

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

1st Special Session

OF THE

*One Hundred and Sixth
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1974

Kennebec Journal
Augusta, Maine

HOUSE

Tuesday, January 22, 1974

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

Prayer by the Rev. Sam Henderson, III of Norway.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Papers from the Senate

Bills and Resolve from the Senate requiring reference were disposed of in concurrence.

Orders Out of Order

Mr. Jackson of Yarmouth presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, that Jay Jones, Julie Jones, Tracy and Mary Jackson of Yarmouth be appointed Honorary Pages for today.

The Order was received out of order by unanimous consent, read and passed.

Mrs. Clark of Freeport presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, that Christopher Beck of Freeport be appointed Honorary Page for today.

The Order was received out of order by unanimous consent, read and passed.

**Petitions, Bills and Resolves
Requiring Reference**

The following Bills were received and, upon recommendation of the Committee on Reference of Bills, were referred to the following Committees:

Business Legislation

Bill "An Act Amending the Insurance Laws" (H. P. 1893) (Presented by Mr. Trask of Milo)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Taxation

Bill "An Act Relating to Payment of Gasoline Tax" (H. P. 1894) (Presented by Mr. Finemore of Bridgewater)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

**Orders
Tabled and Assigned**

Mr. Cooney of Sabattus presented the

following Joint Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs of the 106th Legislature is directed to report out a bill providing for immediate repeal of the appropriation from General Fund Surplus under section A of chapter 103 of the private and special laws of 1973 authorizing \$1,750,000 to the Bureau of Public Improvements within the Department of Finance and Administration for construction of a parking garage. (H. P. 1896)

The Order was read.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Sabattus, Mr. Cooney.

Mr. COONEY: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would like this morning to explain to you a little bit about the reasons behind my presenting this order. I believe there are possibly others who might like to comment upon it; perhaps we might even like to table it for a day so that we would have a chance to discuss it more fully.

You will recall that in the regular session we had a rather nice situation of having quite a surplus in the budget, and the Appropriations Committee reported out, I believe, a \$22 million capitol construction budget which proposed to pay for a lot of building around the state which was thought to be necessary. Among those buildings was a parking garage for the capitol complex. At that time I presented an amendment to the bill to delete this, saying that the money could be better used to fund the tax reform measure or other necessities, and I think we can see that now more than ever, with the decreased tax revenues and with the impact of the energy crisis and other things on our economy, that this money might again be put to better uses.

I would offer you this order as an opportunity to free up one and three-quarter million dollars for other purposes that includes a parking garage here in Augusta. And if you have any doubt as to what your constituents would think about this parking garage, do as I have done, just go home and ask them.

They will tell you what they think of this. I am sure that if it would make it easier for them to get a parking place here at the capitol, they might consider it, but I think you and I know that the more parking places we create here in the capitol complex, the more the state employees are going to fill them up, and the public are still going to be in the same circumstance.

So I sincerely hope you will support the order this morning.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Norris of Brewer, tabled pending passage and specially assigned for Thursday, January 24.

Mr. Deshaies of Westbrook presented the following Joint Order and moved its passage:

WHEREAS, the 106th Legislature in its continuing concern for the life of the unborn child; and

WHEREAS, the Helms Amendment prohibiting the use of foreign aid funds for abortion was signed into law on December 17, 1973 by the President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, January 22, 1974 marks the first anniversary of the Supreme Court Decision on abortion; and

WHEREAS, the Pro-life Education Association of Maine is continuing its efforts to promote a Human Life Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, today marks the first Interfaith Vigil in Portland, Maine to stress the importance of the individual right to life; and

WHEREAS, this vigil will also serve notice on the Euthanasia Movement that any attempt by this group to implement its philosophy will be vigorously resisted; now, therefore, be it

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that We, the Members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the 106th Legislature of the State of Maine, take this opportunity while assembled in special session to commend the leaders of the Pro-life Education Association for their efforts to promote the sanctity of human life; and be it further

ORDERED, that suitable copies of this Order be prepared and presented to Mr. Anthony Soychak of Gorham,

Maine, President of the Pro-life Education Association, in appreciation of such efforts. (H. P. 1897)

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

House Reports of Committees Leave to Withdraw

Mr. Dunn from the Committee on Transportation on Bill "An Act to Provide Funds for Snow Removal Reimbursements at Publicly Owned Airports" (H. P. 1756) (L. D. 2215) reporting Leave to Withdraw.

