

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Fourth
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1969

KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

SENATE

Tuesday, January 7, 1969

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by the Rev. David Glusker of Hallowell.

Reading of the Journal of yesterday.

House Papers

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN
AFFAIRS

December 26, 1968

The Honorable Bertha Johnson
Clerk, House of Representatives
104th Legislature
State House

Augusta, Maine

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

Enclosed for your records are copies of the Certificate of Election which have been issued to the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Indian Representatives who were chosen at their respective Tribal Elections, to serve at the 104th Legislature:

John Nelson, Penobscot Tribe
Albert Dana, Passamaquoddy Tribe

These certificates were prepared and issued in accordance with the provisions of the Laws of Maine (22 M.R.S. § 4792, § 4831).

Sincerely,

EDWARD H. HINCKLEY
Commissioner

(H. P. 26)

Comes from the House, Read and, with accompanying papers, Placed on File.

Which was Read and, with accompanying papers, Placed on File in concurrence.

Communications

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ATTORNEY
GENERAL

January 2, 1969

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the 104th Legislature

Pursuant to Article V, Part 4, Section 2, of the Constitution, I am transmitting herewith two bonds of the Honorable NORMAN K. FERGUSON, Treasurer of State, each in the amount of \$250,000, one written by Seaboard Surety

Company of Portland, Maine, bearing date of December 19, 1968 and the other written by Maine Bonding and Casualty Company of Portland, Maine, bearing date of December 18, 1968, each being payable to the State of Maine.

These bonds bear my approval as to form.

Respectfully,
JAMES S. ERWIN
Attorney General

(S. P. 19)

Which was Read and, with accompanying papers, Ordered Placed on File and, under suspension of the rules, sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Joint Order

Out of order and under suspension of the rules,

On motion by Mr. Greeley of Waldo,

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the two bonds of the Honorable NORMAN K. FERGUSON, Treasurer of State, totalling \$500,000, one written by the Seaboard Surety Company of Portland, Maine in the amount of \$250,000, and one written by the Maine Bonding and Casualty Company of Portland, Maine in the amount of \$250,000, payable to the State of Maine and each bearing the certificate of approval of the Attorney General, be and hereby are approved.

(S. P. 22)

Which was Read and Passed and, under suspension of the rules, sent down forthwith for concurrence.

STATE OF MAINE
LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
COMMITTEE

January 1, 1969

To the Members of the 104th Legislature

It is my honor to transmit herewith the first volume of studies authorized by the 103rd Legislature for Legislative Research Committee study and determination during this past biennium.

This volume, designated as Legislative Research Committee publication 104-20 (Vol. I), combines in a single publication the findings and recommendations developed in ten specific areas of study which are individually reported in com-

mittee publications numbered 104-1 through 104-10.

The Members of the Committee wish to express their appreciation for being chosen to participate in these assignments and sincerely hope the reports contained herein will prove of benefit to the Members of the Legislature and the people of the State of Maine.

Respectfully submitted,

KENNETH P. MacLEOD,
Chairman

Legislative Research Committee
(S. P. 20)

Which was Read and Ordered
Placed on File. Sent down for concurrence.

STATE OF MAINE
BUREAU OF PUBLIC
IMPROVEMENTS

January 2, 1969

To the Senate and House of
Representatives of the
One Hundred and Fourth
Legislature

In accordance with the provisions of Title 5, Section 1742, Maine Revised Statutes Annotated, we are submitting herewith the Status of Capital Improvement Projects including cash expenditures through June 30, 1968.

Respectfully,

NIRAN C. BATES, Director
(S. P. 21)

Which was Read and Ordered
Placed on File. Sent down for concurrence.

Orders

On motion by Mr. Katz of Kennebec,

ORDERED, that the Secretary of the Senate be authorized to purchase ten thousand (10,000) copies of the folder entitled "This is Your Legislature," and ten thousand (10,000) copies of the pamphlet entitled "How a Bill Becomes a Law in Maine," from the League of Women Voters of Maine for the use of members of the Legislature.

Which was Read and Passed.

Joint Order

On motion by Mr. Katz of Kennebec,

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Chairman of the Joint Standing Committee on Education be authorized to hire a staff

for the Committee, the expense of which is not to exceed \$3,000 (for the regular legislative session of the 104th Legislature), the same to be paid from the payroll of the Joint Standing Committee on Education. (S. P. 23)

Which was Read and Passed.
Sent down for concurrence.

Mr. Anderson of Hancock was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate.

