

By Mr. Chmura of Springfield, petition of Rudy Chmura for legislation to regulate further the powers of regional school districts. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Seventy.

AN ACT FURTHER REGULATING THE POWERS OF REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 16 of chapter 71 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out paragraph (c), as most
3 recently amended by chapter 65 of the acts of 1955, and
4 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—

5 (c) To acquire property within the towns comprising the
6 district under the provisions of chapter seventy-nine and sec-
7 tion fourteen of chapter forty for the purposes of the district
8 if less than one third of the voters voting under the pro-
9 visions of paragraph (d) of this section disapprove of the
10 indebtedness authorized or if two thirds or more voting under
11 paragraph (n) approve the indebtedness, and to construct,
12 reconstruct, add to, remodel, make extraordinary repairs to,
13 equip, organize and operate a school or schools for the benefit
14 of the towns comprising the district, and to make any
15 necessary contracts in relation thereto.

1 SECTION 2. Said section 16 is hereby further amended by
2 striking out paragraph (d), as most recently amended by
3 chapter 137 of the acts of 1966, and inserting in place thereof
4 the following paragraph:—

5 (d) To incur debt for the purpose of acquiring land and
6 constructing, reconstructing, adding to, and equipping a
7 school building or buildings for a term not exceeding twenty
8 years or for the purpose of remodeling and making extraordi-

9 nary repairs to a school building or buildings and for the
10 construction of sewerage systems and sewerage treatment and
11 disposal facilities, or for the purchase or use of such systems
12 with municipalities, for a term not exceeding ten years;
13 provided, however, that any indebtedness so incurred shall not
14 exceed an amount approved by the emergency finance board;
15 and provided, further, that written notice of the amount
16 of the debt and of the general purposes for which it was
17 authorized shall be given to the board of selectmen in each of
18 the towns comprising the district not later than seven days
19 after the date on which said debt was authorized by the
20 district committee; and no debt may be incurred until the
21 expiration of thirty days from the date on which said debt
22 was so authorized; and prior to the expiration of said period
23 any member town of the regional school district may hold a
24 town meeting for the purpose of expressing disapproval of the
25 amount of debt authorized by the district committee, and if
26 at such meeting a majority of the voters present and voting
27 thereon express disapproval of the amount authorized by the
28 district committee or of any portion thereof for which the
29 cost is determined, the said debt shall not be incurred and the
30 district school committee shall prepare another proposal
31 which may be the same as any prior proposal and an
32 authorization to incur debt therefor.

1 SECTION 3. Said section 16 is hereby further amended by
2 adding at the end of paragraph (n), as appearing in section 2
3 of chapter 376 of the acts of 1968, the following sentence:—If
4 the proposal for incurring debt includes both land acquisition
5 and building construction, the ballot shall be so prepared that
6 the voter may indicate his vote on each parcel of land and
7 each building separately.

1 SECTION 4. Said section 16 is hereby further amended by
2 adding at the end thereof the following paragraph:—

3 (o) If the indebtedness authorized by the district com-
4 mittee is two hundred thousand dollars or more, the provi-
5 sions of paragraph (n) shall be followed.