

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEN. CHARLES P. PRAY
CHAIRMAN

REP. JOHN L. MARTIN
VICE-CHAIRMAN



STATE OF MAINE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
STATE HOUSE

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

December 18, 1986

MEETING SUMMARY

SEN. NANCY RANDALL CLARK
SEN. DENNIS L. DUTREMBLE
SEN. THOMAS R. PERKINS
SEN. CHARLES M. WEBSTER
REP. JOHN N. DIAMOND
REP. DAN A. GWADOSKY
REP. THOMAS W. MURPHY, JR.
REP. EUGENE J. PARADIS

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Legislative Council was called to order in the Council Chambers by the Chairman, Charles P. Pray, at 3:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Senators: Sen. Clark, Sen. Perkins, Sen. Pray,
Absent: Sen. Perkins, Sen. Dutremble

Representatives: Rep. Diamond, Rep. Gwadosky, Rep. Martin, Rep.
Murphy, Rep. Paradis

Legislative Officers:

Sally Diamond	Executive Director, Legislative Council
Peter Siegel	Law Librarian
Bent Schlosser	Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review
Helen Ginder	Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
David Silsby	Revisor of Statutes

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the Council's December 3, 1986, meeting were approved and placed on file (Motion by Rep. Diamond; second by Sen. Clark; unanimous).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sally Diamond, Executive Director, presented the following for the Council's consideration:

Item #1: Approved Step Increases

On the recommendation of their respective office directors, step increases have been awarded to the following legislative employees:

Judy A. Armstrong, Legal Proofreader (Salary Range 4), from Step E to Step F, effective December 15, 1986

Theresa Coughlin, Senior Secretary (Salary Range 4), from Step C to Step D, effective December 23, 1986

David Elliott, Legislative Analyst (Salary Range 10), from Step F to Step G, effective December 1, 1986

Barbara Gage, Legislative Analyst (Salary Range 10), from Step A to Step B, effective December 16, 1986

Joyce Garside, Legislative Technician (Salary Range 4), from Step A to Step B, effective December 9, 1986

Christos Gianopoulos, Legislative Analyst (Salary Range 10), from Step F to Step G, effective December 7, 1986

Susan G. Hague, Legal Proofreader (Salary Range 3), from Step A to Step B, effective December 15, 1986

Laurette Knox, Senior Secretary (Salary Range 4), from Step E to Step F, effective December 6, 1986

Steve Lane, Computer Programmer (Salary Range 8), from Step A to Step B, effective December 30, 1986

Margaret Matheson, Legislative Attorney (Salary Range 10), from Step D to Step E, effective December 27, 1986

Sandra Mayer, Office Support Coordinator (Salary Range 7), from Step B to Step C, effective December 9, 1986

Gerald Thibault, Computer Programmer (Salary Range 8), from Step B to Step C, effective December 24, 1986

In addition both Julie Jones and Lars Rydell have completed another year of Legislative service, but are not eligible for a "longevity" increase for another year under the newly-adopted salary plan.

Motion: That these recommendations from the Executive Director be accepted and placed on file (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Rep. Diamond; unanimous).

Item #2: Holiday: Friday, December 26 (memorandum from Governor Brennan)

Ms. Diamond brought to Council members' attention a memorandum from the Governor awarding administrative leave to all state employees on Friday, December 26. The Legislative Council has traditionally taken comparable action for legislative employees.

Motion: That all legislative offices be closed on Friday, December 26, in conformance with the Governor's action (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Clark; unanimous).

Item #3: Lease-Purchase of Legislative Computer Equipment

Ms. Diamond requested Council authorization to explore lease-purchase arrangements for portions of the Legislature's computer system with the objective of identifying the most cost effective approach.

