

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

Thursday, February 21, 1974

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

Prayer by the Rev. Geraldine Brown of South Gardiner.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Orders Out of Order

Mr. Shaw of Chelsea presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, that Michael Carrie of Randolph be appointed Honorary Page for today.

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

Mr. Santoro of Portland presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, that Danny Davis of Cape Elizabeth, Lisa Emerson and Steve Emerson of Westfield be appointed Honorary Pages for today.

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

Mr. Hamblen of Gorham presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, that Bradly Rogers and Raymond Goyet of Westbrook be appointed Honorary Pages for today.

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

Mrs. Morin of Old Orchard Beach presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, that Elaine Charette of West Hartford, Connecticut be appointed Honorary Page for today.

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

Mr. LaCharite of Brunswick presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, that Gregory Howard of Cundy's Harbor be appointed Honorary Page for today.

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

Mr. Jacques of Lewiston presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, that Philip Lavoie and

James Jacques of Lewiston be appointed Honorary Pages for today.

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

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

ORDERED, that Lisa, Donna and David Berry of Hollis be appointed Honorary Pages for today.

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

**Papers from the Senate
Reports of Committees
Ought to Pass in New Draft**

Committee on State Government on Bill "An Act Relating to Citizenship and Residency Requirements for Employment in the State's Classified Service" (S. P. 776) (L. D. 2223) reporting "Ought to pass" in New Draft (S. P. 909) (L. D. 2516) under same title.

Came from the Senate with the Report read and accepted and the New Draft passed to be engrossed.

In the House, the Report was read and accepted in concurrence, the New Draft read once and assigned for second reading the next legislative day.

From the Senate: The following Joint Order: (S. P. 912)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they adjourn until Monday, February 25, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Came from the Senate read and passed.

In the House, the Order was read and passed in concurrence.

Divided Report

Majority Report of the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to Duties of the Attorney General" (S. P. 780) (L. D. 2236) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-352)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. TANOUS of Penobscot
SPEERS of Kennebec
— of the Senate.

Mrs. BAKER of Orrington
WHITE of Guilford
KILROY of Portland
WHEELER of Portland

Messrs. McKERNAN of Bangor
CARRIER of Westbrook
PERKINS of South Portland
GAUTHIER of Sanford

— of the House.

Minority Report of the same Committee on same Bill reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "B" (S-353).

Report was signed by the following member:

Mr. DUNLEAVY of Presque Isle

— of the House.

Came from the Senate with the Majority Report accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-352).

In the House: Reports were read.

On motion of Mr. McKernan of Bangor, the Majority "Ought to pass" Report was accepted in concurrence and the Bill read once.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-352) was read by the Clerk and adopted in concurrence and the Bill assigned for second reading the next legislative day.

House Reports of Committees Leave to Withdraw

Mr. Finemore from Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act Relating to Sales Tax on Machinery and Equipment" (H. P. 1726) (L. D. 2170) reporting Leave to withdraw

Mr. Cooney from Committee on State Government reporting same on Bill "An Act to Register Recreation Professionals" (H. P. 1943) (L. D. 2483)

Reports were read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Ought to Pass Printed Bills

Mr. Brawn from Committee on Legal Affairs on Resolve to Reimburse A. D. Soucy Co. of Fort Kent for Redemption of Cigarette Stamps (H. P. 1922) (L. D. 2460) reporting "Ought to pass"

Same gentleman from same Committee reporting same on Resolve to Reimburse Reid's Confectionery Company of Houlton for Redemption of Cigarette Stamps (H. P. 1923) (L. D. 2461)

Mr. Shaw from same Committee reporting same on Resolve Reimbursing the Town of Wade for Welfare

Expenditures in Behalf of a Nonsettled State Case (H. P. 1932) (L. D. 2465)

Reports were read and accepted, the Resolves read once and assigned for second reading the next legislative day.

Divided Report Tabled and Assigned

Majority Report of the Committee on State Government on Bill "An Act to Increase the Authorized Bonding Indebtedness of the Maine State Housing Authority" (H. P. 1804) (L. D. 2284) reporting "Ought to pass"

Report was signed by the following members:

Mr. CLIFFORD of Androscoggin

— of the Senate

Mrs. GOODWIN of Bath

NAJARIAN of Portland

Messrs. COONEY of Sabattus

BUSTIN of Augusta

CROMMETT of Millinocket

GAHAGAN of Caribou

— of the House.

Minority Report of same Committee on same Bill reporting "Ought not to pass"

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. WYMAN of Washington

SPEERS of Kennebec

— of the Senate.

Messrs. SILVERMAN of Calais

FARNHAM of Hampden

CURTIS of Orono

STILLINGS of Berwick

— of the House.

