

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

***One Hundred and Fifth
Legislature***

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

Volume III

June 16, 1971 to June 24, 1971

Index

1st Special Session

January 24, 1972 to March 10, 1972

Index

**KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

HOUSE

Thursday, February 3, 1972

The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. James Smith of Hallowell.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Papers from the Senate Report of Committee Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Report of the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act relating to Municipal Finance" (S. P. 700) (L. D. 1881) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

In the House, the Report was read and accepted in concurrence and the Bill read twice. Committee Amendment "A" (S-321) was read by the Clerk and adopted in concurrence, and tomorrow assigned for third reading of the Bill.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Authorize Counties to Adopt a Food Stamp Program" (H. P. 1460) (L. D. 1903) which was passed to be engrossed in the House on January 31.

Came from the Senate passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" in non-concurrence.

In the House: The House voted to recede and concur.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Resolve to Correct an Error in the Service Retirement Allowances under the State Retirement Law for Linwood A. Webber (H. P. 1521) (L. D. 1963) which was passed to be engrossed in the House on January 31.

Came from the Senate passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" in non-concurrence.

In the House: The House voted to recede and concur.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Resolve Providing a Retirement Allowance under the State Retirement Law for Mrs. John Howe (H. P. 1522) (L. D. 1964) which was passed to be engrossed in the House on January 31.

Came from the Senate passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" in non-concurrence.

In the House: The House voted to recede and concur.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Resolve Providing a Minimum Service Retirement Allowance under the State Retirement Law for Leo G. Bartlett (H. P. 1523) (L. D. 1965) which was passed to be engrossed in the House on January 31.

Came from the Senate passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" in non-concurrence.

In the House: The House voted to recede and concur.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Resolve Providing a Minimum Service Retirement Allowance under the State Retirement Law for Emil Arsenault (H. P. 1524) (L. D. 1966) which was passed to be engrossed in the House on January 31.

Came from the Senate passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" in non-concurrence.

In the House: The House voted to recede and concur.

Messages and Documents

The following Communication:

THE SENATE OF MAINE
AUGUSTA, MAINE

February 2, 1972

Hon. Bertha W. Johnson
Clerk of the House
105th Legislature
First Special Session

Dear Madam Clerk:

This is to advise that a certified copy of the Joint Resolution regarding Bill, I. B. 2, "An Act Relating to the Form of Ballots in General Elections," has been presented to Governor Kenneth M. Curtis.

Sincerely,
(Signed)

HARRY N. STARBRANCH
Secretary of the Senate

The Communication was read and ordered placed on file.

The Speaker announced the presence of Mrs. Wood of Castine who had been recorded absent on the organization roll call.

Orders

On motion of Mr. Whitzell of Gardiner, it was

ORDERED, that Warene Chase of Gardiner be appointed to serve as Honorary Page for today.

On motion of Mr. Farrington of Old Orchard Beach, it was

ORDERED, that Claire Boyd and Sue Pendleton of Saco be appointed to serve as Honorary Pages for today.

Mr. Berry of Buxton presented the following Joint Order and moved its passage:

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of Massachusetts Bay did Grant to those soldiers who "were either personally present at the fort and fight at Narragansett, or descendants from those that were, or in the strictest alliance to them" a portion of land; and

WHEREAS, one of these portions of land was known as Narragansett No. One; and

WHEREAS, the "Subscribers Inhabitants of Narragansett No. One, in the County of York, a Frontier Settlement under continual Fears of the Indian Enemy and obliged to keep watch and ward," did fulfill the terms of said Grant; and

WHEREAS, the Proprietors and Inhabitants did petition the Massachusetts General Court that Narragansett No. One might be incorporated into a Town; and

WHEREAS, on July 14th, 1772, Governor Thomas Hutchinson did "Consent to the Enacting of this Bill" that Narragansett No. One be incorporated into a Town by the name of Buxton; and

WHEREAS, July 14th, 1972 is the TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY of the said

incorporation of the Town of Buxton; now, therefore, be it

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that we, the Members of the One Hundred and Fifth Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, extend our heartiest congratulations and best wishes to the citizens of Buxton in this historical and memorable year of the bicentennial anniversary of the founding of the Town of Buxton in the State of Maine; and be it further

ORDERED, upon passage in concurrence, that a duly attested copy of this Joint Order, bearing the great seal of the State of Maine, be immediately transmitted to the citizens of Buxton, through the Town Clerk, in token of the sentiments expressed herein. (H. P. 1565)

The Joint Order was read and passed and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Ault of Wayne presented the following Joint Resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, the State of Maine is currently serving the educational needs of a minority of its handicapped children; and

