

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 17, 1988

MEETING SUMMARY

APPROVED APRIL 21, 1988

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Legislative Council was called to order in the Council Chambers by the Chair, Senator Pray, at 5:20 p.m..

ROLL CALL

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

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

Legislative Officers:

Sally Diamond	Executive Director, Legislative Council
Helen Ginder	Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
David Silsby	Revisor of Statutes
John H. Bailey	Director, Informations Systems

SECRETARY'S REPORT

None.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Committee on Allocation of Legislative Space

Sen. Pray, Committee Chair, suggested that Council members go through the Estimated Project Costs, which had been prepared earlier by the architect, for the purpose of establishing priorities within the funds available. He reminded the members that these are "ball park" estimates. A vote was taken on each item considered, and the results of the discussion follow:

Project	Estimated Total Cost	Action
1. Improve Legislators' Telephone Facilities (House & Senate Retiring Rooms)	\$ 33,000 11,650	Unanimous
2. Extend Mezzanine Level (2nd floor, south wing)	\$131,200	Unanimous
3. Improving Entries to Restroom Facilities (3rd floor)	\$ 62,920	Unanimous
4. Ventilation System (Room 228)	\$ 13,500	Unanimous
5. Minor Renovation in Room 400	\$ 6,500	Unanimous
6. 5th Floor/State House: Design Only	(to be confirmed)	Unanimous
7. Press Area (Paint Shop)	\$215,550	Unanimous

Motion: That a total of \$550,000 be set aside for the approved projects and that all other projects come before the Council for approval before they are initiated. (Motion by Sen. Perkins; second by Sen. Clark; unanimous).

OLD BUSINESS

Tabled Item:: Requests from Joint Standing Committees to Conduct Interim Studies
(Tabled 4/14/88)

-- The item had been tabled previously pending receipt of additional information regarding the staff resources available. Council members reviewed two lists: 1) a list of 9 interim study requests from Joint Standing Committees, and 2) a list of 16 pending statutory study commissions

that would require legislative staff support. Sally Diamond pointed out that in addition to these lists, the Council has already committed staff to the following:

- Jt. Select Committee on Corrections
- Blue Ribbon Commission on the Regulation of Health Care Expenditures
- State Compensation Commission

In addition, 3 Study Commissions have been or would be extended by pending legislation:

- Commission on Sport Fisheries
- Commission to Review Registered Maine Guide Laws
- Commission on Children in Need of Supervision and Treatment

Ms. Diamond reported that the staff could take on a maximum of 10-11 additional studies.

Summaries of the Council's action on Interim Study Requests and recommendations on proposed statutory study commissions are attached to these minutes.

NEW BUSINESS

- Item #1: Application to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Medical Malpractice Program for Funds to Study the Effects of Maine's Medical Malpractice Tort Reforms on Access to Medical Care in the State

In a letter to the Council, Speaker Martin requested Council authorization to proceed with development of an application to the Foundation for a Study of the Effects of Maine's Medical Malpractice Tort Reforms on Access to Medical Care in the State. Rep. Martin noted that the topic of the proposed study was similar to one of the interim study requests submitted by the Judiciary Committee. Maine has already survived the early rounds of elimination of requests to the Foundation, and the probability of funding appears excellent.

Motion: That the Legislative Council endorse application to the Robert Wood Foundation for funding support. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Rep. Diamond; unanimous).

ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. (Motion by Rep. Murphy; second by Rep. Diamond; unanimous).