

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEN. BETH EDMONDS  
CHAIR

REP. GLENN A. CUMMINGS  
VICE-CHAIR

123<sup>RD</sup> MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE  
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. ELIZABETH H. MITCHELL  
SEN. CAROL WESTON  
SEN. JOHN L. MARTIN  
SEN. RICHARD W. ROSEN  
REP. HANNAH M. PINGREE  
REP. JOSHUA A. TARDY  
REP. SEAN FAIRCLOTH  
REP. ROBERT H. CROSTHWAITE

**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**January 25, 2007**  
**APPROVED FEBRUARY 22, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Legislative Council Chair, President Edmonds called the Legislative Council meeting to order at 1:22 P.M. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

**ROLL CALL**

Senators: President Beth Edmonds, Sen. Elizabeth Mitchell, Sen. John Martin (*arrived at 2:12PM*), Sen. Carol Weston, Sen. Richard Rosen

Representatives: Speaker Glenn Cummings, Rep. Hannah Pingree, Rep. Sean Faircloth, Rep. Joshua Tardy, Rep. Robert Crosthwaite

Legislative Officers: Millie MacFarland, Clerk of the House  
Joy O'Brien, Secretary of the Senate  
Michael Cote, Assistant Clerk of the House  
David E. Boulter, Executive Director of the Legislative Council  
Rose Breton, Legislative Finance Director  
Margaret Matheson, Revisor of Statutes  
Patrick Norton, Director, Office of Policy & Legal Analysis  
Grant Pennoyer, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review  
Lynn Randall, State Law Librarian  
Paul Mayotte, Director, Legislative Information Services

Legislative Council Chair, President Edmonds convened the meeting at 1:22 P.M. with a quorum of members present.

**SUMMARY OF DECEMBER 7, 2006 MEETING OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

Motion: That the Meeting Summary of December 7, 2006 be accepted and placed on file. Motion by Sen. Martin, second by Sen. Weston. **Motion passed, unanimous (9-0-0-1).**

Legislative Council Chair President Edmonds asked if there was any objection to taking two items out of order. No objection was expressed so Legislative Council Chair Edmonds proceeded to Item 1 under New Business: Consideration of After Deadline Bill Requests.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ITEM #1: Consideration of After Deadline Bill Requests**

The Legislative Council considered and acted on forty after deadline bill requests. The Legislative Council's actions on these requests are included on the attached list.

### **ITEM #2: REQUEST TO EXTEND BILL CLOTURE DATE FOR REP. GARY MOORE TO JANUARY 29, 2007**

This matter was considered during the Legislative Council's review of Rep. Moore's after deadline request for introduction of LR #2462. The Legislative Council noted that Rep. Moore was sworn into office after the other members of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Legislature because of a ballot recount for his district seat. It also noted that by joint rule the Legislature, not the Legislative Council, established the bill cloture date of December 15<sup>th</sup>, and therefore the Legislative Council cannot alter that date.

Motion: That all after deadline bills filed by Rep. Moore until February 22, 2007, the date of the next Legislative Council meeting, be deemed to have been approved for introduction into the First Regular Session by the Legislative Council without further Legislative Council action. Motion by Rep. Tardy, second by Rep. Faircloth. **Motion passed, unanimous (9-0-0-1)**

The Legislative Council then returned to the other items on its agenda.

## **REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND COUNCIL OFFICES**

### **Executive Director's Report**

David Boulter, Executive Director of the Legislative Council, reported on the following.

#### **State House renovations projects for 2006**

The last of the State House renovation projects for 2006 is concluding this week with the completion of the emergency call box system at Parking Lots A & B near the State House. The call boxes will be connected to the Building Control Center and Capitol Security, be activated on Monday, and should provide an important measure of security to visitors, legislators and staff who use the parking lots.

#### **MDF Legislative Policy Forum on Health Care**

As a reminder, the Maine Development Foundation is holding a legislative policy forum on health care. The forum is scheduled for Friday, January 26, 2007 from 8:30 to 4:00 at the Augusta Civic Center, and is the last of the legislative orientation programs organized by the Legislative Council for this session.

#### **Bill drafting progress**

Bill drafting is well underway in the Revisor's office, OPLA and OFPR. The Revisor's office reports that the current number of live LRs stands at 2,097, the number of bills that have been drafted and are out for sponsor review and signature is 244, the number of

completed bills that have been sent for printing is 400, and the number of LRs that have been withdrawn to date is 380.

