



General Assembly

February Session, 2004

Amendment

LCO No. 3125

HB0501803125HDO

Offered by:

REP. O'ROURKE, 32nd Dist.
REP. SPALLONE, 36th Dist.
REP. CURREY, 10th Dist.
REP. MERRILL, 54th Dist.
REP. FLOREN, 149th Dist.
REP. BIELAWA, 2nd Dist.
REP. CARSON, 108th Dist.
REP. CARDIN, 53rd Dist.
REP. COLLINS, 117th Dist.
REP. DAVIS, 50th Dist.
REP. DICKMAN, 132nd Dist.
REP. GIANNAROS, 21st Dist.
REP. GIULIANO, 23rd Dist.
REP. GREENE, 105th Dist.
REP. FERRARI, 62nd Dist.

REP. KALINOWSKI, 100th Dist.
REP. KLARIDES, 114th Dist.
REP. MALONE, 47th Dist.
REP. MINER, 66th Dist.
REP. PISCOPO, 76th Dist.
REP. NARDELLO, 89th Dist.
REP. STILLMAN, 38th Dist.
REP. TONUCCI, 104th Dist.
REP. WILBER, 63rd Dist.
REP. WILLIS, 64th Dist.
SEN. PRAGUE, 19th Dist.
SEN. DELUCA, 32nd Dist.
SEN. HANDLEY, 4th Dist.
SEN. COLAPIETRO, 31st Dist.

To: House Bill No. 5018

File No. 172

Cal. No. 142

**"AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREPARATION OF MATERIALS
FOR REFERENDA CALLED FOR BY A REGIONAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT."**

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- 1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
 - 2 internal references accordingly:
 - 3 "Sec. 501. Section 7-405 of the general statutes is repealed and the

4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2004*):

5 (a) When annual appropriations have not been made by a
6 municipality before the beginning of any fiscal year, the disbursing
7 officers may make necessary expenditures during the period of ninety
8 days after the beginning of such year on proper warrants for purposes
9 and in amounts authorized by the appropriating body or by the board
10 of finance or other budget-making authority. When annual
11 appropriations have not been made by such municipality before the
12 end of such ninety-day period, the disbursing officers may make
13 necessary expenditures during successive monthly periods in such
14 year on proper warrants for purposes and in amounts authorized by
15 the appropriating body or by the board of finance or other budget-
16 making authority within the limits of appropriations specified in
17 budgetary line items for the previous fiscal year. For this purpose,
18 necessary borrowing may be authorized by resolution of the budget-
19 making authority, provided all such borrowing shall mature and be
20 payable not later than the end of the fiscal year for which such
21 borrowings are made. Any notes so authorized may be issued and sold
22 in the manner provided by such resolution. Such expenditures
23 authorized by this section and interest costs and other expenses
24 incidental to any such borrowing shall constitute the first charges
25 against appropriations for the fiscal year in which they are made.

26 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section,
27 when an annual budget of a regional school district is not approved by
28 a majority of voters of the member towns of such district before the
29 beginning of any fiscal year, the disbursing officer for each member
30 town of the regional school district shall make necessary expenditures
31 to such district in an amount equal to the total of the town's
32 appropriation to the district for the previous fiscal year and the town's
33 proportionate share in any increment in debt service over the previous
34 fiscal year, until the regional school district budget is approved
35 pursuant to section 10-51, as amended by this act. Each such town shall
36 receive credit for such expenditures once the budget is approved for
37 the fiscal year.

38 Sec. 502. Subsection (a) of section 10-51 of the general statutes is
39 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
40 *1, 2004*):

41 (a) The fiscal year of a regional school district shall be July first to
42 June thirtieth. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, not less
43 than two weeks before the annual meeting held pursuant to section 10-
44 47, the board shall hold a public district meeting to present a proposed
45 budget for the next fiscal year. Any person may recommend the
46 inclusion or deletion of expenditures at such time. After the public
47 hearing, the board shall prepare an annual budget for the next fiscal
48 year, make available on request copies thereof and deliver a reasonable
49 number to the town clerk of each of the towns in the district at least
50 five days before the annual meeting. At the annual meeting on the first
51 Monday in May, the board shall present a budget which includes a
52 statement of (1) estimated receipts and expenditures for the next fiscal
53 year, (2) estimated receipts and expenditures for the current fiscal year,
54 (3) estimated surplus or deficit in operating funds at the end of the
55 current fiscal year, (4) bonded or other debt, (5) estimated per pupil
56 expenditure for the current and for the next fiscal year, and (6) such
57 other information as is necessary in the opinion of the board. Persons
58 present and eligible to vote under section 7-6 may accept or reject the
59 proposed budget except as provided below. No person who is eligible
60 to vote in more than one town in the regional school district is eligible
61 to cast more than one vote on any issue considered at a regional school
62 district meeting or referendum held pursuant to this section. Any
63 person who violates this section by fraudulently casting more than one
64 vote or ballot per issue shall be fined not less than three hundred
65 dollars or more than five hundred dollars and shall be imprisoned not
66 less than one year or more than two years and shall be
67 disenfranchised. The regional board of education may, in the call to the
68 meeting, designate that the vote on the motion to adopt the budget
69 shall be by paper ballots at the district meeting held on the budget or
70 by a "yes" or "no" vote on the voting machines in each of the member
71 towns on the day following the district meeting. If submitted to a vote

72 by voting machine, questions may be included on the ballot for
73 persons voting "no" to indicate whether the budget is too high or too
74 low, provided the vote on such questions shall be for advisory
75 purposes only and not binding upon the board. Two hundred or more
76 persons qualified to vote in any regional district meeting called to
77 adopt a budget may petition the regional board, in writing, at least
78 three days prior to such meeting, requesting that any item or items on
79 the call of such meeting be submitted to the persons qualified to vote
80 in the meeting for a vote by paper ballot or on the voting machines in
81 each of the member towns on the day following the district meeting
82 and in accordance with the appropriate procedures provided in section
83 7-7. If a majority of such persons voting reject the budget, the board
84 shall, within four weeks thereafter and upon notice of not less than one
85 week, call a district meeting to consider the same or an amended
86 budget. Such meetings shall be convened at such intervals until a
87 budget is approved. If the budget is not approved before the beginning
88 of a fiscal year, the disbursing officer for each member town, or the
89 designee of such officer, shall make necessary expenditures to such
90 district in amounts equal to the total of the town's appropriation to the
91 district for the previous year and the town's proportionate share in any
92 increment in debt service over the previous fiscal year, pursuant to
93 section 7-405, as amended by this act, until the budget is approved.
94 The town shall receive credit for such expenditures once the budget is
95 approved for the fiscal year. After the budget is approved, the board
96 shall estimate the share of the net expenses to be paid by each member
97 town in accordance with subsection (b) of this section and notify the
98 treasurer thereof. With respect to adoption of a budget for the period
99 from the organization of the board to the beginning of the first full
100 fiscal year, the board may use the above procedure at any time within
101 such period. If the board needs to submit a supplementary budget, the
102 general procedure specified in this section shall be used."