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Date: (Filing No. H-)

VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
131ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 658, L.D. 1022, “An Act to Allow School Budget Referenda on the Same Day as Primary Elections”

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Extend the Time Allowed Between a Regional School Unit Budget Meeting and a Budget Validation Referendum'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 20-A MRSA §1486, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2015, c. 463, §2, is further amended to read:

2. Validation referendum procedures. The budget validation referendum must be held on or before the ~~30th~~ 45th calendar day following the scheduled date of the regional school unit budget meeting. The referendum may not be held on a Sunday or legal holiday. The vote at referendum is for the purpose of approving or rejecting the total regional school unit budget approved at the regional school unit budget meeting. The regional school unit board shall provide printed information to be displayed at polling places to assist voters in voting. That information is limited to the total amounts proposed by the regional school unit board for each cost center summary budget category article, the amount approved at the regional school unit budget meeting, a summary of the total authorized expenditures and, if applicable because of action on an article under section 15690, subsection 3, paragraph A, a statement that the amount approved at the regional school unit budget meeting includes locally raised funds that exceed the maximum state and local spending target pursuant to section 15671-A, subsection 5. If the legislative body of the regional school unit at the regional school unit budget meeting approves an article pursuant to section 1485, subsection 5, the substance of the article must be included in the printed information displayed at polling places for the budget validation referendum.'

Amend the bill by relettering or renumbering any nonconsecutive Part letter or section number to read consecutively.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

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SUMMARY

This amendment, which is the unanimous report of the committee, changes the title and replaces the bill. It extends the period of time allowed between a regional school unit budget meeting and the budget referendum from on or before the 30th calendar day following the scheduled date of the regional school unit budget meeting to on or before the 45th calendar day following the scheduled date of the regional school unit budget meeting.