

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 1988

MEETING SUMMARY

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Legislative Council was called to order in the Speaker's Office by the Chair, Senator Pray, at 3:11 p.m..

ROLL CALL

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

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

Absent: Rep. Paradis

Legislative Officers:

Sally Diamond	Executive Director, Legislative Council
Peter Siegel	Law Librarian
John Wakefield	Deputy 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, Informations Systems

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The summary of the Council's March 22, 1988, meeting was approved and placed on file (Motion by Sen. Perkins; second by Rep. Martin; unanimous).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sally Diamond, Executive Director of the Legislative Council, noted that the coming Friday, April 1, was Good Friday. The Council has, in previous years, authorized all legislative offices to maintain telephone coverage only after 12 noon on Good Friday. This year, however, Good Friday occurs at a peak in the legislative session when the emphasis is on redrafting. She recommended that Council members adopt a modified policy.

Motion: That the Executive Director and the presiding officers be authorized to work out a schedule for Good Friday. (Motion by Sen. Clark; second by Sen. Perkins; unanimous)

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Committee on the Effective Utilitization of Legislative Space

Sen. Pray reported that although the entire committee had not met at one time, all members had seen the preliminary estimates for various projects under discussion. The estimates, prepared by the architect at the Committee's request, are "ball park"; none of the projects has been worked out in detail, and there are many unknowns. Sen. Pray pointed out that the Appropriations Committee was aware that the Council had been discussing a variety of projects and that it was important for the Council to submit a request to the Committee for inclusion in the Part II Budget.

Motion: That the concepts represented by each of the listed projects be adopted. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Perkins; TABLED).

Discussion concerned both the specific projects and the best way to submit a request to the Appropriations Committee. Specific points included the following:

- Until the Committee and the Council have a better fix on the overall budget, it would be inappropriate to submit the entire request.
- Timing: projects of the scope contemplated can only be undertaken during the "long" interim; therefore, if the Council chooses to take no action this year, the work would be delayed for at least two years.

- Some members questioned the assumptions underlying some of the proposed projects. These included:
 - a) The decision to move all committee offices (for chairs and clerk) to the State House.
 - b) The proposal to provide work space for members of the rank and file. The Committee had placed a high priority on this project; but other members questioned whether this would only hasten the Legislature's evolution to a full-time body.
 - c) Location of the Press in the State House. Rep. Murphy asked whether the press had been consulted about the desirability of renovating the paint shop for a new press area. Ms. Diamond responded that members of the Press Corps had not been formally surveyed, but that there was general consensus that they would prefer that location to space in the State Office Building.

There being no further discussion, Sen. Pray put the tabled motion before the Council for consideration. The motion failed
2 - 4.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: 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 3:55 (Motion by Sen. Dutremble; second by Sen. Clark; unanimous).