Reports were read.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Orono, Mr. Curtis.

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

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Orono, Mr. Curtis, moves the acceptance of the Minority "Ought not to pass" Report.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Eagle Lake, Mr. Martin.

Mr. MARTIN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I apologize to the gentleman from Orono, Mr. Curtis, because I didn't get a chance to get to him sooner, but I would like to offer a procedural possibility of solution, if that is possible with this particular issue.

As I understand it, this coming week, either Wednesday or Thursday, the bonds are going to be sold that we presently have been talking about for so long a period of time. It may be wise for us to postpone action in some fashion on this bill until that is done, because certainly if those are not sold to the maximum degree, then there will be absolutely no need for extension at this immediate time, and all of us could save the debate that occurs. If, of course, the opposite should occur and the bonds are all sold, then we would have to persist, at least those of us who are proponents, in pushing for the issue.

It would seem to me an appropriate time, since we do have some time left here, that we table this particular item in order to find out what is going to happen next week from the banking community. And I would hope that procedurally this might offer a workable solution for all of us.

I apologize to a number of people, because I am sure that most people are not aware of what I am saying, and I didn't tell that many people. But it seems to me that this might be a way that we could resolve the issue of whether or not we are even going to have to have debate until next week.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Standish, Mr. Simpson.

Mr. SIMPSON: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would like to ask the gentleman from Eagle Lake, Mr. Martin, just exactly what relevance increasing the bond indebtedness over the present \$40 million we gave them the last time has to do with the proposal that he happens to be supporting, because I personally don't think we should delay it. All we are asking right here is to increase the bond indebtedness. We gave them an increase of \$40 million in the regular session. That is the \$40 million that he has available to him right now to float. I don't see any problem at all with this thing. I think this thing is cut and dried.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Eagle Lake, Mr. Martin.

Mr. MARTIN: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: If I might respond to the question posed by the

gentleman from Standish, Mr. Simpson. As I understand it, the way it will work is this way. We will know next week, this coming week, as to how much of that amount that we allowed last time is in fact going to be taken up by the banks. If all of it is taken up, then I think legitimate views can be brought forth saying that it ought to be extended. If it is not going to, I think that we can conversely say that there is absolutely no problem and that we can wait until the next regular session. That is what I guess I am saying.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Standish, Mr. Simpson.

Mr. SIMPSON: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I think there is a clarification here. First of all, it is not what he has said here, authorization to float \$40 million worth of bonds. If that is sold on the New York Market to the point where he has \$40 million worth of bonds to invest, that is what we told him we wanted him to have, \$40 million. He is asking us now for \$100 million, or an increase of another \$60 million. I say that is just exactly what we are looking at.

What the banks buy or what he buys from the banks has to do with mortgages, not with the flotation of the bond issue. I think the question here is, how much do we want to let him float and how much do we want the State Housing Authority to have within their power?

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Portland, Mrs. Najarian.

Mrs. NAJARIAN: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: The State Housing Authority is scheduled to sign the contract with the underwriters this Wednesday for the \$40 million bond issue. Twenty-five million dollars of that money will go to the banks. Another \$10 million or so is for housing projects which are permitted to be built by the Housing Authority, which means that after Wednesday, \$30 million of that \$40 million will have been committed. The federal housing programs on lease-housing projects, 23 lease-housing programs are coming around. They will need more bonding money for those projects. Their limit is already gone. It

will be by this Wednesday. They have already received \$300,000 from the underwriters as a good-faith payment. So we are just asking for all of you to see in the newspapers and everything that that has happened that this be tabled until later next week.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Orono, Mr. Curtis.

Mr. CURTIS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I think that it would be of the opinion myself and I hope a majority of this body of the legislature that we have done a great deal to try to ease the way for the sale of these bonds that have already been authorized up to the maximum of \$60 million.

The contracts which have been arranged with the banks by the Maine Housing Authority provide that that money must be spent for the purposes intended, or as much of those millions that were intended for purchasing mortgages for low income people, primarily VA and FHA mortgages, within three years. The banks tell us it is going to take a long time to get that much money pumped into the economy of the State of Maine for the purposes of issuing new mortgages. So it seems to me that the intent as expressed by the gentleman from Eagle Lake, Mr. Martin, that we do indeed give the Housing Authority time to work on what it has already been authorized to do, would bring us to the conclusion that the smartest thing for this legislature to do is to accept the minority "ought not to pass" report, defeat this bill now, and then wait until the next regular session of the legislature and see what has happened in these negotiations with the banks and with the bonding authorities.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Eagle Lake, Mr. Martin.

Mr. MARTIN: Mr. Speaker, I move this item lie on the table two legislative days.