Motion: That the Executive Director be authorized to explore lease-purchase arrangements and report the results to the Council. (Motion by Sen. Clark; second by Rep. Diamond; unanimous)

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Senator Pray announced the following appointments to the Council's standing committees:

Personnel Committee

Rep. John L. Martin, Chair
Sen. Nancy Randall Clark
Sen. Thomas R. Perkins
Rep. Thomas W. Murphy, Jr.

Committee on Legislative Automation

Rep. John N. Diamond, Chair
Sen. Dennis L. Dutrembel
Sen. Charles M. Webster
Rep. Eugene J. Paradis

Committee on Utilization of Legislative Space

Sen. Charles P. Pray, Chair
Sen. Thomas R. Perkins
Rep. Dan A. Gwadosky
Rep. Thomas W. Murphy, Jr.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Computer Equipment Requests from Leadership Offices

This item had been tabled at the previous Legislative Council meeting. A partial list of pending requests was distributed to Council members.

Motion: That this matter be referred to the newly-appointed Committee on Legislative Automation for review and recommendation to the Council (Motion by Rep. Diamond; second by Sen. Clark; unanimous).

Item #2: Access to Legislature's "Public" Status System

Ms. Diamond distributed a list of organizations that have expressed an interest in obtaining access to the on-line public status system which the Legislature maintains on the IBM mainframe computer operated by CCS. After a cursory review of the list, Council members expressed concern that municipalities and local libraries were not represented on the list.

Motion: That the Executive Director prepare a letter to be sent to all municipal offices and local libraries to ascertain their interest in having online access to bill status; and, further, that the Executive Director prepare a summary of state constitutional and statutory provisions regarding charges to public and non-profit organizations and that this information be available for review by the Council at its next meeting (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Rep. Murphy; unanimous).

NEW BUSINESS

(Note): Items #1 and #2 on the printed agenda were considered together.

Item #1: Submission of Study Report on "Insurance Pools for High Risk Groups Seeking Health and Life Insurance" (letter from former Rep. Merle Nelson, Chair).Item #2: Submission of Study Report on Electric Power Transmission and Purchases from the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities (letter from Sen. Baldacci & Rep. Vose)

Motion: That the Study Reports be accepted and placed on file (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Rep. Diamond; unanimous).

VII. NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)

Item #3: Reappointment of Bent Schlosser, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review

Ms. Diamond noted that Mr. Schlosser's first three-year term of appointment expired on December 8.

Motion: That the matter be referred to the Personnel Committee for review and recommendation to the Council at its next meeting (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Rep. Diamond; unanimous).

Item #4: Request for Contribution from Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (letter enclosed)

Council members had received a copy of a letter addressed to G. William Buker, State Budget Officer, from the Executive Director of the Commission (ACIR) requesting a \$5000 contribution for the organization's fiscal year ending September 30, 1987.

Rep. Martin noted that ACIR has not actively solicited contributions from States for the past 10 years and that its request at this time has been stimulated by significant reductions in its federal financial support. The Speaker further noted that since ACIR's mandate is to encourage interagency cooperation at the federal level, solicitation of financial support from states is questionable.

Motion: That a letter be sent informing ACIR that the State of Maine will decline the request to make a contribution since support of the organization is an obligation of the Congress rather than the State legislatures. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Rep. Diamond; unanimous).

Item #5: Request from Joint Select Commission to Study Teacher Training in Maine

Council members had received a letter from Rep. Bost, Chair of the Special Commission to Study Teacher Training, which had been created by action of the 112th Legislature during its Second Regular Session. The Commission has determined that it is desirable to have a survey of teachers conducted with the assistance of an outside and requested Council authorization to proceed with contracting with an outside party.

Motion: That Rep. Bost present a final budget to the Council for the survey which includes more information about the purpose of the survey and the criteria for selection of an outside contractor. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Rep. Murphy; unanimous).

Motion: That the Chair send a letter asking the Commission to provide the Council with a budget and its components before they will take further action.

ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m. (Motion by Sen. Clark; second by Sen. Webster; unanimous).