#### **Availability of Compact Edition of Maine Revised Statutes**

Under the terms of an agreement with Thompson West Publishing, the compact edition of the most current version of the Maine statutes is available for purchase by legislators. The cost is approximately \$155 per set, a very favorable rate. The Law and Legislative Reference Library will be sending out an announcement of the availability of the compact edition shortly. If legislators would like to purchase a set of the statutes, they should contact the Executive Director's office.

### **Fiscal Report**

Grant Pennoyer, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review, reported the following.

#### **Revenue update**

General Fund revenue was under budget by \$11.1 million in December, resulting in a negative variance of \$9.0 million (-0.7%) for the fiscal year-to-date. This variance is from the revised revenue forecast, which increased General Fund revenue by \$86.4 million for FY07, and was driven by the December's corporate income tax collections which were under budget by \$16.9 million for the month and FYTD. The Highway Fund revenue is now performing much closer to budget projections with the recent \$9.6 million downward revision of FY07 revenue in the December 2006 revenue forecast.

#### **Revenue forecasting schedule**

The Consensus Economic Forecasting Commission met on Tuesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> and modestly improved its consensus economic forecast. The Revenue Forecasting Committee will likely meet in the latter part of February to conclude the update in time for the March 1<sup>st</sup> statutory report deadline.

#### **Cash pool and cash balance trends**

The average cash pool balance has dropped from \$689.3 million in July 2006 to \$494.8 million in December. This decline is largely due to the recent trend in General Fund cash balances and the reliance on internal borrowing from Other Special Revenue Funds rather than using Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) borrowing. TAN borrowing in FY 06 was \$123.6 million. The General Fund increased its internal borrowing from Other Special Revenue Funds to over \$100 million in December. The State Controller and State Treasurer will be consulting soon to see what type of additional cash flow borrowing may be required until receipt of April's income tax collections. The Highway Fund average cash balance continued its downward trend in December with the average balance dropping below \$10 million. Highway Fund cash balances typically recover somewhat during the winter months.

### **Information Technology Report**

Paul Mayotte, Director, Office of Legislative Information Services, reported the following.

#### **MELD bill drafting system**

The MELD bill drafting system is in full production. A software consulting firm Omnisphere has been retained to provide software support for the MELD system, and issues with the MELD system are being addressed as they arise.

**Bill text on website**

Working with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House, the office has put into place process changes that allow bill text to be posted to the legislative website more quickly so bill text is readily available to the public. Work is now underway to further automate this process.

**Email processing times**

The office is monitoring the speed of email transmissions and has made some adjustments to improve the speed of email processing. Large PDF files are moving through the email system more slowly and the office is working to speed transmission of those files as well.

**Chamber video broadcasting**

Mr. Mayotte is working with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House and system vendors to resolve outstanding technical issues with the Senate and House video broadcasting systems.

**REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

**1. Personnel Committee (No report)**

The Personnel Committee is scheduled to meet on January 25, 2007 at 3:00 P.M.

**2. State House Facilities Committee (No report)**

**3. Subcommittee to Review the Study Committee Process (No report)**

The subcommittee had scheduled a meeting for January 19<sup>th</sup>, but Subcommittee Chair Senator Mitchell cancelled the meeting due to the lack of a quorum. The next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for January 25, 2007 at 3:30 P.M.

Legislative Council Chair President Edmonds noted that the Legislative Council had established a *Subcommittee to Administer Technology in the Chambers*. She recommended that the name of the committee be changed to *Subcommittee to Administer Technology* unless other members of the Legislative Council had objection. No members expressed objection to the name change.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**ITEM 1: Legislative Council Actions Taken by Ballot**

A copy of the list of actions taken by ballot by the Legislative Council since its December 7, 2006 meeting is attached. No further action by the Legislative Council is required.