Report was read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Divided Report

Majority Report of the Committee on Transportation on Bill "An Act Relating to Hearing for Provisional Motor Vehicle Licensee on Suspensions" (H. P. 1719) (L. D. 2112) reporting "Ought not to pass"

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. GREELEY of Waldo
SHUTE of Franklin

— of the Senate.

Messrs. McNALLY of Ellsworth
WOOD of Brooks

KEYTE of Dexter
WEBBER of Belfast
FRASER of Mexico
DUNN of Poland

— of the House.

Minority Report of the same Committee on same Bill reporting "Ought to pass"

Report was signed by the following members:

Mr. CIANCHETTE of Somerset

— of the Senate.

Mrs. McCORMICK of Union
BERRY of Madison

Messrs. STROUT of Corinth
JACQUES of Lewiston

— of the House.

Reports were read.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Brooks, Mr. Wood.

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

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Brooks, Mr. Wood, moves that the House accept the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Lewiston, Mrs. Berube.

Mrs. BERUBE: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: This is my bill, and I would like a roll call and would say a few words on it.

The law as presently written on the books puts a mandatory — mandatory — 30 day suspension of a driver's license for a first offense of a moving violation. The bill before us today would simply allow for the holder of a provisional license to request of the Secretary of State a hearing so that the suspension could be modified or rescinded. I feel that the present law should be amended while still retaining the original aim of the legislation.

The unfairness of the law, however, lies in the fact that it is discriminatory against the young people who are usually the holders of a first or provisional license. On the other hand, holders of a license of some 10 or 20 years could be guilty of several moving violations and yet retain their license upon payment of a fine. Many young people do need a license to retain part-time employment while being students, and this mandatory clause is certainly a very definite economic hardship.

I am certain that the intent of the original 1969 legislation was not that it should become discriminatory. The bill does not change the intent, but merely asks that the hearing may be requested.

Mrs. Berube of Lewiston requested a roll call vote.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has 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 those 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 Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I more than generally respect a majority report. I think the points that have been

outlined to you, however, in this bill are very well taken. Right at the very outset that a young man or woman would be given the permission to drive an automobile, at the very first crack out of the box the penalty is immediately enforced on a mandatory basis. I am fully aware of the fact that I have had mandatory legislation but of a much more serious nature, such as the selling of hard drugs.

I think if this bill would pass it would leave a bitter taste in this young persons mind. It would give you the opportunity for the enforcement officers and the directors of the programs within the Motor Vehicle to stress upon them the importance of that license. So many times have I heard people call me and say, "If I don't get my license back, it means the loss of my job." Of course the ultimate answer is, you should have thought of that before.

This has meant to me, oh so often, of a more mature mind. It might be a fact if you would realize, if you would check the records you might find that the repeaters of our younger age are more often less to happen if they are given some sort of respite as this measure would call for.

I don't recall whether this was presented to you years ago, I know that it was going to be, and I felt very strongly then. I wasn't here probably if it was at the time it was debated. I would like to indulge very heartedly the minority report, and I think these youngsters, to leave a better taste in their mouth probably teach them a lesson they will not forget, and probably eventually make better drivers out of them, and better citizens, that we might go along and pass this thing which can always be repealed if it doesn't work out.

I certainly hope that the motion of the gentleman from Brooks, who is a very dear friend of mine, will not prevail so that we can accept the minority "ought to pass" report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mexico, Mr. Fraser.

Mr. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: With all due respect to the good lady from Lewiston, who sponsored this amendment, the original bill was passed for the same reason as mentioned by Mr.

Jalbert earlier, to impress upon these young people that a new license is not a toy, it is something that is very serious. This provision was put in there so that if they do go out and break the law or even violate, they lose their license for 30 days.

Now this provision would place our Secretary of State in a position of being a judge. It would be up to him to decide whether or not that person could have a hearing. It would take a little while to prepare for that hearing, and by that time those 30 days would be almost up anyway. It would be a waste of time. That is why I signed it "ought not to pass."

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Windham, Mr. Peterson.

Mr. PETERSON: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I happened to be at the Transportation Committee the day of this hearing, and I was apprised of a few facts from the Secretary of State in regards to the facts and figures of the number of new provisional licensees each year. There are approximately twenty-odd thousand people who get a provisional license, their first license, and the emphasis, of course, is on the young. But anybody of any age comes under this mandatory suspension provision for a moving violation. You can be 45, if it's your first license and it is your first year, you are subject to this mandatory provision.

