

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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N I N E T Y - T H I R D L E G I S L A T U R E

Legislative Document

No. 572

S. P. 215

In Senate, February 6, 1947.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs. Sent down for concurrence and ordered printed.

CHESTER T. WINSLOW, Secretary.

Presented by Senator Cross of Kennebec.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FORTY-SEVEN

**AN ACT to Amend the Charter of the City of Augusta by Providing for
the Appropriation of School Funds by the City Council.**

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

Sec. 1. P. & S. L., 1919, c. 75, § 32, repealed and replaced. Section 32 of chapter 75 of the private and special laws of 1919, as amended by chapter 51 of the private and special laws of 1923, is hereby repealed and the following enacted in place thereof:

'Sec. 32. Board of education to prepare a budget; meeting of mayor, board of education and finance committee to consider budget: appropriation by city council; books of board of education to be audited. Said board of education shall prepare a report of the affairs and condition of the city schools for the year ending on the 31st day of December preceding and a detailed estimate in the form of a budget of the amount needed for school purposes for the current year and shall submit a copy of said report and estimate to the mayor and each member of the city council by the 1st day of March of each year. There shall be held at such time as shall be fixed by the mayor a joint meeting of said board of education and the mayor and the finance committee of said city council, due notice of which meeting shall be given jointly by the mayor and superintendent of schools

to each member of said board of education and said finance committee, to consider such estimate, and said board of education shall give full information with reference to said estimate and their reasons for fixing the items thereof at the amounts therein stated. It shall be the duty of the mayor and the members of said board of education and of said finance committee to be present at said meeting. Said mayor and finance committee, or any member thereof, or of said board of education, who do not concur in said estimate or any item thereof shall, unless said item or items are changed by said board of education, present their reasons for their non-concurrence at the meeting, or meetings, of the city council at which the appropriations of school moneys are made. The city council shall have the power to raise moneys for the support of public schools in said city and shall appropriate for the current year ending on the 31st day of December such sum, not less than the amount required by the general laws of the state, as they may deem necessary for that purpose. Such sum shall be included with and assessed like other city taxes, and all the provisions of law relating to the assessment and collection of taxes shall be applicable to such tax. All salaries, wages and bills contracted by said board of education in the usual and regular course during the period between the said 31st day of December and the raising of said money for the then current year, and for the payment of which school funds are not available, shall be paid by the city treasurer and charged up against the school appropriation for said current year. It shall be the duty of the city auditor, under the direction of the mayor and finance committee, to audit the books of said board of education from time to time and as directed by said mayor and finance committee. The city council shall have the power to raise or borrow money for the building and reconstruction of school buildings and the purchase of lots therefor.'

Sec. 2. Referendum. This act shall take effect 90 days after the adjournment of this legislature only for the purpose of permitting its acceptance or rejection by the legal voters of the city of Augusta at any special state election or any special city election. Any special election may be called for that purpose by an appropriate article inserted in the warrant for such special election in the manner prescribed by law for notifying and calling special elections. For the purposes of such election the city clerk shall reduce the subject matter to the following question: "Shall the Act to Amend the Charter of the City of Augusta by Providing for the Appropriation of School Funds by the City Council be accepted?" The voters shall indicate their opinion by placing a cross against the words "Yes" and "No".

Sec. 3. Effective date. So much of this act as authorizes its submission to the voters of Augusta shall take effect as provided in the constitution of the state, but it shall not take further effect unless accepted by the voters of Augusta as hereinbefore provided. If accepted by said voters, then this act shall become effective on the date of its acceptance by said voters. The result of the vote shall be declared by the municipal officers of Augusta and a certificate thereof filed by the city clerk with the secretary of state.