may con-
11 tinue in this manner until a budget different from
12 the one voted down in the referendum vote is adopted.

13 Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §1308, as enacted by PL 1981,
14 c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

15 1308. Failure to pass budget

16 If a budget for the operating of the district is
17 not approved prior to July 1st, the budget ~~as submit-~~
18 ~~ted by the board of directors of the previous year as~~
19 approved by the voters of the member municipalities
20 shall be automatically considered the budget approved
21 for operational expenses for the ensuing year.

22 Sec. 3. 20-A MRSA §1352, sub-§1, as enacted by
23 PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and 8, is amended to read:

24 1. Municipal officers. The warrant shall direct
25 the municipal officers within the district to call a
26 referendum on a date and time determined by the board
27 of directors. A warrant shall be prepared and dis-
28 tributed at least 30 14 days prior to the date of the
29 referendum.

30 A. The warrant shall be directed to a resident
31 of the district by name, ordering the resident to
32 notify the municipal officers of each of the mu-
33 nicipalities within the district, to call a town
34 meeting or city election on the date specified by
35 the board of directors. No other date may be
36 used. The person who serves the warrant shall
37 make a return on the warrant stating the manner
38 of services and the time when it was given.

1 B. The warrant shall be served on the municipal
2 clerk of each of the municipalities within the
3 district by delivering an attested copy of the
4 warrant in hand within 3 days of the date of the
5 warrant. The municipal clerk, on receipt of the
6 warrant, shall immediately notify the municipal
7 officers within the municipality. The municipal
8 officers shall forthwith meet, countersign and
9 have the warrant posted.

10 C. The warrants and other notices for the refer-
11 endum shall be in the same manner as provided in
12 Title 21.

13 STATEMENT OF FACT

14 The purposes of this bill are:

15 1. To provide that when there is a failure to
16 approve an operating school administrative district
17 budget at a district meeting where the voting is done
18 within each municipality, subsequent voting shall be
19 done within each municipality;

20 2. To provide that if an operating budget is not
21 approved, the previous year's budget as approved by
22 the voters shall be used; and

23 3. To provide that the warrant for a district
24 referendum be distributed at least 14 days prior to
25 the date of the referendum rather than 30 days.

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