There was no other Old Business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ITEM 3: REQUEST BY MAINE ENERGY COUNCIL TO EXTEND REPORTING DATE FROM JANUARY 15, 2007 TO MARCH 15, 2007**

Motion: That the request by the Maine Energy Council to extend the date by when it must submit its report from January 15, 2007 to March 15, 2007. Motion by Rep. Pingree, second by Sen. Rosen. **Motion passed, unanimous (10-0).**

**ITEM #4: REQUEST BY MS. PEGGY BEAMAN FOR PERMISSION TO USE "THE STATE OF MAINE SONG" IN AN EDUCATIONAL MUSIC BOOK**

Motion: That permission for Peggy Beaman of Mount Olive, North Carolina to use the copyright protected song, "The State of Maine Song" be granted. Motion by Speaker Cummings, second by Rep. Crosthwaite. **Motion passed, unanimous (10-0).**

**ITEM #5: REQUEST BY OPEGA TO CARRY FORWARD UNSPENT FY 06 FUNDS TO FY 07**

Legislative Finance Director Rose Breton presented the request by the Office of Program Evaluation and Governmental Accountability to carry forward certain unspent funds from FY06 to FY07 and to transfer certain funds from All Other to the Capital line category as described in OPEGA Director Beth Ashcroft's memo to January 10, 2007.

Motion by Sen. Martin to approve the request by OPEGA, second by Sen. Weston. **Motion passed, unanimous (10-0).**

**Item # 6: REQUEST BY LAW & LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE LIBRARY TO CARRY FORWARD UNSPENT FY 06 FUNDS TO FY 07**

Legislative Finance Director Rose Breton presented a similar request by the Law and Legislative Reference Library to carry forward certain unspent funds from FY06 to FY07 and to transfer certain funds from All Other to the Capital line category as described in State Law Librarian Lynn Randall's memo of January 10, 2007.

Motion by Sen. Martin to approve the request by the Law & Legislative Reference Library, second by Sen. Mitchell. **Motion passed, unanimous (10-0).**

**CLARIFICATION OF NEWLY ADOPTED POLICY BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON MAKING ADJUSTMENTS TO LEGISLATIVE ACCOUNTS**

Ms. Breton then asked the Legislative Council for clarification of administration of the Legislative Council's new policy with respect to budget adjustments that it adopted at its November 16, 2006 meeting. She noted that the clear intent of the council's policy was to no longer submit budget adjustments for legislative accounts to a review and approval by the State

Budget Officer and the Governor (Financial Order process). She explained that the wording of the policy as adopted carries out that intent; however, in addition it could be read to mean that certain budget adjustments that were previously considered routine and transmitted directly by the Executive Director's office to the budget office must now be decided by the full Legislative Council before the budget adjustments can be processed. For example, she explained that carrying forward unspent funds from a prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year to pay for goods or services ordered in one fiscal year but received in the subsequent fiscal year was considered routine and previously was handled directly by her without presentation to the Legislative Council.

President Edmonds explained that it was her understanding that intent of the Legislative Council in adopting the new policy was to discontinue the long-standing practice of submitting Financial Orders to adjust legislative budgets to the Executive Branch for review and approval but not to change the legislature's internal process for making budget adjustments or to impose new requirements for Legislative Council approval for routine budget adjustments.

Ms. Breton explained her understanding that those budget adjustments considered to be "routine" and, therefore, authority for which is delegated to the Executive Director include those adjustments within line item categories when fiscally prudent or necessary to properly manage legislative accounts provided that the funds budgeted to each major organizational unit of the legislature are not exceeded and the adjustments will not result in on-going unbudgeted legislative costs.

Legislative Council Chair President Edmonds asked the council members if that was their understanding as well. The members agreed with the clarification presented by Ms. Breton, and President Edmonds then stated that the Executive Director's office should carry out future budgets adjustments in accordance with that clarification.

**ITEM # 7: SUBMISSION OF FINAL REPORT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE**

**ITEM # 8: SUBMISSION OF ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

**ITEM # 9: SUBMISSION OF FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE COST OF PROVIDING CERTAIN SERVICES IN THE UNORGANIZED TERRITORIES**

**ITEM # 10: SUBMISSION OF REPORT OF THE RIGHT TO KNOW ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**ITEM # 11: SUBMISSION OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE TO STUDY MAINE'S HOMELAND SECURITY NEEDS**

**ITEM # 12: SUBMISSION OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE INNOVATION ECONOMY**

**ITEM # 13: SUBMISSION OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSION TO STUDY THE HENDERSON BROOK BRIDGE IN THE ALLAGASH WILDERNESS WATERWAY** (addendum to agenda- report was submitted after the revised agenda was prepared but prior to the Legislative Council meeting)

