

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

JANAUARY 7, 1988

MEETING SUMMARY

APPROVED FEBRUARY 2, 1988

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Legislative Council was called to order in the Council Chamber by the Chair, Senator Pray, at 1:35 p.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 |
| Helen Ginder | Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis |
| David Silsby | Revisor of Statutes |
| John H. Bailey | Director, Information Systems |

SECRETARY'S REPORT

None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Proposed Blue Cross/Blue Shield Rate Increase.
(This item had been tabled at the Council's January 6, 1988, meeting pending the Speaker's motion that the Legislative Council file as an intervenor on behalf of the Legislature in Blue Cross-Blue Shield's request to increase rates for non-group subscribers.)

In discussion of his pending motion, Rep. Martin noted that while the Legislature is in a group plan, it is appropriate to file as an intervenor in the current case because history suggests that the final action on the rate for non-group subscribers establishes a strong precedent for action on group plan rates. The hearing on this rate filing is January 12, and, in order to participate as an intervenor, the Council would have to take action before that date. Rep. Martin further noted that the current rate filing proposed a transfer of credits from the group plans to non-group plans and raised questions about the financial implications for various subscribers. He recommended that Jonathan Hull, Legal Counsel to the Speaker, review the entire rate filing, meet with the actuaries and staff in the Bureau of Insurance and the Public Advocate's Office, and come back to the Council with recommendations.

Sen. Perkins asked whether the Council could not simply monitor the hearings rather than become a formal intervenor and leave the formal role to the Public Advocate. Rep. Martin responded that the Public Advocate is technically the representative of the Administration not the Legislature; without separate, formal status, the Legislature would run the risk that its legitimate concerns might not get the same level of response.

VOTE ON THE PENDING MOTION:

The motion failed 5-4. Rep. Martin requested a roll call, and a roll call was taken.

YEA'S: Sen. Clark, Sen. Pray, Rep. Diamond,
Rep. Gwadosky, Rep. Martin.

NAY'S: Rep. Murphy, Rep. Paradis, Sen.
Webster, Sen. Perkins

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: After Deadline Requests

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.
(Motion by Sen. Clark; second by Rep. Martin; unanimous).