Thereupon, Mr. Simpson of Standish requested a vote on the motion.

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Eagle Lake, Mr. Martin, that this matter be tabled for two legislative days. All in favor of that motion will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

A vote of the House was taken.

Thereupon, Mr. Martin of Eagle Lake 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 pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Eagle Lake, Mr. Martin, that this matter be tabled pending the motion of Mr. Curtis of Orono to accept the Minority "Ought not to pass" Report and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 26. All in favor of that motion will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL

YEA — Albert, Berry, P. P.; Berube, Binnette, Boudreau, Bunker, Bustin, Carey, Carrier, Carter, Chonko, Clark, Conley, Connolly, Cooney, Cote, Cottrell, Crommett, Curran, Dam, Deshaies, Dow, Drigotas, Dyar, Emery, D. F.; Faucher, Fecteau, Fraser, Gahagan, Genest, Goodwin, H.; Goodwin, K.; Greenlaw, Hancock, Hobbins, Jacques, Kelleher, Keyte, Kilroy, LaCharite, LaPointe, Lawry, LeBlanc, Lynch, Mahany, Martin, Maxwell, McCormick, McHenry, McTeague, Mills, Morin, L.; Morin, V.; Mulkern, Murray, Najarian, O'Brien, Peterson, Pontbriand, Ricker, Rolde, Santoro, Sheltra, Smith, D. M.; Sproul, Talbot, Tanguay, Theriault, Tierney, Twitchell, Webber, Wheeler, Whitzell.

NAY — Ault, Baker, Birt, Bither, Bragdon, Brawn, Brown, Cameron, Chick, Cressey, Curtis, T. S., Jr.; Davis, Donaghy, Dunn, Evans, Farnham, Farrington, Finemore, Flynn, Garsoe, Gauthier, Good, Hamblen, Haskell, Herrick, Hoffses, Huber, Hunter, Immonen, Jackson, Kauffman, Kelley, Kelley, R. P.; Knight, Lewis, E.; Lewis, J.; Littlefield, MacLeod, Maddox, McKernan, McMahon, McNally, Merrill, Morton, Murchison, Norris, Palmer, Parks, Perkins, Pratt, Rollins, Ross, Shaw, Shute, Silverman, Simpson, L. E.; Snowe, Soulas, Stillings, Susi, Trask, Tyndale, White, Wood, M. E.; The Speaker.

ABSENT -- Berry, G. W.; Briggs, Churchill, Dudley, Dunleavy, Farley, Ferris, Jalbert, Smith, S.; Strout, Trumbull, Walker, Willard.

Yes, 73; No, 65; Absent, 13.

The SPEAKER: Seventy-three having voted in the affirmative and sixty-five in the negative, with thirteen being absent, the motion does prevail.

Consent Calendar

First Day

(S. P. 844) (L. D. 2385) Emergency Bill "An Act Prohibiting Swimming or Bathing in Mt. Zircon Reservoir, Blanchard Reservoir and the Distribution or Pettengill Reservoir all in Rumford, Oxford County" - Committee on Public Utilities reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-354)

(H. P. 1924) (L. D. 2457) Resolve Designating a Certain Man-made Lake in Berwick as "Lake Hatfield" Committee on Legal Affairs reporting "Ought to pass"

(H. P. 1766) (L. D. 2234) Bill "An Act to Provide Financial Assistance to Nonprofit Nursing Homes" - Committee on State Government reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-701)

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

Consent Calendar

Second Day

(S. P. 886) (L. D. 2473) Resolve Authorizing the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services to Convey Certain Easement Rights at Southern Maine Vocational-Technical Institute in South Portland.

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

Second Reader

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act Making Current Service Appropriations from the General Fund and Allocating Money from the Federal Revenue Sharing Fund for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1975" (S. P. 905) (L. D. 2508)

Was reported by the Committee on

Bills in the Second Reading and read the second time.

Mr. Dyar of Strong offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" (H-702) was read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Standish, Mr. Simpson.

Mr. SIMPSON: Mr. Speaker, I would move the indefinite postponement of House Amendment "A".

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Standish, Mr. Simpson, moves the indefinite postponement of House Amendment "A".

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

Mr. DYAR: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: On January 9 of this year, I was one of two people composing a letter to the leadership council where we tried to bring several matters to their attention that pertained to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections, primarily on disregard of legislative intent.

In closing this letter, we felt the closing of the C.P.H. Unit at Pineland was against legislative intent. The closing of the maximum security building, the farm, the greenhouse, The Sanborn place, Gray, the Stone building at Augusta Mental Health Institute, the demolition of the Sanborn building, the Chapel, selected farm buildings at the Augusta Mental Health Institute, the transferring of inmates from Skowhegan to Hallowell, the moving of equipment and fixtures from Skowhegan to Hallowell, the hiring of public relations people at Bangor and Augusta Mental Health Institute, the socialization of programs at the state Institution and the discharge of inmates at the state Institutions to nursing and boarding homes and foster homes was against legislative intent.