Motion: That the Legislative Council accept the above noted seven reports and place them on file. Motion by Sen. Mitchell, second by Sen. Weston. **Motion passed, unanimous (10-0).**

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS**

Legislative Council members were reminded of the Personnel Committee meeting that is scheduled for 3:00 and the meeting of the Subcommittee to Review the Study Committee Process that is scheduled for 3:30 in the afternoon.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 2:21 P.M. Motion by Sen. Weston, second by Rep. Faircloth. **Motion passed, unanimous (10-0).**



**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACTION ON  
AFTER DEADLINE REQUESTS TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION, 123<sup>rd</sup> LEGISLATURE  
January 25, 2007**

|                 |  | <u>Action</u>    |
|-----------------|--|------------------|
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Berry, Seth A.</b>   | <b>TABLED</b>    |
| LR 2440         | An Act To Declare a Moratorium on the Sale and Installation of Outdoor Wood Boilers That Do Not Meet the Current EPA Standards for Wood Stoves |                  |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Berry, Seth A.</b>   | <b>WITHDRAWN</b> |
| LR 2449         | An Act To Amend the Tax Code   |                  |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Blanchard, Richard D.</b>  | <b>ACCEPTED</b>  |
| LR 2474         | An Act To Fund Pesticide Education in the State  |                  |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Clark, Herbert</b>   | <b>ACCEPTED</b>  |
| LR 2479         | An Act To Appropriate Funds for the Katahdin Cultural Center   |                  |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Cotta, H. David</b>  | <b>ACCEPTED</b>  |
| LR 2461         | An Act To Allow Stores over 10,000 Square Feet To Be Open on Certain Holidays  |                  |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Craven, Margaret M.</b>  | <b>TABLED</b>    |
| LR 2441         | An Act To Allow Union Members to Collect Unemployment Benefits during a Strike   |                  |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Craven, Margaret M.</b>  | <b>TABLED</b>    |
| LR 2442         | An Act To Increase MaineCare Reimbursement for Speech and Language Therapists and Provide Treatment for Adults with Developmental Disabilities |                  |

|                 |  |                 |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Sen. Dow, Dana L.</b>   | <b>ACCEPTED</b> |
| LR 2520         | An Act Change the Registration Fees of Pet Foods for Home-based Manufacturers                        |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Greeley, Christian D.</b>  | <b>TABLED</b>   |
| LR 2480         | An Act To Amend the Law Regarding Failure To Provide a Correct Name                                  |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Greeley, Christian D.</b>  | <b>TABLED</b>   |
| LR 2481         | An Act To Allow Refusal To Submit to a Test Grounds for Conviction for Operating under the Influence |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Greeley, Christian D.</b>  | <b>TABLED</b>   |
| LR 2482         | An Act To Increase the Penalty for Failure To Appear on a Summons                                    |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Greeley, Christian D.</b>  | <b>TABLED</b>   |
| LR 2483         | An Act To Require Registered Sex Offenders To Reveal that to the Police                              |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Greeley, Christian D.</b>  | <b>TABLED</b>   |
| LR 2484         | An Act To Include Children as Persons Eligible under the Military Family Leave Act                   |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Greeley, Christian D.</b>  | <b>TABLED</b>   |
| LR 2485         | An Act To Exempt from Income Tax Military Reenlistment Bonuses                                       |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Greeley, Christian D.</b>  | <b>TABLED</b>   |
| LR 2486         | An Act To Increase the Penalties for Cruelty to Animals  |                 |

|                 |  |                 |
|-----------------|--|-----------------|
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Hanley, Stephen P.</b>   | <b>ACCEPTED</b> |
| LR 2475         | An Act To Prohibit the Confiscation of Lawfully Owned and Carried Firearms during a State of Emergency                                     |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Hanley, Stephen P.</b>   | <b>ACCEPTED</b> |
| LR 2518         | An Act Regarding the Certification of the Required Driving Time for a License for Certain Persons Under 21 Years of Age                    |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Mazurek, Edward J.</b>   | <b>FAILED</b>   |
| LR 2512         | Resolve, Creating an Oversight Board To Review State Prison Disciplinary Actions   |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. McDonough, John F.</b>   | <b>ACCEPTED</b> |
| LR 2478         | An Act To Change the Way Excise Tax Is Assessed  |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Moore, Gary W.</b>   | <b>ACCEPTED</b> |
| LR 2462         | An Act To Allow a Racino in a Municipality To Support a Train on the Route 113 Railway Corridor and To Support the Harness Racing Industry |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Perry, Anne C.</b>   | <b>ACCEPTED</b> |
| LR 2506         | An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Closed Periods for the Hauling of Lobster Traps   |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Rep. Pingree, Hannah</b>  | <b>ACCEPTED</b> |
| LR 2516         | An Act To Provide One-time funds to Leverage Private Funds To Strengthen Children and Families in Maine                                    |                 |
| <b>SPONSOR:</b> | <b>Sen. Plowman, Debra D.</b>  | <b>ACCEPTED</b> |