WHEREAS, education and remediation at an early age is demonstrably less costly than corrective rehabilitative efforts at a later date; and

WHEREAS, public policy should dictate that our public schools move promptly to comply with the requirements of recent court decisions covering the rights of the handicapped child to the benefits of education; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the 105th Legislature does hereby publish and declare it to be the public policy of this State that no school-age child be denied the benefits of appropriate education because of physical, mental, or emotional handicaps, as defined by the Bureau of Education for the Handicapped in the United States Office of Education and the Maine Department of Education; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Commissioner of the Maine Department of Education is respectfully

directed to develop proposals for consideration by the 106th Legislature relative to the amendment of Title 20, which will permit the full realization and implementation of this goal no later than July 1, 1975; and be it further

RESOLVED: That all state departments are requested to give full assistance to the Commissioner of Education as requested in the development of his proposals; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted forthwith to said Commissioner of Education as notice of the intent expressed herein. (H. P. 1566)

The Resolution was read and adopted and sent up for concurrence.

**House Reports of Committees
Leave to Withdraw**

Mr. Whitson from the Committee on Natural Resources on Bill "An Act Establishing a Portland Coastal Island Trust Commission" (H. P. 1496) (L. D. 1939) reported Leave to Withdraw.

Report was read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

**Ought to Pass
Printed Bills**

Mr. Lund from the Committee on Judiciary reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to the Assumption of Responsibility for Juvenile Probationers in Cumberland County by State Division of Probation and Parole" (H. P. 1479) (L. D. 1922)

Mr. Cooney from the Committee on State Government reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Housing and Food Supplies Furnished by State Departments" (H. P. 1504) (L. D. 1946)

Reports were read and accepted, the Bills read twice and tomorrow assigned.

**Ought to Pass with
Committee Amendment**

Mrs. Wheeler from the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Authorizing the Supreme Judicial Court to Provide for Juries of Fewer than 12" (H. P. 1478) (L. D. 1921) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amend-

ment "A" (H-522) submitted therewith.

Mrs. Cummings from the Committee on Natural Resources on Bill "An Act relating to Property of Cobboossee-Annabessacook Authority" (H. P. 1534) (L. D. 1977) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-523) submitted therewith.

Reports were read and accepted and the Bills read twice. Committee Amendment "A" to each was read by the Clerk and adopted, and tomorrow assigned for third reading of the Bills.

Passed to Be Engrossed

Bill "An Act relating to Costs of Inspections by the Passenger Tramway Safety Board" (H. P. 1500) (L. D. 1942)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, read the third time, passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

Amended Bills

Bill "An Act Authorizing Use of the Name Maine Institute of Continuing Radiologic Education" (H. P. 1485) (L. D. 1928)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading, read the third time, passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" and sent to the Senate.

**Third Reader
Indefinitely Postponed**

Bill "An Act Permitting the Commissioner of Education to Assign Towns to Supervisory Units when Fewer than 35 Teachers are Employed" (H. P. 1527) (L. D. 1970)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Third Reading and read the third time.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oakland, Mr. Brawn.

Mr. BRAUN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: This bill here is aimed at two schools in my district which I represent; namely, Rome and Mt. Vernon, who are not consolidated schools. Myself, I came from District SAD 47. In the past, the

superintendent from 47 was their superintendent over there till they felt the load was too heavy. So, the State has assigned a superintendent to this district.

Now, the people of that town have the right, the School Board, to vote who will be their superintendent. This will take that right completely away from the people. They can be assigned to anywhere that they see fit to put them.

Now, in our municipality, SAD 47, we have had to have an assistant to help our superintendent, so he has more work load than he can do.

Now, this bill is not aimed for the purpose as it looks here. This is to put the foot in the door for consolidation. They are being told if they do not consolidate that no school will accept them. SAD 47 is being told by the Educational Department, you should deny these people the right to come to your school and this will force them into it. At this present time, they have 33 students, 32 of them go to SAD 47, which everyone is very proud to have them there.

Now I am going to ask that due to the fact that this bill was never referred to me in any way, they went to my good friend up in Dover-Foxcroft to get him to sign this bill, and I knew nothing about this bill at all until the day it was coming in for hearing, and I believe I should have known it. But I shall ask at this time, don't take all the rights away from the people on these municipalities. Give them the right to choose a superintendent, to say where their children will go to school. And I will move, at this time, for indefinite postponement with all its accompanying papers and I hope when the vote is taken it will be taken by the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Oakland, Mr. Brawn now moves the indefinite postponement of this Bill.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Strong, Mr. Dyar.

