

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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REP. JOHN L. MARTIN
CHAIR

SEN. DENNIS L. DUTREMBLE
VICE-CHAIR



STATE OF MAINE

114th LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. CHARLES P. PRAY
SEN. NANCY RANDALL CLARK
SEN. CHARLES M. WEBSTER
SEN. PAMELA L. CAHILL
REP. DAN A. GWADOSKY
REP. JOSEPH W. MAYO
REP. MARY CLARK WEBSTER
REP. FRANCIS C. MARSANO

SARAH C. DIAMOND
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MARCH 5, 1990

MEETING SUMMARY

APPROVED MARCH 12, 1990

CALL TO ORDER

The Legislative Council meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers by the Chair, Representative Martin, at 10:45 a.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Representatives: Rep. Martin, Rep. Mayo, Rep. Webster, Rep. Gwadosky, Rep. Marsano

Legislative Officers:

Sally Diamond, Executive Director,
Legislative Council
Lynn Randall, State Law Librarian
Bent Schlosser, Director, Office of Fiscal
and Program Review
Martha Freeman, Director, Office of Policy
and Legal Analysis
David Kennedy, Revisor of Statutes
David Silsby, Director, State House &
Capitol Park Commission
Joy O'Brien, Secretary of the Senate

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Summary of the February 26, 1990, Council meeting was accepted and placed on file. (Motion by Sen. Cahill; second by Rep. Gwadosky; unanimous).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Item #1: Revisor's Bill Drafting Status Report

Asked to comment on the status report he had provided to Council members, David Kennedy noted that the bills still in the "pipeline" at this point were those that had been approved by the Council the previous week as After Deadline bills. Sally Diamond further noted that the Revisor's Office was developing a significant workload that was not reflected on this report as bills moved through the process: 77 Committee Amendments were currently at some stage of the drafting process, and the Revisor's Office was producing floor amendments as well.

No Council action required.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: After Deadline Requests

Discussion:

Noting that two of the bill requests on the After Deadline list were necessary to extend reporting deadlines of statutory study commissions, Speaker Martin asked David Kennedy whether it would be possible to draft a single bill that would establish a procedure for extending these deadlines so that a separate bill would not be required for each in the future. Mr. Kennedy agreed to try to develop such a bill.

No Council action required.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS**Statutory Adjournment Date**

Council members had a lengthy discussion in response to a question posed by Rep. Marsano about whether it would be appropriate to formally notify members of the intent to adjourn early. Major points of the discussion included:

1. Whether members know that the Legislative Council has, indeed, proposed a reduction in the legislative budget for the current year based on a unanimous decision to reduce the number of session days by a week. Rep. Marsano expressed his belief that many members were unaware of the Council's action and the implications of it in terms of the length of the session.
2. The distinction between the statutory adjournment date and the number of session days available to get there. Rep. Martin noted that the budget action had been to reduce the overall length of the Session by 5 days, but that a recess of this length could occur at any point between now and the statutory adjournment date and still achieve the budget reduction target. He further stated that he and Senate President Pray had worked actively with Committee Chairs to complete all committee work by April 6. Should it be necessary for the Appropriations Committee to continue working past that date, the Legislature might recess and then return to vote on the budget.

No Council action required.

ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.
(Motion by Sen. Cahill; second by Sen. Dutremble; unanimous).