LR 2494 An Act To Allow the Use of Credit Cards To Purchase Alcohol,  
Beer and Spirits from Distributors

**SPONSOR: Sen. Plowman, Debra D.**

**ACCEPTED**

LR 2495 An Act To Amend the Child and Family Services and Child  
Protection Act

**SPONSOR: Rep. Saviello, Thomas B.**

**ACCEPTED**

LR 2496 An Act To Create a School District in Northern Franklin  
County

**SPONSOR: Sen. Sherman, Roger L.**

**ACCEPTED**

LR 2493 An Act To Protect Retirement Benefits of Teachers and  
Principals with Respect to Implementation of the Local  
Schools and Regional Support Initiative

**SPONSOR: Rep. Simpson, Deborah**

**ACCEPTED**

LR 2489 An Act To Authorize Judges To Mandate Counseling for  
Juvenile Offenders

**SPONSOR: Rep. Treat, Sharon Anglin**

**ACCEPTED**

LR 2459 An Act To Regulate Presettlement Lawsuit Funding

**SPONSOR: Rep. Trinward, Pamela Jabar**

**ACCEPTED**

LR 2517 An Act To Allow Contributors to Candidates Financed by the  
Maine Clean Elections Fund To Submit Qualifying  
Contributions Online

**SPONSOR: Rep. Tuttle, Jr., John L.**

**TABLED**

LR 2505 An Act To Increase Wheelchair Van Services Reimbursement  
Rates

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**SPONSOR: Rep. Berry, Seth A.**

**WITHDRAWN**

LR 1693 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO BALANCE THE BUDGET

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**SPONSOR: Rep. Berry, Seth A.**

**TABLED**

LR 1694 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO REPEAL THE LAWS THAT REDUCE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS FOR RETIRED TEACHERS

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**SPONSOR: Rep. Berry, Seth A.**

**TABLED**

LR 2416 JOINT RESOLUTION, MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO REQUEST THAT MAINE'S HIGHWAY TAX DOLLARS COME BACK TO MAINE

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**SPONSOR: Rep. Bliss, Lawrence**

**TABLED**

LR 1156 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO FULFILL THE INTENT TO FUND 40% OF THE COSTS OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND TO END UNFUNDED MANDATES

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**SPONSOR: Sen. Bowman, Peter B.**

**TABLED**

LR 1542 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO EXEMPT SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS FROM THE FEDERAL NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001 WHEN STUDENT ATTENDANCE FALLS BELOW THE STATE TARGET DUE TO EXCESSIVE STUDENT ABSENTEEISM

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**SPONSOR: Sen. Courtney, Jonathan T.E. (Title Change) TABLED**

LR 0040 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO REINSTATE THE MILITARY CLASSIFICATION OF "POW" OR "PRISONER OF WAR"

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**SPONSOR: Rep. Marley, Boyd P. TABLED**

LR 1983 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO BOYCOTT CANADIAN SEAFOOD UNTIL THE SLAUGHTER OF PUP SEALS STOPS

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**SPONSOR: Rep. Savage, David G. TABLED**

LR 2093 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO BOYCOTT CANADIAN SEAFOOD DUE TO THE CONTINUING CANADIAN SEAL HUNT

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**SPONSOR: Rep. Schatz, James M. TABLED**

LR 0949 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES IN OPPOSITION TO MANDATORY IDENTIFICATION OF ANIMALS

**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**SPONSOR: Rep. Wheeler, Sr., Walter A. ACCEPTED**

LR 2509 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO OPPOSE THE PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL TO INCREASE TROOPS IN IRAQ