Mr. DYAR: Mr. Speaker, Members of the House: I would like to concur with the thinking of Mr. Brawn this morning, he has mentioned the towns of Rome and Mt. Vernon.

In my district, I have SAD 58 and also have a union which includes the schools in Rangeley. I have discussed this bill with the superintendents of these two districts and unions and they feel that this is a foot in the door to force Rangeley into a school district. The superintendent of SAD 58, it is his feeling that he cannot handle another 35 teachers, and under this law the Commissioner of Education will be able to force him to take these 35 and possibly put these teachers under the supervision of the superintendent down in Rumford. On this base, I feel we should go along this morning and kill this bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Eastport, Mr. Mills.

Mr. MILLS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: Without further debate, I will support the motion of Mr. Brawn.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Lucas.

Mr. LUCAS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: We heard Mr. Brawn at the hearing on this bill and we specifically added an amendment to the bill which indicates that the purpose of assigning a school district would be for supervision only and that the intent of it is not for compulsory districting as he has indicated in his speech. The amendment reads in the Statement of Fact "The purpose of this amendment is to authorize the commissioner to assign towns to school unions for the purpose of school supervision." Currently, the superintendent does this through negotiation with the school districts and he still would, in fact, consult with those towns and municipalities who do not have supervision.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Dixmont, Mr. Millett.

Mr. MILLETT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: This is one of those bills that I expected would draw some opposition and I honestly can't say that I am totally in agreement with the bill itself. However, I think that Mr. Lucas has explained the main intent of the bill; namely, not to talk about

forcing communities to get together for organizational purposes, but merely to give some opportunity for assigning a town for the employment of a superintendent to a larger unit where presently they operate with less than 35 teachers, they are all alone as a single town, and they are employing a superintendent at their own risk.

Now, this is obviously a removal of some local authority; namely, to say whether or not they want to allow their town to be included with another town for the employment of a superintendent, and I want to stress that it is only for that purpose, for the employment of a superintendent.

Therefore, obviously many of us in the committee were somewhat opposed to the idea that, in a sense, it removes the authority of certain people in towns to say no. However, there is another issue that weighs equally heavily and that is the amount of State dollars involved in supporting the salaries of superintendents in ridiculously small units. In other words, there are some cases where a town is employing a superintendent for ten or a dozen teachers and paying a reasonably good salary of which a large amount comes from the State.

So there are two issues here — the issue of State involvement in what may be an inefficient unit and also the question of local control and I guess this morning you are going to have to choose what your main allegiance, which direction it tends to lean in. I am not attempting to defend the bill, but I just want to remove from your minds any fear that this is a sort of districting proposal; it is not. It is mainly giving the authority to the Commissioner to assign a single town having less than 35 teachers to an area union for the purpose of joint employment of a superintendent.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Livermore Falls, Mr. Lynch.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I believe there is another factor and it is one on which I base my opinion almost entirely.

Aside from the dollars that are involved locally and on the State level, I think you must consider the children.

You are weighing on one side the welfare of the children in the areas involved against the local control of other areas. Unless a measure of this sort is adopted, there is no continuity of supervision in the isolated town. They are fortunate, at the present time, of having retired superintendents, but there is no assurance that they are going to have that available in the future. In fact, some of the towns have had a change in supervision annually. And I weighed one against the other and I voted for the children.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lubec, Mr. Donaghy.

Mr. DONAGHY: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would like to concur with Mr. Brawn of Oakland. This is not necessarily what the bill says but what will be in the future, if we go along and open this door we will be right with that old bug-a-boo of mandation. This particular thing is under the guise of the management of the school areas, but we are just one step from there to saying where the children are going to school, how many miles they are going to be bused, this sort of thing.

I think indefinite postponement is a fine idea, especially in the light of the fact that this whole school system is probably going to have to have quite an overhauling within the next few years because of this tax structure.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oakland, Mr. Brawn.

Mr. BRAUN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen: As one kind gentleman just said here before, this is dollars involved and let us protect our children. Ladies and gentlemen, this dollars involved is going to cost my municipalities which would come under this far in excess of what it is now. When I took this bill after the amendment come out, I went to the Attorney General's office and I talked to the Assistant Attorney

General. Before I got through I had been to three fellows.

And under this law, here under this, it says that the Commissioner may add the town to an existing supervisory unit. Now he will have the alternative to take the children or take the superintendent, whichever he sees fit. So I asked him to tell me what "add" meant or what "assigned" meant in the eyes of the law. He could not tell, so he called up the Educational Department and he talked with Asa Gordon and he got a ruling from Asa Gordon down in the town of Winthrop what this law meant. Now, gentlemen, the town of Winthrop is not in a consolidation where Asa Gordon lives and I will hope that you will go along with my motion.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Eastport, Mr. Mills.

