

Amendment to HB 613

1 Amend RSA 40:14-d as inserted by section 1 of the bill by replacing it with the following:

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3 40:14-d Method of Adopting Reduced Default Budget Option.

4 I. The provisions of RSA 40:14-c may be adopted by any local political subdivision whose
5 legislative body has adopted RSA 40:13. A 3/5 majority of those voting on the question shall be
6 required to adopt the provisions of RSA 40:14-c. Only votes in the affirmative or negative shall be
7 included in the calculation of the 3/5 majority.

8 II. The question shall be placed on the warrant of the annual or special meeting by the
9 governing body, or by petition under the procedures set out in RSA 39:3, RSA 197:2, or RSA 197:6.

10 III. A public hearing shall be held by the local governing body on the question at least 15
11 days, but not more than 30 days, before the question is to be voted on. In multi-town districts, a
12 public hearing shall be held in each town embraced by the district, none of which shall be held on the
13 same day. Notice of the hearing shall be posted in at least 2 public places in the town and at least 2
14 public places in each town of multi-town districts, and published in a newspaper of general
15 circulation at least 7 days prior to the date of the hearing.

16 IV. The wording of the question shall be: "Shall we adopt an annual option for a default
17 budget, reduced by (R) percent, instead of the default budget, when the proposed operating budget is
18 defeated, per RSA 40:14-c? A 3/5 majority of those voting on the question shall be required." Only
19 votes in the affirmative or negative shall be included in the calculation of the 3/5 majority. R shall be
20 a number between 1 and 10, inclusive. The question shall not be subject to amendment by the
21 legislative body.

22 V. Voting on the question shall be by official ballot. If a 3/5 majority of those voting on the
23 question vote "yes," RSA 40:14-c shall apply beginning the following fiscal year and for all
24 subsequent years until changed as provided in paragraph VI or rescinded as provided in paragraph
25 VII.

26 VI. Any local political subdivision which has adopted RSA 40:14-c may consider adoption of
27 a new reduced default budget option in the manner described in paragraphs I through V. If the
28 adoption of a new reduced default budget option fails, the existing reduced default budget option
29 shall continue to apply.

30 VII. Any local political subdivision that has adopted RSA 40:14-c may consider rescinding its
31 action in the manner described in paragraphs I-V. The wording of the question shall be: "Shall we
32 rescind the provisions of RSA 40:14-c, known as the reduced default budget option, so that there will

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1 no longer be any option for a reduced default budget. A 3/5 majority of those voting on the question
2 shall be required." A 3/5 majority of those voting on the question shall be required to rescind the
3 provisions of this section, except in the case of repeal by charter enactment under RSA 49-D.