Now during the past year, the department has moved furniture and fixtures and inmates from Skowhegan to the Stevens School here in Hallowell. It seems to me it is a flagrant violation when the commissioner of any department and administration will willfully commit these acts. Legislation allowing him to close the Skowhegan

facility last session was killed, and yet he went right ahead, his own wishes, and did as he pleased. This amendment would transfer the funds from the Stevens School to the Women's Correctional Center in Skowhegan.

The people in Hallowell in a special referendum have voted over three to one to move or curtail the operation of the Stevens School in Hallowell. The residents of Skowhegan have no objection to the Skowhegan facility remaining open. As an economy measure, it is very obvious, if you have visited both institutions, that you will see that there is no room for expansion at the Stevens School. We have some 240 acres in Skowhegan which can be available for further expansion if necessary.

Security-wise, there is no security whatsoever at the Stevens School. A girl can leave Stevens School at her will, walk down to the Maine Turnpike, stick up her thumb, and in six or eight hours be in New York or Philadelphia. At the Skowhegan School there is natural security. One side of the institution is bordered by farmland and woods. It would be necessary for a person escaping from Skowhegan to cross at least two bridges. There are many other things that should be considered that I will not discuss today. But I certainly feel it would be feasible for this legislature to say once and for all, the Commissioner and the Department of Mental Health and Corrections, to say no and mean it.

And in my mind, I have been to Skowhegan. I have been to Stevens, our Committee has been to both institutions. We have not taken the red carpet tour. We have not spent the time in the main office drinking coffee with administration. We have been in the buildings and through the buildings, and we know a little bit of what is going on in these institutions. We have talked to the administration of the institution. We have talked to the employees, and we have talked to the inmates. So, hopefully, this afternoon you will go along with House Amendment "A", and put the department in a little bit of order.

Now, if anybody wants to argue that we are wrong, I will be glad to sit down, or go to these institution and point out some of these things. But I think that we

are being faced with a barrage of propaganda from people who wish to continue doing just as they darn please.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Houlton, Mr. Haskell.

Mr. HASKELL: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: The action that the Appropriations Committee has taken with respect to this issue is to try to make a responsible evaluation of existing conditions and to adjust the funding levels accordingly.

We recognize that there is a controversy regarding the Skowhegan/Stevens School site. This controversy has been here for many years. In the last session we made an examination of the alternatives in terms of the potential costs in consolidating the operation at Skowhegan. We started to get into costs that started somewhere around the \$6 million mark and went from there on up, depending on how extensive an establishment you wanted to build. In our view, the cost involved made this an unfeasible alternative. Since that time, the reduction in the number of personnel at the two institutions have been such that the budget that was proposed was totally unrealistic. So, in the Part I budget we have made very substantial cuts amounting to \$764,000 in round figures.

We are taking no position regarding the desirability of one location over the other. We have tried to fund responsibly the situation as it currently exists and to reflect this in a budget that does reflect that responsible position. Now, we are not going to debate the merits of the administrative moves. We simply say that in the judgment of the Appropriations Committee, the current level of funding in this Part I budget is responsible in terms of the current population.

I think all of you are perfectly aware that in addition to the current services budget we are going to have a supplemental budget and alternatives and new directions that may come out of committees. The funding can be reflected in the supplementary budget. But in terms of current operations, this reflects, in our view, a responsible level of funding. And in my view, the

amendment that has been offered should be indefinitely postponed.

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

Mr. DYAR: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I would like to point out one statement the gentleman referred to, for the fact there is money in Part I and there can be money in Part II. There is money for the Stevens School in Part I, but there is no money in Part I for Skowhegan. So if there is no money in the budget for Skowhegan, we have automatically closed that institution. And I am quite sure that the Department, when they made up the budget, it was very clear in their minds by not funding Skowhegan they would accomplish their mission. And thus far the Committee on Appropriations has gone along with the department. They have not funded Skowhegan; they have funded Stevens. So you can talk about Part II budget till the cows come home because there is no money in Part I and you won't find too much money in Part II. Now, these budgets are submitted by the department, and I see no move on the part of the Appropriations Committee or anyone to put money into the Skowhegan budget.

As I say if any of you people in this House haven't been to Skowhegan or haven't been to Stevens, I would urge you to take your own tour of both institutions and make up your own mind which institution is most feasible to go along with and there be an operation in.