Mr. MILLS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: The part of the bill that really scares me is the part that makes the Commissioner of Education an absolute dictator, regardless of the will of the people, the money involved, the children or anything else.

The SPEAKER: The yeas and nays have been requested. For the Chair to order a roll call it must have the expressed desire of one fifth of the members present and voting; all members desiring a roll call vote will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

A vote of the House was taken, and more than one fifth of the members present having expressed a desire for a roll call, a roll call was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Oakland, Mr. Brawn, that Bill "An Act permitting the Commissioner of Education to Assign Towns to Supervisory Units when Fewer than 35 Teachers are Employed," House Paper 1527, L. D. 1970, be indefinitely postponed. If you are in favor of the indefinite postponement you will vote yes; if you are opposed you will vote no.

ROLL CALL

YEAS — Albert, Ault, Bailey, Baker, Barnes, Bartlett, Bedard, Berry, G. W.; Berry, P. P.;

Berube, Binnette, Birt, Boudreau, Bourgoin, Bragdon, Brawn, Brown, Bunker, Call, Carey, Carrier, Carter, Churchill, Clark, Cote, Cottrell, Cummings, Curtis, A. P.; Cyr, Donaghy, Dow, Doyle Dudley, Dyar, Emery, E. M.; Evans, Fecteau, Finemore, Fraser, Gagnon, Genest, Good, Hall, H a n c o c k Hardy, Hawkins, Hayes, Henley, Herrick, Hodgdon, I m m o n e n, Jalbert, Jutras, Kelleher, Kelley, K. F.; Kelley, R. P.; Keyte, Lebel, Lee, Lewin, Lewis, Lincoln, Littlefield, Lizotte, MacLeod, Maddox, Mahany, Manchester, Marsteller McCormick, McNally, Mills, Mosher, Murchison, Norris, Parks, Payson, Pontbriand, Pratt, Rand, Rocheleau, Rollins, Ross, Shaw, Shute, Silverman, Simpson, T. R.; Smith, E. H.; Susi, Tanguay, Theriault, Trask, White, Whitzell, Williams, Wood, M. W.; Wood, M. E.

NAYS — Bernier, B i t h e r, Clemente, Collins, Cooney, Curran, Curtis, T. S., Jr.; Emery, D. F.; Farrington, Faucher, Gauthier, Haskell, Hewes, Kelley, P. S.; Kilroy, Lawry, Lucas, Lund, Lynch, Marsh, Martin, McKinnon, McTeague, Millett, Morrell, Murray, Orestis, Porter, Scott, Simpson, L. E.; Slane, Stillings, Vincent, Webber, Wheeler, Woodbury.

ABSENT — Bustin, Conley, Crosby, Dam, Drigotas, Gill, Goodwin, Lessard, McCloskey, O' B r i e n, Page Santoro, Sheltra, Smith, D. M.; Tyndale, Whitson, Wight.

Yes, 97; No, 36; Absent, 17.

The SPEAKER: Ninety-seven having voted in the affirmative and thirty-six in the negative, with seventeen being absent, the motion to indefinitely postpone does prevail.

Sent up for concurrence.

Passed to Be Enacted Emergency Measure

An Act Clarifying the Duties of the Treasurer of State Relating to the Care and Custody of Guaranty Funds (H. P. 1506) (L. D. 1948)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure and a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 126 voted

in favor of same and none against, and accordingly the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act to Create a New Highway Classification Designated Seasonal Parkways (H. P. 1512) (L. D. 1954)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure and a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 130 voted in favor of same and none against, and accordingly the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Passed to Be Enacted

An Act relating to the Change of Name of Junior Achievement of Greater Portland, Inc. (S. P. 699) (L. D. 1880)

An Act relating to the Regulation of Private Detectives (S. P. 702) (L. D. 1883)

An Act to Make Additional Allocations from the General Highway Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1973 (S. P. 708) (L. D. 1889)

An Act relating to Traffic-control Signals (S. P. 722) (L. D. 1994)

An Act relating to the School Year (H. P. 1464) (L. D. 1907)

Finally Passed

Resolve Authorizing the Maine Military Defense Commission to Convey Certain Land in Brunswick (H. P. 1509) (L. D. 1951)

Resolve Designating U. S. Route No. 2 and State Route No. 3 in Maine as Blue Star Memorial Highway (H. P. 1515) (L. D. 1957)

Were reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, Bills passed to be enacted, Resolves finally passed, all signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day

The Chair laid before the House the first tabled and today assigned matter:

Resolve Providing a Minimum Service Retirement Under the State Retirement Law for Marion Gates of Phillips (H. P. 1520) (L. D. 1962)

Tabled — February 2, by Mr. Bailey of Woolwich.

