

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Legislative Document**No. 758**

H. P. 523

House of Representatives, February 17, 1959

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

HARVEY R. PEASE, Clerk.

Presented by Mrs. Hanson of Lebanon.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
FIFTY-NINE

AN ACT Increasing Number of Members of School Board in North Berwick.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, the population of the Town of North Berwick has increased considerably in the past decade; and

Whereas, there are several heavily populated areas in the town at long distances from each other; and

Whereas, these needs can best be served by a larger and more representative superintending school committee; and

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

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

Sec. 1. Superintending school committee. The Town of North Berwick shall choose by ballot at its annual meeting a superintending school committee of 5 members, to hold office as provided in the following section, and shall fill vacancies arising therein at each subsequent annual meeting.

Sec. 2. Members. The school committee first chosen shall designate by lot a member or members to hold office for one, 2 and 3 years respectively, in manner as follows: one for one year, 2 for 2 years and 2 for 3 years; and they shall certify such designation to the town clerk to be by him recorded; and thereafterwards, one or 2 members, as the case may be, shall be chosen by ballot at the

annual meeting of the town, to hold office for 3 years. Said committee may fill vacancies occurring between annual meetings, and the term of office of any member of the committee so chosen shall expire at the next annual meeting, at which meeting a successor shall be elected to serve for the unexpired portion of the vacated term.

Sec. 3. Joint committee. The superintending school committee shall designate 3 of its members to serve on the joint committee of the school union and they shall be empowered to designate any one member of the 3 to act for the entire group. The total vote or votes cast by such member or members at such meeting of the joint committee shall not exceed 3.

Referendum; emergency clause; effective date. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this act shall take effect when approved, only for the purpose of permitting its submission to the legal voters of the Town of North Berwick at any annual or special town meeting called and held for such purpose. In the event a special meeting is called for such purpose, it shall be called, advertised and conducted according to the law relating to municipal elections, but such special meeting shall be held at least 60 days prior to the date of the annual meeting. For the purposes of such election, the town clerk shall reduce the subject matter of this act to the following question: "Shall 'An Act Increasing Number of Members of School Board in North Berwick,' passed by the 99th Legislature, be accepted?" The voters shall indicate by a cross or check mark placed against the words "Yes" or "No" their opinion of the same.

This act shall take effect for all the purposes hereof immediately upon its acceptance by a majority of the legal voters voting at said meeting; provided the total number of votes cast for and against the acceptance of this act at said meeting equaled or exceeded 20% of the total vote cast for all candidates for Governor in said town at the next preceding gubernatorial election.

If this act is accepted by the voters, the term of office of the members of the then existing superintending school committee shall continue until the next annual meeting at which time all unexpired terms shall terminate.

The result of the vote shall be declared by the municipal officers of the Town of North Berwick and due certificate thereof shall be filed by the town clerk with the Secretary of State.