

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1721

(Filing No. H- 395)

STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
113TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "**A**" to H.P. 1261, L.D. 1721,
Bill, "AN ACT to Give the Aroostook County Budget
Committee Final Approval Authority Over the County
Budget."

Amend the bill by striking out everything after
the enacting clause and inserting in its place the
following:

'Sec. 1. 30 MRSA §1421, as enacted by PL 1985,
c. 737, Pt. A, §85-B, is amended to read:

§1421. Purpose

The purpose of this chapter is to establish in
Aroostook County a method of appropriating money for
county expenditures, including expenditures for mu-
nicipal services in the unorganized territory, ac-
cording to a budget, which shall first be adopted by
a budget committee and shall then be approved by the
Legislature. This chapter amends the present statuto-
ry method in sections 252 and 253 by creating a com-
mittee elected by Aroostook County municipal officers
with authority to ~~adopt or amend~~ advise on the bud-
get. The Legislature shall continue to have authority
to approve, ~~but not to amend,~~ the budget. This chap-
ter applies only to Aroostook County.

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA §1423, sub-§1, ¶H is enacted to
read:

H. Two out of the 3 members from each commis-
sioner's district shall be municipal officers.

Sec. 3. 30 MRSA §1425, sub-§5, as enacted by PL
1985, c. 737, Pt. A, §85-B, is amended to read:

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1 5. Final budget approval. Prior to January 15th
2 of the fiscal year for which the budget is prepared,
3 the budget committee shall submit the proposed budget
4 to the Legislature. ~~The Legislature shall approve~~
5 ~~or disapprove the budget as submitted prior to April~~
6 ~~1st of each year.~~

7 ~~If the Legislature disapproves of the budget, the~~
8 ~~budget committee shall submit within 15 calendar~~
9 ~~days, new budget proposals in accordance with subsec-~~
10 ~~tion 1 and the provisions of this section shall be~~
11 ~~followed until a budget is finally approved.~~

12 The budget as approved by the Legislature shall be
13 the final authorization for the assessment of county
14 taxes. The budget shall be transmitted to the county
15 commissioners and the county tax authorized shall be
16 apportioned and collected in accordance with section
17 254. The budget for the unorganized territories will
18 be transmitted to the State as provided by section
19 5903.

20 The county shall, until a budget is finally adopted,
21 operate on an interim budget which shall not exceed
22 the previous year's budget.

23 The county commissioners may transfer funds as pro-
24 vided in section 252.

25 **Sec. 4. 30 MRSA §1426**, as enacted by PL 1985, c.
26 737, Pt. A, §85-B, is amended to read:

27 §1426. Budget amendments

28 The approved budget shall govern the expenditures
29 of the county during the fiscal year. No expenses
30 may be incurred in excess of those shown in the ap-
31 proved budget, but the budget may be from time to
32 time revised by the preparation and submission of a
33 proposed amended budget by the county commissioners
34 to the budget committee. The budget committee shall
35 within 15 calendar days approve, disapprove or amend

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1 this revised budget. In the event that the proposed
2 revised budget is approved or amended, the budget
3 committee within this same time period shall forward
4 the revised budget to the Legislature for final ap-
5 proval. ~~The--Legislature--shall--have--15--calendar--days~~
6 ~~to--render--a--decision--on--the--revised--budget.~~ Only af-
7 ter the Legislature has approved or amended the bud-
8 get shall it become effective. A report of approval
9 of a revised budget shall be transmitted to the State
10 Auditor within 15 days of an approval of a revised
11 budget by the Legislature ~~on--the--revised--budget.~~

12 STATEMENT OF FACT

13 This amendment requires municipal officer member-
14 ship on the budget committee and makes that committee
15 advisory.

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Filed by Rep. Carroll of Gray
Reproduced and distributed under the direction of the Clerk of the
House
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