Pending — Passage to be engrossed.

Mr. Curtis of Bowdoinham offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" (H-524) was read by the Clerk and adopted, the Resolve passed to be engrossed as amended and sent to the Senate.

The Chair laid before the House the second tabled and today assigned matter:

Bill "An Act relating to Speed of Motor Vehicles on Freeways" (H. P. 1513) (L. D. 1955) (Committee Amendment "A" H-515 adopted)

Tabled — February 2, by Mr. Lee of Albion.

Pending — Passage to be engrossed.

Mr. Kelleher of Bangor offered House Amendment "B" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "B" (H-525) was read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. KELLEHER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: This is more or less just a little housekeeping bill, and this would seem to be a very appropriate bill to tack it on.

We bought a vehicle up home to use for parking control. It is a three-wheel vehicle, and come to find out they call it a motorcycle. So technically right now we as well as another community in the state that has one of these vehicles are operating against the law, and this is just to clarify it and exempt it from some of the motorcycle regulations, such as this special training that the cyclist has to have, and there is a certain type of insurance on them and a special license. This is just to clarify it, and I hope the House will accept the amendment.

Thereupon, House Amendment "B" was adopted, the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" and House Amendment "B" and sent to the Senate.

The Chair laid before the House the third tabled and today assigned matter:

MAJORITY REPORT (1)
 "Ought not to pass" — Committee on Health and Institutional Services on Bill "An Act relating to the Administration of State Funds Appropriated to Charitable and Benevolent Institutions" (H. P. 1528) (L. D. 1971) and Minority Report (3) reporting "Ought to pass."

Tabled — February 2, by Mr. Santoro of Portland.

Pending — Acceptance of either Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Falmouth, Mrs. Payson.

Mrs. PAYSON: Mr. Speaker, I move the acceptance of the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report.

The SPEAKER: The gentlewoman from Falmouth, Mrs. Payson, moves the acceptance of the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I would hope that you would not vote to accept the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report, so that I would make a motion that this measure would be referred to the proper committee, which is the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

We recall last week when there was a bill that came before us that had been assigned to the State Government Committee and there was a lot of comment made it should go to Appropriations. I stood up and went along with the thought of those members who felt that the measure should go before the County Government Committee. I refer you to the committee concerning the court costs of the Supreme and Superior Courts, and I went away from this going before the committee of which I am a member because I felt that wasn't the proper area for it.

This involves \$210,000. It very definitely is an Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee measure, and I hope that you do not accept the "ought not to pass" report so that I subsequently can make a motion to rerefer this

measure to the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee.

On motion of Mr. Lewis of Bristol, tabled pending the motion of Mrs. Payson of Falmouth to accept the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report and tomorrow assigned.

By unanimous consent, the foregoing papers were ordered sent forthwith to the Senate.

On motion of Mr. Susi of Pittsfield,

Recessed until eleven o'clock in the morning.

After Recess

11:00 A.M.

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

The following paper was taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

Mr. Bragdon from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on Bill "An Act Providing Funds for the Maine Law Enforcement Planning and Assistance Agency" (H. P. 1449) (L. D. 1892) reported Leave to Withdraw, as covered by other legislation.

Report was read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Kelleher of Bangor was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. KELLEHER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I was somewhat disturbed this morning, as I know more or less more of you were yourselves, concerning the actions of our Chief Executive interfering with our Legal Department insofar as instructing the Attorney General of the State of Maine to drop charges against certain individuals who have violated our State laws. I am quite surprised at his actions because these very people that violated the laws of this State are always talking about their equal rights and their rights to perform or to demonstrate their feelings.

There have been no objections to this or anyone else, but I am just wondering if our Chief Executive is setting policy now before these peo-

ple go to court to determine whether he thinks they should be tried or not. It is apparent that these people violated the laws of the State of Maine and I feel that the Chief Executive did not do his office justice or the people of the State of Maine justice by interfering with our Attorney General.

This was a matter that belonged to the Legal Department and not

the Chief Executive's Department and I feel that he should have kept to his own business and let the State Attorney General run the Legal Division of this State.

On motion of Mr. Porter of Lincoln,

Adjourned until nine o'clock tomorrow morning.