There are 20,000 provisional licenses each year, there are only 2,800 who ever undergo a mandatory suspension. That means you are subjecting another 13,000 people to a mandatory suspension when the majority of these people are safe drivers. I think it is unfair to impose upon the majority a mandatory provision which really only pertains to a few people, but you are subjecting a very large number of people to this penalty. I think it is unfair; I think they should have a fair hearing and time to present a hearing so that all of the facts can be understood, because it could provide a hardship. I think it is only 2,800 people who violate their first license, and I think it is unfair to the other 18,000 people to have to undergo the potential of having their license removed.

I would urge you support the minority "ought to pass" report.

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

Mr. MULKERN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I hadn't planned to speak on this particular bill. I wasn't even aware that this particular bill was in, I just saw it a few minutes ago. I thought that I should get on my feet and relate the fact that quite by coincidence, approximately a week ago, I was discussing this very problem with some constituents of mine in Portland. I was not aware that there was a bill in the legislature pertaining to this matter. However, I do concur with the remarks from the good Representative from Windham, Mr. Peterson. This is true, this provisional license — there are many people of many ages that have this provisional license, it doesn't apply to just young people; we are not talking just about that.

I had the pleasure or I should say my wife had the pleasure of a few months back of attending a special course given in Portland on driver education. Many of the people that took that course in my class were older people, 40, 50, 60 years old, people going out for provisional licenses for the first — they never had a license before and they were getting it the first time.

Now all this bill calls for, in my estimation, is a hearing. I don't really see anything wrong with being a little bit flexible about this thing, and I would recommend that we go along with the minority "ought to pass" report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mexico, Mr. Fraser.

Mr. FRASER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: Going along with the figures given out by my good friend Mr. Peterson, stating that out of 20,000 applications only 2,800 violate, can you imagine what the Secretary of State's office would be like if 2,800 people came in and asked for hearings every year?

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Brooks, Mr. Wood, that the House accept the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report on Bill "An Act Relating to Hearing for

Provisional Motor Vehicle Licensee on Suspensions." House Paper 1719, L. D. 2112. All in favor of that motion will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL

YEA — Ault, Baker, Bither, Bragdon, Brawn, Briggs, Brown, Bunker, Chick, Churchill, Cressey, Crommett, Curran, Curtis, T. S., Jr.; Davis, Deshaies, Dow, Dunn, Emery, D. F.; Evans, Farnham, Farrington, Ferris, Finemore, Flynn, Garsoe, Good, Hancock, Herrick, Hoffses, Hunter, Immonen, Jackson, Kelleher, Kelley, R. P.; Keyte, Lawry, LeBlanc, Lewis, E.; Littlefield, MacLeod, Maddox, Maxwell, McMahon, McNally, Morton, Murchison, Norris, Parks, Perkins, Pratt, Ross, Shaw, Silverman, Simpson, L. E.; Soulas, Susi, Theriault, Trumbull, Tyndale, Walker, Webber, White, Willard, Wood, M. E.

NAY — Albert, Berry, G. W.; Berube, Binnette, Birt, Bustin, Cameron, Carey, Carrier, Carter, Chonko, Clark, Conley, Connolly, Cooney, Cote, Cottrell, Dam, Drigotas, Dunleavy, Dyar, Fecteau, Fraser, Gahagan, Genest, Goodwin, H.; Goodwin, K.; Greenlaw, Hobbins, Jacques, Jalbert, Kelley, Kilroy, Knight, LaCharite, LaPointe, Lewis, J.; Lynch, Mahany, Martin, McCormick, McHenry, McKernan, McTeague, Merrill, Mills, Morin, L.; Morin, V.; Mulkern, Murray, Najarian, O'Brien, Palmer, Peterson, Pontbriand, Ricker, Rolde, Rollins, Shute, Smith, D. M.; Smith, S.; Snowe, Sproul, Stillings, Strout, Talbot, Tanguay, Tierney, Trask, Twitchell, Wheeler, Whitzell.

ABSENT — Berry, P. P.; Boudreau, Donaghy, Dudley, Farley, Faucher, Gauthier, Hamblen, Haskell, Huber, Kauffman, Santoro, Sheltra.

Yes, 65; No, 72; Absent, 13.

The SPEAKER: Sixty-five having voted in the affirmative and seventy-two in the negative, with thirteen being absent, the motion does not prevail.

Thereupon, the Minority "Ought to pass" Report was accepted. The Bill was read once and assigned for second reading tomorrow.

Consent Calendar

First Day

Bill "An Act Relating to the Inspection and Licensing of Motor Vehicle Racing"

(H. P. 1722) (L. D. 2115) — Committee on Transportation reporting "Ought to pass."

No objection having been noted, were assigned to the Consent Calendar's Second Day list.