As I said before, we are outspacing ourselves at Stevens. We can utilize those buildings down there for many of our state agencies that we are paying lease and rental fees on now all over the city. And you hear a big objection of the cost that is going to take place to renovate Skowhegan to be used as a facility. Well, let me ask any member of the Appropriations Committee how many millions of dollars we dumped into Skowhegan the last ten years. And the conditions at Skowhegan are not the conditions these people will tell you exist.

As I said, our committee has been there; we have been through these buildings. There are no roofs caving in. There are no broken windows. The heating systems are going. In fact, the

last time we were up there, they were painting the interior of the buildings. And this wasn't too long ago. But there is no room for further expansion at Stevens. If you want to go along and keep Stevens going, I am quite sure in another session you will be faced with probably a million dollar appropriations bill to procure more land down there. You also have a bill in this session allowing the State to sell the land at Skowhegan.

Now, there are two ways to go here which the department has done very good on. They did not appropriate money for Skowhegan, and they put the land in Skowhegan up for sale. There's two segments of that bill; one is for land; the second segment is for 30 acres and the building. So the department is already asking permission of this legislature to sell the land and buildings at Skowhegan.

As I said before, our committee has been there; we've been through it. I think anybody on the committee will tell you that we all feel that Skowhegan is the place that we should be working. If you talk to the people in administration who are connected with Skowhegan and Stevens, if the Commissioner isn't around to harass them, they will tell you as individuals that they favor Skowhegan over Stevens. But you get them together with the Commissioner and they knuckle under and they won't commit themselves. But time and time again, the administration of Stevens School and Skowhegan has told our Committee they favor the move to Skowhegan.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Skowhegan, Mr. Dam.

Mr. DAM: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: On the 20th of February on your desks there was distributed a letter saying it was distributed by me. The Mayor of Hallowell called me and he read the letter to me over the phone and asked me if I was in agreement with having this letter distributed. I said I was. And if you did not read this letter it says:

"We, the undersigned Mayor, Chairman of the Republican City Committee, and the Chairman of the Democratic City Committee, of the City of Hallowell, wish to go on record as to be

in complete and total opposition to that section of LD2508 dealing with the Department of Mental Health and Correction which would appropriate no money to the Women's Correctional Center of Skowhegan and thereby necessitate the moving of the inmates of the Women's Correctional Center in Skowhegan to Hallowell.

"We oppose that section of LD2508 for the following reasons:

"1. On November 7, 1972, in the Presidential election in which 82% of the voters of Hallowell turned out to vote, the citizens of Hallowell went on record by nearly a 2 to 1 margin as being opposed to moving the inmates in Skowhegan to Hallowell.

"2. On July 10, 1972, the Mayor and City Council of Hallowell went on record by a 7 to 1 margin as being unalterably opposed to moving the inmates in Skowhegan to Hallowell. This stand was reaffirmed on February 2, 1973.

"3. Currently, the State is spending \$300,000 each year to rent office space in the Augusta area. The use of Stevens Training Center with its 12 buildings and 95 acres of land to relieve the office space crunch now existing in the capitol complex could result in tremendous savings. Not only could the \$300,000 annual expenditure be materially reduced, but the saving of millions of dollars would result in the elimination of the need to purchase land and build new office buildings in the capitol area.

"4. The proposed moving of the women to Hallowell is but the first phase in a plan which would result in the moving of young male offenders to Stevens and the establishment of a coed correctional institution.

"5. The public defiance of the will of the people of Hallowell by the officials of the Department of Mental Health Corrections thru their repeated attempts to force this move upon Hallowell has created a situation whereby the citizens are rapidly losing all faith and trust in their State government.

"Therefore, we appeal to you, the members of the Legislature of Maine, who are elected to represent the will of the people to support us by amending LD2508."

This was signed by Roland Marquis, Chairman of the Democratic City

Committee, and Robert G. Stubbs, Mayor of Hallowell, the Chairman of the Republican City Committee.

While I live in Skowhegan, I would not stand here and pretend to be as well versed on the operation of the facility as Mr. Dyar is, because he is on the committee that studies the facilities throughout the state.

I would say, however, that some of the costs that have been presented in their testimony, in their figures and their savings that could result are not true figures, because sometimes, and in many cases, the costs of certain operations in Hallowell have been charged against the Skowhegan facility.

There has been suggestions for savings and for reducing the per capita cost of operations, but these have gone unheeded by the Department of Mental Health and Corrections.

So today it would be a bad move, in my opinion, to indefinitely postpone the amendment of Mr. Dyar, because I think we should have the money to at least keep it operating so that a study could be even further made. This is not the first attempt that the Department of Mental Health and Corrections has made to close the Skowhegan facility.

