

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SECOND REGULAR SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document No. 1756

H.P. 1246 House of Representatives, December 30, 1985

Submitted by the Department of Educational and Cultural Services pursuant to Joint Rule 24.

Received by the Clerk of the House on December 30, 1985. Referred to the Committee on Education and 1,600 ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 14.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative Bost of Orono.

Cosponsored by Representative O’Gara of Westbrook, Representative Roberts of Farmington and Representative Matthews of Caribou.

STATE OF MAINE

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

AN ACT to Amend the School Construction Law.

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

Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §15904, sub-§1, as amended by PL 1985, c. 161, §4, and c. 248, §4, is repealed and the following enacted in its place:

1. Municipals schools. In a municipality where the responsibility for final adoption of the school budget is vested in a municipal council by municipal charter or in a town meeting, the vote shall be by referendum in accordance with the appropriate provisions set forth in Title 21-A and Title 30, except that the filing requirement contained in Title 30, section 2061, subsection 4, does not apply.

Sec. 2. 20-A MRSA §15904, sub-§4, ¶E, as repealed and replaced by PL 1985, c. 506, Pt. B, §§16 and 18, is amended to read:

1 E. The school administrative unit shall be re-  
2 ponsible for the local share of debt service al-  
3 location to be calculated in accordance with the  
4 School Finance Act of 1985 state law.

5 STATEMENT OF FACT

6 Section 1 of the bill changes the language re-  
7 garding debt service which is required to be placed  
8 on the ballot for a school construction referendum.  
9 As a result of an error in the First Regular Session  
10 of the 112th Legislature, the current law requires  
11 that the ballot state "the local share of debt ser-  
12 vice allocation" which can not be calculated until  
13 after the bonds have been issued. This bill elimi-  
14 nates the problem and requires the ballot to state  
15 that the local unit shall be responsible for the lo-  
16 cal share of that debt service allocation. The  
17 amended version also refers to state law rather than  
18 the School Finance Act of 1985 so that this provision  
19 will not have to be amended each time the School Fi-  
20 nance Act of 1985 is changed.

21 Section 2 of the bill eliminates the requirement  
22 that an order placing a school construction article  
23 on the ballot be filed with the municipal clerk 35  
24 days prior to a referendum vote. The elimination of  
25 this requirement makes the referendum procedures in  
26 towns and community school districts consistent with  
27 the procedures used in school administrative dis-  
28 tricts.

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