



General Assembly

January Session, 2003

Amendment

LCO No. 5292

SB0103405292SR0

Offered by:

SEN. FREEDMAN, 26th Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1034

File No. 90

Cal. No. 97

"AN ACT CONCERNING REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT GOVERNANCE."

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- 1 Strike lines 1 to 48, inclusive, in their entirety
 - 2 In line 49, strike "to subsection (a) of this section, members" and
 - 3 substitute "Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2003*) (a) (1) Each regional
 - 4 school district shall establish a regional board of finance. Members" in
 - 5 lieu thereof
 - 6 In line 89, strike "(c)" and insert "(b)" in lieu thereof
 - 7 In line 91, strike "(b)" and insert "(a)" in lieu thereof
 - 8 In line 93, strike "(b)" and insert "(a)" in lieu thereof
 - 9 In line 95, strike "(d)" and insert "(c)" in lieu thereof and strike "with
 - 10 a regional"
 - 11 Strike line 96 in its entirety

12 In line 99, strike "(b)" and insert "(a)" in lieu thereof

13 In line 113, strike "(b)" and insert "(a)" in lieu thereof

14 In line 115, strike "(e)" and insert "(d)" in lieu thereof

15 In line 120, strike "(f)" and substitute "(e)" in lieu thereof"

16 Strike lines 170 to 306, inclusive, in their entirety and substitute the
17 following in lieu thereof:

18 (a) The fiscal year of a regional school district shall be July first to
19 June thirtieth. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, not less
20 than two weeks before the annual meeting held pursuant to section 10-
21 47, [the board shall hold a public district meeting to present a
22 proposed budget for the next fiscal year. Any person may recommend
23 the inclusion or deletion of expenditures at such time. After the public
24 hearing, the board shall prepare an annual budget for the next fiscal
25 year, make available on request copies thereof and deliver a reasonable
26 number to the town clerk of each of the towns in the district at least
27 five days before the annual meeting. At the annual meeting on the first
28 Monday in May, the board shall present a budget which includes a
29 statement of (1) estimated receipts and expenditures for the next fiscal
30 year, (2) estimated receipts and expenditures for the current fiscal year,
31 (3) estimated surplus or deficit in operating funds at the end of the
32 current fiscal year, (4) bonded or other debt, (5) estimated per pupil
33 expenditure for the current and for the next fiscal year and (6) such
34 other information as is necessary in the opinion of the board. Persons
35 present and eligible to vote under section 7-6 may accept or reject the
36 proposed budget except as provided below. No person who is eligible
37 to vote in more than one town in the regional school district is eligible
38 to cast more than one vote on any issue considered at a regional school
39 district meeting or referendum held pursuant to this section. Any
40 person who violates this section by fraudulently casting more than one
41 vote or ballot per issue shall be fined not less than three hundred
42 dollars or more than five hundred dollars and shall be imprisoned not
43 less than one year or more than two years and shall be

44 disenfranchised. The regional board of education may, in the call to the
45 meeting, designate that the vote on the motion to adopt the budget
46 shall be by paper ballots at the district meeting held on the budget or
47 by a "yes" or "no" vote on the voting machines in each of the member
48 towns on the day following the district meeting. If submitted to a vote
49 by voting machine, questions may be included on the ballot for
50 persons voting "no" to indicate whether the budget is too high or too
51 low, provided the vote on such questions shall be for advisory
52 purposes only and not binding upon the board. Two hundred or more
53 persons qualified to vote in any regional district meeting called to
54 adopt a budget may petition the regional board, in writing, at least
55 three days prior to such meeting, requesting that any item or items on
56 the call of such meeting be submitted to the persons qualified to vote
57 in the meeting for a vote by paper ballot or on the voting machines in
58 each of the member towns on the day following the district meeting
59 and in accordance with the appropriate procedures provided in section
60 7-7. If a majority of such persons voting reject the budget, the board
61 shall, within four weeks thereafter and upon notice of not less than one
62 week, call a district meeting to consider the same or an amended
63 budget. Such meetings shall be convened at such intervals until a
64 budget is approved. After the budget is approved, the board shall
65 estimate the share of the net expenses to be paid by each member town
66 in accordance with subsection (b) of this section and notify the
67 treasurer thereof. With respect to adoption of a budget for the period
68 from the organization of the board to the beginning of the first full
69 fiscal year, the board may use the above procedure at any time within
70 such period. If the board needs to submit a supplementary budget, the
71 general procedure specified in this section shall be used] the regional
72 board of finance shall hold a public district meeting at which itemized
73 estimates of the expenditures of the regional board of education for the
74 ensuing fiscal year shall be presented and at which all persons shall be
75 heard in regard to any appropriation which they are desirous that the
76 regional board of finance should recommend or reject. The regional
77 board of finance shall, after such public hearing, hold a public meeting
78 at which it shall consider the estimates so presented and any other

