

Withdrawal Referendum Timeline

November 3, 2026 Ballot

The withdrawal statute allows the Commissioner to take up to 60 days to review a withdrawal plan for conditional approval. While the Commissioner's office will do its best to review these plans in a timely manner, this does not indicate we can turn this around immediately, especially if revisions are necessary.

Please consider submitting a draft version(s) to the Commissioner before the request for conditional approval so that concerns may be addressed before the official submission. This will expedite the conditional approval process once both parties have signed the agreement.

Deadline for Withdrawal Plan submission to the Commissioner for *Conditional Approval*

(The Commissioner has 60 days by law from submission date to approve or request changes – this date *significantly* reduces that timeline for approval to 30 days)

Tuesday, June 30, 2026

(Withdrawal Agreement must be signed by both the Withdrawal Committee and the RSU Board)

Deadline for Commissioner to Provide Conditional Approval of Withdrawal Agreement to SAU and Town with Date for First Public Hearing

Friday, July 24, 2026

(Minimum of 20 days before first public hearing date – assumes first public hearing date of August 13, 2026, at the latest)

Public Posting of First Public Hearing Date, Location & Time for SAU and all Member Municipalities to discuss Merits of the proposed Withdrawal Agreement

Monday, August 3, 2026

(Minimum of 10 days before first public hearing date – assumes first public hearing date of August 13, 2026, at the latest)

***Absolute* Latest Date for First Public Hearing of SAU and Member Municipalities to discuss the merits of the proposed Withdrawal Agreement and recommend changes**

Thursday, August 13, 2026

(Statute allows 30 days to report results of First Public Hearing to the Commissioner)

SAU and/or Withdrawal Committee Submit Results of First Public Hearing and Final Agreement to Commissioner for Approval or Possible Changes

Tuesday, September 15, 2026

(At least 2 weeks before the deadline for the Commissioner to provide the date of the Referendum by the deadline)

***Absolute* Deadline to Provide Date of Referendum for Withdrawal Agreement to SAU and Town/City Clerk if no changes result from Public Hearing**

Tuesday, September 29, 2026

(Statutory Minimum of 35 days before referendum to be on the absentee ballot)

Note: Some municipalities require a 45-day notice referendum to be on the absentee ballot

Final Public Hearing Date to Discuss the Withdrawal Question on the Ballot

Saturday, October 24, 2026

(At least 10 days before the date of the Referendum Vote)

Withdrawal Referendum Date

November 3, 2026

(Check local Municipal requirements for Referendum Vote)