

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

FEBRUARY 23, 1988

MEETING SUMMARY

APPROVED MARCH 1, 1988

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

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

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

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	Information Systems Director

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The summary of the Council's February 16, 1988, meeting was approved and placed on file (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Rep. Murphy; unanimous).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The report submitted by Sally Diamond, Executive Director of the Legislative Council, included the following:

Items #1: Out of State Travel

Sally Diamond, Executive Director, notified Council members that the NCSL Executive Committee of which she is a member, will be meeting in Sacramento in conjunction with the Assembly on the Legislature meeting on March 3 and 4.

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

Item #2: Request from Secretary of State for Staffing Assistance in the Elections Bureau

Ms. Diamond reported that she had received a request from Peter Danton, Deputy Secretary for Public Administration, to loan two legislative employees to the Elections Bureau immediately following adjournment sine die in April through the June primaries. The Council had authorized a similar arrangement last fall.

Council members expressed concern: 1) that its action last fall was not intended to be a long-term arrangement; and 2) that the Secretary of State needed to incorporate funds to support an adequate level of staffing in his own budget.

Motion: That the request be tabled pending action by the Appropriations Committee on the Secretary of State's supplemental budget request. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Clark; failed 5-1).

Motion: That the Secretary of State's request be forwarded to the Joint Standing Committee on Financial Affairs. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Clark; unanimous).

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

None.

OLD BUSINESS

TABLED ITEM

Request from Blue Ribbon Commission on
Regulation of Health Care Expenditures for
Authorization to Hire a Consultant

The item had been tabled at the previous Council meeting pending clarification from Senator Gauvreau, Commission Chair, about why the proposed contract exceeded the total amount available to the Commission. Ms. Diamond reported that she had met with Sen. Gauvreau and Commission staff to review the Commission's current budget status and the additional funds that would be required to complete the Commission's work. Based on these discussions, it appears that the Commission will need an additional \$50,000.

Motion: That the request for \$50,000 be forwarded to the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs with a letter indicating the Council's unanimous support of the request; and, further, that Sen. Gauvreau and the Commission be informed that it can enter into only a partial contract at this time pending legislative action on the additional budget request. (Motion by Sen. Dutremble; second by Rep. Murphy; unanimous).

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Request for Funding of State and Local Legal Center. (Letter from Ted Strickland, President, NCSL and Mary McClure, President, Council of State Governments)

Motion: That the item be tabled. (Motion by Rep. Gwadosky; second by Sen. Dutremble; unanimous).

Item #2: After Deadline Requests

After deadline requests were considered by the Legislative Council. The Council's action on these requests is included on the attached list.

ADJOURNMENT

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