I came here in the 104th, and again in the 105th, and now the 106th, and each time it has appeared. But I can recall back in the 104th when we closed the Fairfield Sanatorium and the state sold the land. It has been a few years since the 104th, and I have been to many of the state agencies, including the Governor's Council, and tried to get an exact figure of what was paid for that land, and how much did it cost the state to sell the land. And when I say how much did it cost the state to sell the land, and again this is only from what I have gathered from outside sources, that the land was sold but the people buying the land couldn't meet the commitment so the state, that first year, paid roughly \$1,000 a week to maintain the facility while it was being purchased by a private interest.

I ask you today, what private interest wants to buy the facility in Skowhegan? Why is this being pushed so to move to Hallowell when there are no savings in Hallowell by this movement? There would be no savings to the state.

I have been through the buildings in

Skowhegan, the most recent was last September. As Mr. Dyar has stated, they are not in the condition that you members would be led to believe; the buildings are in pretty good shape. And I can stand on this floor today and make a statement which can be backed up by anyone by searching through the records of the Department of Education or the Department of Public Safety, and you will find that we have more public schools in the State of Maine that are unsafe and in worse condition than the Skowhegan facility will ever be but we do nothing about that. But we are worried now, seems as though some people are, about the deteriorating effects of the facility at Skowhegan.

It is true that in the past years there has not been too much money dumped in as far as repairs, but the buildings have been maintained. I feel that we have a very conscientious work force at Skowhegan. It is too bad that the work force at Skowhegan can't do more, but because they are governed by the Department of Mental Health and Corrections, they must abide by their regulations. They cannot do all the work that they could do, because they are told not to. It is too bad in a state such as the State of Maine when we run institutions such as I am speaking of now, where the inmates — I said this back in the regular session — are not allowed to even do their personal laundry, but the state must hire someone to do their personal laundry and make their beds and clean their rooms. This is being done at Skowhegan and at Stevens.

We have come to the stage where maybe we would be better off if we were to let the Department of Mental Health and Corrections have their way, they would be better off if we all went into an institution and lived the life of Riley, and lived off the taxpayer's back.

But the Department of Mental Health and Corrections has never been honest in any of their statements they have made. They have intimidated their employees from coming to testify as they would like to testify. To me this is not the way the people of the State of Maine think the State of Maine is or should be. So today I do rise in support of the motion of the amendment that was offered by the gentleman from Strong, Mr. Dyar, and I

oppose the motion of indefinite postponement.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Soulas.

Mr. SOULAS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: The State of Maine has had national recognition for many years for its Half-Way House programs.

Today I would like to ask a question to anyone who would care to answer it. My question is, in L.D. 2508, Part I of the Appropriations Bill, that no funding was allowed for the continuation of the Half-Way House programs. Is this program going to be continued, and when and how will it be funded?

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

Mr. TALBOT: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I truly agree with the gentleman from Strong, Mr. Dyar, that each of us should go to these facilities and at least look around for our own education. Two weeks ago I did that. I went to the school here in Hallowell, unannounced one Monday morning, and spent the whole day just touring the facilities, talking to the administration, and talking to some of the girls. I had a nice lunch, and I was quite impressed to a certain point. I also talked to the Mayor of Hallowell, Mr. Stubbs, even earlier than that, and I got a different picture.

As I understand it, some of the girls, some of the women from Skowhegan have already started moving down to the facility in Hallowell and the rap that I had there, the administration or the people that I talked to weren't against that move. In fact, the impression I got was that they were in favor of that move.

I would like to talk just a little bit about expansion. I would like to pose a question to anybody that may answer it. Is it true or is it not true that the Mayor of the City of Hallowell owns property adjacent to the Stevens School in Hallowell?

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

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Brewer Mr. Norris.

Mr. NORRIS: Mr. Speaker and

Members of the House: I will try to answer the gentleman from Bangor's question, Mr. Soulas, pertaining to the Half-Way House program. My understanding isn't and the committees understanding, Appropriations Committee, that we are going to take the Half-Way House program up as a separate item in the supplemental budget, but at Skowhegan today-today we just checked, I just spent several hours with Representative Bragdon, and Senator Morrell about three weeks ago down at Stevens and the Commissioner was not there, and talked to the people that worked in both places. And at that time, there was no one in the Half-Way House at Skowhegan. Today there are four people at the Half-Way House in Skowhegan in the Half-Way House program. Now I am talking about the women's correctional facility there we are talking about the Half-Way House program. There are two people or there were two people in the Half-Way House program in Augusta. There were two people the night I was down, and I presume that they are still there and they would of course come out of the population of the 27 juveniles. There are ten adults in the work-study program at Stevens from Skowhegan, and that of course leaves 11 adult inmates at the Skowhegan facility. I hope that answers the gentleman's from Bangor question.

