

1 H.430

2 Introduced by Representatives Reis of St. Johnsbury and South of St.

3 Johnsbury

4 Referred to Committee on

5 Date:

6 Subject: Municipal government; municipal charter; town of St. Johnsbury

7 Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to approve an amendment to the

8 charter of the town of St. Johnsbury.

9 An act relating to approval of an amendment to the charter of the town of
10 St. Johnsbury

11 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

12 Sec. 1. CHARTER APPROVAL

13 The general assembly approves the amendment to the charter of the town of
14 St. Johnsbury as provided in this act. The proposal of amendment was
15 approved by the voters on March 3, 2009.

16 Sec. 2. 24 V.S.A. App. chapter 151, § 16 is amended to read:

17 § 16. ~~ESSENTIAL SERVICES BUDGET; OTHER APPROPRIATIONS~~

18 PREPARATION OF BUDGETS; AUSTRALIAN BALLOT

19 (a) ~~The selectmen shall prepare an annual budget for the Town which shall~~
20 ~~be known as the "Essential Services Budget." It shall include such sum or sums~~

1 ~~of money as are necessary to carry out essential governmental services, and to~~
2 ~~meet the ordinary expenses and liabilities of the Town. The "Essential Services~~
3 ~~Budget" shall be warned as a separate article or articles for the annual town~~
4 ~~meeting and be adopted or modified by the vote of the majority of those~~
5 ~~eligible to vote who are present at the meeting. Any article in the warning~~
6 ~~providing for appropriation of funds, in addition to the Essential Services~~
7 ~~Budget, shall be voted on by Australian ballot. The form of the ballot to be~~
8 ~~used shall be substantially as follows:~~

9 Shall the Town vote to appropriate the sum

10 of _____

11 to be used for

12 _____

13 If in favor, make an X in this square

14 If opposed, make an X in this square

15 The selectboard shall prepare an annual budget for the town, including a town
16 annual budget and a former village district special services budget. The school
17 director shall prepare an annual school district budget. The annual budgets,
18 other articles providing for the appropriation of funds, and public questions
19 shall be voted by Australian ballot.

20 (b) On any question wherein the vote is not specifically required to be by
21 ballot, a ballot may be demanded by three voters at any meeting.

- 1 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE
- 2 This act shall take effect upon passage.