79 matters brought to its attention and shall prepare and cause to be
80 published in a newspaper in the member towns of such regional
81 school district, if any, otherwise in a newspaper having a substantial
82 circulation in such towns, a report of a proposed budget for the next
83 fiscal year. The regional board of finance shall make available, on
84 request, copies of the proposed budget and deliver a reasonable
85 number to the town clerk of each of the member towns of the district at
86 least five days before the annual meeting. At the annual meeting on
87 the first Monday or first Tuesday in May, the regional board of finance
88 shall present an aggregate budget which includes a statement of (1)
89 estimated receipts and expenditures for the next fiscal year, (2)
90 estimated receipts and expenditures for the current fiscal year, (3)
91 estimated surplus or deficit in operating funds at the end of the current
92 fiscal year, (4) bonded or other debt, (5) estimated per pupil
93 expenditure for the current and for the next fiscal year, and (6) such
94 other information as is necessary in the opinion of the board. Persons
95 present and eligible to vote under section 7-6 may accept or reject the
96 proposed budget except as provided in this subdivision. No person
97 who is eligible to vote in more than one town in the regional school
98 district is eligible to cast more than one vote on any issue considered at
99 a regional school district meeting or referendum held pursuant to this
100 section. Any person who violates this section by fraudulently casting
101 more than one vote or ballot per issue shall be fined not less than three
102 hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars and shall be
103 imprisoned not less than one year nor more than two years and shall
104 be disenfranchised. The regional board of finance may, in the call to
105 the meeting, designate that the vote on the motion to adopt the budget
106 shall be by paper ballots at the district meeting held on the budget or
107 by a "yes" or "no" vote on the voting machines in each of the member
108 towns on the day following the district meeting. If submitted to a vote
109 by voting machine, questions may be included on the ballot for
110 persons voting "no" to indicate whether the budget is too high or too
111 low, provided the vote on such questions shall be for advisory
112 purposes only and not binding upon the board. Two hundred or more
113 persons qualified to vote in any regional district meeting called to

114 adopt a budget may petition the regional board of finance, in writing,
115 at least three days prior to such meeting, requesting that any item or
116 items on the call of such meeting be submitted to the persons qualified
117 to vote in the meeting for a vote by paper ballot or on the voting
118 machines in each of the member towns on the day following the
119 district meeting and in accordance with the appropriate procedures
120 provided in section 7-7. If a majority of such persons voting reject the
121 budget, the regional board of finance shall, within four weeks
122 thereafter and upon notice of not less than one week, call a meeting to
123 consider the same or an amended budget. Such meetings shall be
124 convened at such intervals until a budget is approved. If the budget is
125 not approved before the beginning of a fiscal year, member towns shall
126 make expenditures to the district in an amount equal to or greater than
127 the town's appropriation to the district for the previous fiscal year
128 pursuant to section 7-405, as amended by this act, until the budget is
129 approved. After the budget is approved, the regional board of finance
130 shall estimate the share of the net expenses to be paid by each member
131 town in accordance with subsection (b) of this section and notify the
132 treasurer of such estimate. With respect to adoption of a budget for the
133 period from the organization of the regional board of finance to the
134 beginning of the first full fiscal year, the regional board of finance may
135 use such procedure at any time within such period. If the regional
136 board of finance needs to submit a supplementary budget, the general
137 procedure specified in this section shall be used. Nothing in this
138 subsection shall be construed as authorizing the regional board of
139 finance to make line-item changes to the budget."

140 In line 362, insert brackets around "member towns" and strike ", or
141 the" and ", if"

142 In line 363, strike "applicable"

143 In line 370, strike "in each district having"

144 In line 371, strike "such a board"

145 Strike section 5 in its entirety and renumber the remaining sections

146 accordingly

147 In line 565, strike ", if applicable"