As to the question of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Talbot, I don't know, I haven't been to the registry and I haven't checked. I have heard all sorts of hearsay, but I would refrain from saying without actually knowing as to who owns land adjacent to the school down there.

The SPEAKER: Does that answer the gentleman's from Portland question?

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Talbot.

Mr. TALBOT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: No, it doesn't. I think the question of expansion should be answered by somebody, because if that is true, then I would definitely vote for indefinite postponement of this measure. But I think if we are talking about expansion, then I think it definitely should be known to this body at least, who are voting on this particular question, who owns the adjacent

property to this. If it is the Mayor, then I think it should be carefully looked into. If it isn't, then I think another question may arise.

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

Mr. DYAR: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I would like to attempt to answer the question raised by Mr. Talbot and Mr. Soulas. It is hearsay that the gentleman from Hallowell does own adjacent land and I hope the State of Maine never gets to the point where we have to expand Stevens and purchase this land. I would much rather see some free enterprise development system do it rather than the State of Maine.

Now in regards to the Half-Way House program which the department capitalized on at Skowhegan, it didn't work out too good. They took a group of 14 and 15-year-old boys from the Boy's Training Center in Portland and brought them up to Skowhegan and put them into a Half-Way program with a group of 15 and 16 year old girls, 14, 15, and 16-years old-girls in Skowhegan, some of whom had been transferred, I believe, up from Stevens. Well, as nature goes, the 15 and 16-year-old girls did not see too much in the 14 and 15-year-old boys. They spent their night life in Skowhegan being entertained and accompanied by males 20 years old and older, and the poor 14 and 15-year-old boys were left out in the cold. They did not have any feminine companionship they could enjoy, so the entire program went down the drain. I don't know what the department would tell you the reason that they had to terminate that program was, but this is the reason they did terminate it.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from West Gardiner, Mr. Dow.

Mr. DOW: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: To try to answer Mr. Talbot's question on the ownership of the land; I represent the town of Hallowell and the three towns surrounding it, West Gardiner, Litchfield, and Manchester. And it is with a little bit of difficulty that I stand here because Hallowell has voted, as they had said, about 82 percent not to have the facility for sale. I think that vote needs a little explanation, in the respect there was a lot of fear-type

advertising and that sort of thing just for the vote. Then there was a lot of meetings after the vote which would be better to have it there cost-wise and that sort of thing. And I think the spread is a little different than it was at the time that vote was taken. There is no way that I can prove it.

To answer the question about the land, yes, Pleasant Street takes off from Winthrop Street. And the Mayor of Hallowell, Mr. Stubbs, does own some land on Pleasant Street that is bordering on that facility. He owned the land a long time. I really don't think it makes a particle of difference in his vote whether the land was there or whether his house was a mile down the road. He has been against the facility being there for quite some time, and they wouldn't make a particle of difference. If that answers some of the questions.

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

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: The committee of which Mr. Dyar is House Chairman seems to have a continuing debate with the administration of the department.

Now this goes over into other areas, I am sure, but let's take this one, for example. Does the Appropriations Committee accept the one-sided presentation from the department with respect to its expenditures? Is there any input from the Legislative Committee charged with the duties of studying these institutions? Is the Appropriations Table in effect, in a dollars and cents figure, only setting policies that the Legislative Committee is not in agreement with? Is the Appropriations Committee taking into effect the long-range aspects of a dollars and cents appropriation at the present time? There are a great many issues in this thing that I think boil down to more than just the simple argument that Mr. Dyar has with the Department.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Brewer, Mr. Norris.

Mr. NORRIS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I can now answer the question for the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Talbot. I just conferred with Mr. Stubbs, and Mr. Stubbs does, in fact, own land contiguous to the school at Hallowell.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Houlton, Mr. Haskell.

Mr. HASKELL: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I will try to respond to the points raised by Mr. Lynch. We have tried to fund this as responsibly as we know how in relation to the current populations at the two institutions. At Skowhegan, currently, we are concerned with 11 inmates. We have cut positions at Skowhegan. And naturally, if what eventuates out of this is transfer of all the inmates at Skowhegan to Stevens, we are going to have to provide caretaker service for the buildings in Skowhegan. We have tried not to involve ourselves in the policy determinations. I think that the decision to move inmates has been made on the basis of the facilities available in the two locations. There are facilities available at Stevens that are needed in the correctional effort. I think that is the reason that the transfer has been made in to the Stevens School because, on balance, the facility more nearly meets the needs.

In terms of whether in the long run we are going to be faced with expansion, I think the thrust of both mental health and corrections is in terms of trying to develop as rapidly as possible community-based services in both of these areas. I think as we do develop community-base services in terms of Half-Way House, mental health clinics on a community basis that you are going to see a continuing reduction in the population levels at our institutions. My own personal view is that we are not going to see any substantial increase in the institutional population of any of our institutions in the state. I think you are going to see a gradual decline.