Consent Calendar

Second Day

(H. P. 1687) (L. D. 2080) Emergency Bill "An Act to Authorize a Solid Waste Collection and Disposal System in Kennebec County"

On the request of Mr. Carter of Winslow, was removed from the Consent Calendar.

Thereupon, the Report was accepted, the Bill read once and assigned for second reading tomorrow.

(H. P. 1695) (L. D. 2088) Bill "An Act Clarifying Sprinkler System Requirements in Boarding Homes" (C "A" H-643)

(H. P. 1705) (L. D. 2098) Bill "An Act Relating to Safety Glazing"

(H. P. 1771) (L. D. 2243) Bill "An Act Relating to the Regulation and Control of Dogs" (C. "A" H-644)

(H. P. 1747) (L. D. 2206) Bill "An Act to Clarify the Law Relating to Fishery Inspection"

(H. P. 1763) (L. D. 2231) Bill "An Act to Provide Inspection Fees for Certain Herring Products"

No objection having been noted, were passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

Passed to Be Engrossed

Bill "An Act Providing Emergency Funds for Staffing a Fuel Allocation Office Within the Bureau of Civil Defense for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1974" (S. P. 834) (L. D. 2366) Emergency.

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

Second Reader

Later Today Assigned

Bill "An Act Relating to Liability of Natural Gas Distributors" (S. P. 710) (L. D. 2122)

Was reported by the Committee on

Bills in the Second Reading and read the second time.

(On motion of Mrs. Lewis of Auburn, tabled pending passage to be engrossed and later today assigned).

Bill "An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Financial Responsibility Law" (S. P. 747) (L. D. 2159)

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

Second Reader

Later Today Assigned

Bill "An Act Relating to Use of Name of the State by Nonprofit Corporations" (S. P. 803) (L. D. 2297)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading and read the second time.

(On motion of Mr. Emery of Rockland, tabled pending passage to be engrossed and later today assigned.)

Finally Passed

Constitutional Amendment

Resolution Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Eliminate the Three-month Voting Residence Requirement Following a Change of Residence Within the State (S. P. 709) (L. D. 2121) (C. "A" S-310)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed. This being a Constitutional Amendment and a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 127 voted in favor of same and 6 against, and accordingly, the Resolution was finally passed, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act Relating to Number of Directors of Hospital Administrative District No. 4 in Piscataquis, Somerset and Penobscot Counties (H. P. 1735) (L. D. 2181)

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. 129 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 Relating to Property Tax Appeals (H. P. 1797) (L. D. 2277)

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.

Enactor

Tabled and Assigned

An Act to Establish Guidelines for Release of Accused Persons Pending Trial (S. P. 766) (L. D. 2197) (C. "A" S-311).

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Emery.

Mr. EMERY: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I am not entirely sure exactly what this bill accomplishes, but I believe it is a bill that the sheriff of Knox County and one of the bail commissioners pointed out to me which would provide for the release of accused persons on personal recognizance rather than by the system of providing for bail.

I would like to have someone in this body familiar with this bill explain to me exactly what this legislation does accomplish and if, in fact, I am correct.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Emery, poses a question through the Chair to anyone who may answer if he or she wishes.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Simpson of Standish, tabled pending passage to be enacted and tomorrow assigned.

Passed to Be Enacted

An Act Relating to Equitable Relief after Period of Redemption in Real Estate Sales or Liens (S. P. 732) (L. D. 2144)

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

An Act to Authorize County Commissioners of Oxford County to Use 1974 Federal Revenue Sharing Funds to Support Oxford County Extension Service (S. P. 743) (L. D. 2155)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Fryeburg, Mr. Trumbull.

Mr. TRUMBULL: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I guess that ever since I have been up here I have been asking around, what does the Extension Service in Oxford County do? It has taken over a year and a half just to begin to find out what they do do, and based upon what I have found out, I am very disappointed.

They apparently spend, in Oxford County, in excess of \$150,000 a year. And for that, I don't believe they are getting back, the taxpayers in Oxford County are getting back very much. I am wondering if this is true in a small county like Oxford County, is it true all over the state? Just how much does the Extension Service cost and what does it do?

I tried to find out how many people within my district were served by it. I talked with the larger farmers and the small farmers and so forth, and they said, "No, we don't use the Extension Service." I went to the Extension people and I said, "Have the people that are served by this down in my area, you claim that there are five or six hundred, have them contact me." This was several weeks ago, and I have had no one contact me to date at all. I am very very disappointed in the Extension Service, and I again ask, just exactly what does it do? I wish to make no motion on this bill, just leave that question with you all. What does the Extension Service do?