Mr. ANDERSON: Mr. President and Members of the Senate, I am very much disturbed over the financial condition of the State, as undoubtedly all of you are. I don't like to be pessimistic, but I say to you in all sincerity unless we dig in and hold the line in this session we are heading for fiscal collapse.

There is no question in my mind but what a major tax is a must at this time to pay for commitments we have made in past ill-considered moments. We have been continually borrowing from the future to promote new programs. If we keep on with this practice the day of reckoning is coming sooner than we think. This is the time in the 104th Legislature to make a thorough evaluation of our assets and liabilities.

We have been all too eager to snap at the dangling bait of federal matching funds. Every time we buy one of these programs we are taking another step toward socialism. And always there's a threat goes with them—do it our way, or else!

And all too often when we buy a federal program we create a new bureau which in turn creates office space with its costly furnishings and personnel to put it into operation. I don't mean to imply we should pass up all federal aid programs. In a few instances federal aid is justifiable.

Fifteen years ago all departments were housed in the State House with the exception of Health and Welfare and Highways, which shared the building at the rear of the State House now occupied by the Education Department. Now we have the monstrous office building and many other buildings in Augusta to house various

branches of departments. And department heads are still crying for more space.

Our population today, approximately one million, is the same as it was fifteen years ago, and yet we have more people on the Health and Welfare and unemployment rolls than we had fifteen years ago.

In fifteen years we have added 3500 employees to the State pay-rolls. Has this increase in State employees added to the comfort of our people? Certainly there is unrest over the ever increasing burden of taxes. Certainly that which made America the greatest nation in the world, free enterprise, has been discouraged by scores of inspectors and field workers enforcing, in many cases, nonsensical regulations set up by department heads.

There was a time when legislators knew what every department was doing, but no more. They have grown so big and cumbersome there wouldn't be hours enough in the day to check their activities.

There is no question but what there are many programs we are supporting that are not giving the taxpayers value received. These should be weeded out. I would hope as the session wears on that the leadership may show us how some of these dead-heads may be eliminated. As for any new programs it is a must that priorities be the watchword.

Some departments are asking as high as \$15,000,000 more to expand their programs. We are all in sympathy with the needs of some departments, especially increases for retarded children, but we just don't have the ability to pay.

When the time comes that the State's industrial climate warrants new programs then the increased revenue will give us new and more tax money.

A plank in the Republican platform urges that the States receive shares of federal revenue with no obligatory clause attached. If and when this comes about it should be a day of celebration. On

that day the States will have regained their sovereignty.

There was a time when thrift was a virtue, but now apparently it seems to be un-American to put a dollar away for a rainy day. I believe I can say without contradiction that every legislator in this chamber in campaigning for this office promised economy to his constituents.

Our constituents want progress, but they want it through careful evaluation of all programs. Progress can be a very short distance from regress if we keep borrowing from the future to create new programs.

In conclusion, the will of the people is the legitimate foundation of government. It is a contrivance of human wisdom to provide for human wants. It is a trust and we as legislators are the trustees. Let's not betray that trust.

Let's show our constituents that the 104th Legislature has the know-how to put the ship of state back on an even keel.

Mr. President and Members of the Senate, I thank you for your kind indulgence.

(Off Record)

Mr. Katz of Kennebec was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate:

Mr. KATZ: Mr. President, it is not very often that this chamber hears a statement of conscience such as we have just heard. The Senator from Hancock, Senator Anderson, has said some things that needed saying.

Some of us in this chamber are Democrats and some are Republicans, and some are liberals and some are conservatives. We are not quite sure what we are until we read about our titles in the newspapers, but I think what Senator Anderson said should be said and said and said again.

I understand that in the old days this was a social occasion when the old-timers came down here and had a great time in Augusta during the winter and then went back home. I have a feeling that

you share my thoughts that those days are gone forever. So frequently we get absorbed in just hearing the particular bills that come before us, and if we do a capable job just hearing bills, we feel we have done a good job as members of the Senate. I suspect that what Senator Anderson is really saying is that this responsibility has changed, and I would hope that all of us would go far, far beyond the responsibility of hearing bills and considering legislation, and do that which we can to consider existing programs. It may be, if we suc-

ceed in financing new programs from the cost of existing programs that just don't fill the bill for us, perhaps then we can go home at the end of June feeling that we have done the kind of job that Senator Anderson has indicated is expected of us.

(Off Record)

On motion by Mr. Hoffses of Knox,

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.