

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

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

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

APRIL 28, 1987

MEETING SUMMARY

APPROVED MAY 5, 1987

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Legislative Council was called to order in the Council Chambers by the Chair, Senator Pray, at 10:20 a.m.

ROLL CALL

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

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
Haven Whiteside	Deputy Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
David Silsby	Revisor of Statutes

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The summaries of the Council's April 14 and 21, 1987, meetings were approved and placed on file (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Rep. Diamond; unanimous).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Out-of-State Travel

Sally Diamond, Executive Director, reported that she had authorized the following to attend a Wang Training Seminar in Burlington, MA, May 5-6: Polly Gosselin, Joan Gagne, Sandy Mayer. She noted that while staff rarely travel during the last weeks of the legislative session, this seminar is critical to the conversion of bill drafting from the ALTER system to the Wang computer.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Request from Joint Select Committee on Corrections to spend balance of funds previously authorized

The Chairs of the Committee requested approval to spend the remaining \$1,400 of the \$2,500 they had previously been authorized to spend on the one-day seminar in March. The Committee would use the balance of the funds to contract with a consultant who would serve as a facilitator to the Committee.

Motion: That the request be approved (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Rep. Diamond; unanimous).

Item #2: Caucus of New England Legislatures: Dues Increase

Sen. Pray noted that the Caucus of New England Legislatures planned to increase annual dues from \$7,000 to \$10,000, and that the increase was to be allocated equally among the six member states. He reported that he and other members of leadership from Maine had proposed that the amount of the increase be apportioned among the members using a formula that took into account such factors as total state budget.

Motion: That the Chair send a letter indicating that the Legislative Council would not pay the increase in dues (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Clark; 8-1).

Item #3: After Deadline Requests

A list of After Deadline Requests considered by the Council and a summary of the Council's action is attached.

Item #4: Request from Joint Standing Committee on Education to submit Proposal to NCSL to Study Maine's Elementary and Secondary Education Finance Formula.

Senator Estes, Senate Chair of the Education Committee, was present to explain the proposal to the Council. He noted that the Education Committee has been discussing the education funding formula for several months and that the proposal would provide the Committee with a timely vehicle for addressing the issue. The deadline for submitting an application was today (April 28). Discussion among Council members centered on the following:

- 1) Whether this was the Committee's priority for work during the interim.
- 2) Late notice to the Council of the request for authorization to submit an application.
- 3) The potential for duplication of effort between this study, the work of a Task Force being convened by the Department of Education to Study the funding formulas, and the Governor's expressed interest in the subject.

Motion: That the Council approve submission of the grant proposal with the following stipulations: 1) That the proposal have the unanimous endorsement of the Education Committee and that the Committee communicate this to the Council Chair; 2) That if Maine is awarded a grant, the proposal be reviewed at that time to determine the potential for duplication with the understanding that the Council reserves the right to turn down the award (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Clark; 6-1).

ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. (Motion by Sen. Dutremble; second by Sen. Clark; unanimous).