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bridgewater, Mr. Finemore.

Mr. FINEMORE: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: In answer to Mr. Trumbull's question, I am not familiar

with his county, by any means. I am not going to tell you what they do down there because I don't know. I will tell you one thing, they do a swell job up in Aroostook County. We don't give them too much money; the state doesn't give them too much money. Most of this money is given through the University of Maine from federal grants.

There is a small amount of money in Aroostook given by Aroostook County and it is well spent. We have an office in Houlton, an office in Presque Isle and an office in Fort Kent and some contacts in between. We try to hire all State of Maine employees as much as possible. We hire girls to work in 4-H. In our Houlton office we have a lady who works on diets for the elderly people and they are doing a swell job.

Again, I repeat, I do not know anything about Oxford County — I believe that is what it is here — but I will tell you one thing, the Extension does a swell job in Aroostook County and deserves a lot of praise. Every dollar is well spent in Aroostook County by the Extension.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ellsworth, Mr. McNally.

Mr. McNALLY: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I am going to go along the same as Mr. Finemore. I have no idea what they are doing up in Oxford County, but I can tell you that I am very proud of what they do in Hancock County. I think they spend every cent of their money in a very good way. If they had nothing alone but the 4-H people that they promote and do the good with and different things that we have at our fairs, that alone would be worth the Extension Service money.

They ask for only a minimum of what they need to use, and if there is one program that I go for wholeheartedly is the Extension Service.

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

Mr. BRAUN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I attended an Extension meeting the night before last with 4 speakers, 21 women and 6 of us men. This, to me, was one of the nicest meetings. And I think they are doing the most for our state of any group. They are

teaching canning, cleanliness, they are working on the sewer project, everything they can, there are many things they are doing. I should hate to see it go out of my county.

Thereupon, the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Finally Passed

Resolve Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey by Sale the Interest of the State in Certain Land in the Unorganized Territory (H. P. 1717) (L. D. 2110)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, the Resolve finally passed, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

The Chair laid before the House the following matter, which was tabled earlier in the day and later today assigned:

Bill "An Act Relating to Use of Name of the State by Nonprofit Corporations" (S. P. 803) (L. D. 2294)

Mr. Emery of Rockland offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" (H-645) was read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Rockland, Mr. Emery.

Mr. EMERY: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: This is a rather simple amendment to correct an error that we did not correct in Legal Affairs Committee. The Secretary of State's Office has informed us that jurisdiction of change of names of nonprofit organizations has to be approved by the Attorney General's Office, and this amendment will merely correct that oversight on the part of the committee.

Thereupon, House Amendment "A" was adopted.

The Bill was passed to be engrossed as amended in non-concurrence and sent up for concurrence.

Orders of the Day

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

Bill "An Act Creating a Third

Assistant District Attorney for Androscoggin County" (S. P. 760) (L. D. 2191) Emergency

Tabled — January 18, by Mr. Cote of Lewiston

Pending — Passage to be engrossed

Thereupon, the Bill was passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

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

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Exemption Date in the Minimum Lot Size Law" (H. P. 1731) (L. D. 2175)

Tabled — January 21, by Mr. Martin of Eagle Lake

Pending — Motion by Mr. Huber of Falmouth that the House recede and concur

(In the Senate — the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-314) in non-concurrence.

Thereupon, the House voted to recede and concur.

The Chair laid before the House the following matter which was tabled earlier in the day and later today assigned:

Bill "An Act Relating to Liability of Natural Gas Distributors" (S. P. 710) (L. D. 2122)

Mrs. Lewis of Auburn offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" (H-646) was read by the Clerk and adopted.

The Bill was passed to be engrossed as amended in non-concurrence and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Curtis of Orono was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. CURTIS: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: Today, distributed on your desks, or on most of your desks anyway, was a copy of a new newspaper called the ELDERBERRY TIMES. This is published in my area of the world. And it is designed to meet a definite need; and that is a communications vehicle for Senior Citizens and the elderly around the State. The legislative correspondent for

this newspaper is the Honorable Thelma Cornell, who was one of my predecessors as State Representative from Orono. And she and the newspaper would be most interested in any ideas or suggestions that you folks have for articles or press releases or any kind of information of special interest to the elderly citizens of Maine.

I think it is important that we take note of the fact that there are these new means of communication in the State,

and that at a time of the winter when some of us perhaps think things are going a little slowly it is real good to see these new enterprises in the State of Maine.

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(Off Record Remarks)

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On motion of Mr. Birt of East Millinocket,

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.