

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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1 establish or reconsider an alternative school budget  
2 approval voting procedure is ambiguous in that it does  
3 not describe the alternatives; and

4 Whereas, that language may cause confusion among  
5 voters and create hardship among School Administrative  
6 Districts which are permitted to petition for  
7 reconsideration of the alternative voting procedure  
8 only every 3 years; and

9 Whereas, districts wishing to vote to reconsider  
10 the alternative voting procedure must do so before the  
11 passage of 90 days from the end of the session in  
12 order for a new procedure to be effective for approval  
13 of this year's school budget; and

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

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

22 Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1305, first ¶, as amended by  
23 PL 1983, c. 639, §1, is further amended to read:

24 If requested by a written petition of at least 10%  
25 of the number of voters voting in the last  
26 gubernatorial election in the municipalities within  
27 the district, the board of directors shall cause the  
28 following article to be voted on by the voters of the  
29 member municipalities.

30 "Shall School Administrative District No.....  
31 require that the voting at future district budget  
32 meetings and special district budget meetings be  
33 done by referendum within each member municipality  
34 of the district instead of using the district  
35 meeting procedure?

36 Yes No "

1           Sec. 2.    20-A MRSA §1305, sub-§4, as enacted by  
2 PL 1983, c. 639, §2, is repealed and the following  
3 enacted in its place:

4           4. Reconsideration of alternative voting  
5 procedure. If a School Administrative District has  
6 adopted the alternative voting procedure in accordance  
7 with this section, then the board of directors may  
8 submit the following article to the voters not more  
9 than once every 3 years, to determine if the district  
10 will change its voting process to the process set out  
11 in sections 1303 and 1304.

12                   "Shall School Administrative District No.  
13 change its voting procedure so that future  
14 district budget meetings and special district  
15 budget meetings use the district meeting  
16 procedure instead of the alternative voting  
17 procedure which is voting by referendum  
18 within each member municipality of the  
19 district?

20                                   Yes                                   No"

21           A.    The process for reconsideration may be  
22 initiated either by the board of directors or by a  
23 written petition of at least 10% of the number of  
24 voters voting in the last gubernatorial election  
25 in the municipalities within the district.

26           B.    The procedure for voting on the article and  
27 for carrying out the election shall be as set  
28 forth in this section.

29           C.    If the article passes, then future district  
30 budgets will be adopted in accordance with  
31 sections 1303 and 1304; if the article fails to  
32 pass, then the alternative voting procedure will  
33 continue to be the process for adopting budgets in  
34 the district.