It seems to me that we are here faced with an amendment that among other things has made no attempt at all to grapple with the costs involved if we do in fact substitute Skowhegan for the Stevens School. There would, on the face of it, be a necessity to adapt the buildings at Skowhegan to meet the needs of the total population in the correctional institutions. Some of the facilities that are needed, in my view, would not be available at Skowhegan unless there was substantial

remodeling. We did explore this as responsibly as we could with the Bureau of Public Improvements last winter. The first figures that we got as a starting point to revamp the Skowhegan facility to make it a consolidated location started at somewhere around the six or seven million dollar mark. So if, in fact, you do accept the amendment, I think you should understand that you are voting then in favor of a remodeling program, the cost of which starts somewhere in the area that I have discussed.

I think we should recognize the situation as it exists now, that we should fund it responsibly in terms of personnel and other costs in terms of the current situation. We recognized there is a continuing controversy over this, and we deplore it. We wish there was a unanimity of opinion and we wouldn't, in each session, have to go through this protracted debate on Stevens and Skowhegan.

But in effect what I am telling you is, we have tried to responsibly evaluate the existing situation, to fund it at adequate levels, and the amendment that is offered to you does not look to the funding in any manner. There is no assessment of the remodeling needs that would be necessary at Skowhegan, and the amendment, in my view, is irresponsible and should be indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bristol, Mr. Lewis.

Mr. LEWIS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I rise in support of Representative Dyar's remarks, also the remarks made by Representative Dam.

I, as a member of the Health and Institutions Committee, have visited both institutions. In fact, I think I have been to each institution possibly on two occasions. It seems quite apparent to me that the institution at Hallowell could very well be used for office space that we are presently paying for here in the shopping areas of Augusta.

In reply to the gentleman's remarks regarding Mr. Dyar's Committee — he referred to it as Mr. Dyar's Committee — I would assume he was referring to Health and Institutions, and I believe he intimated that it was possible that the

Committee had a continual feud going with the department. I don't think that condition exists, but I do feel that the majority of the committee has been upset because of the high-handed action that the Department has taken in the past.

I would hope that the House would uphold Mr. Dyar's amendment.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Berwick, Mr. Goodwin.

Mr. GOODWIN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I hesitate to speak on this issue. However, there have been some charges thrown around by the Representative from Strong, Mr. Dyar. I am not going to answer these charges specifically today, since I do not feel they are germane to this amendment and the question we are talking about.

However, as a member of the Health and Institutional Services Committee, I am preparing a reply to some of the charges that Mr. Dyar and Mr. Hichens have made in regards to the Department of Mental Health and Corrections.

I do feel this amendment is wrong, that the facilities and the staff at Skowhegan are not adequate to run a rehabilitation program for the inmates. And this is the reason that the present inmates that were at Skowhegan have been transferred to Stevens. And this is the basic reason that the department would like to see the rest of the program that is presently at Skowhegan run at Stevens, because the facilities and staff are there to run the rehab' program, they are not there at Skowhegan, and it would cost a considerable amount of money to put them there.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Sproul.

Mr. SPROUL: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I would like to comment on the remarks of the gentleman from Houlton, Mr. Haskell. I believe his figures were correct on original cost estimates. But I believe at the time we were studying we were thinking in terms of 100 to 125 people. There were nearly that in the institutions that time, and they had risen slightly that month. Today we have a total in both institutions of some 42 or 43 people.

I believe the facilities are reasonably adequate at either institution, other than the, I guess maximum security, or whatever we need here for 11 or 12 of these women that are still at Skowhegan. Last year, if you recall, there was a request for half a million dollars to build such a facility at Hallowell. I am delighted that I was one of those who helped to defer that, because I notice this year the request is \$150,000. So at least we saved \$350,000.

I believe, basically, this is what we are talking about at either location, would be a modern facility for those people under confinement other than the students and those that do not need much security. I don't believe a figure is known, and I think it would be reasonably close at either location.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Whitzell.

Mr. WHITZELL: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: As a member of the Health and Institutional Committee, one of the debates that occurred on this floor, and maybe if it isn't any more germane than some of the remarks that were already made by the gentleman from Strong, was the cost of the program.

If you remember, when we were discussing the juvenile bill, we did discuss that the cost per student or per inmate, if you want to call them that, at Stevens School, since there are only 15 there and 106 staff members, this is somewhere around the neighborhood of \$78,000 a year. I think that is the real problem. The other solution to that would be to better utilize some of the personnel that are there. They have workshops there to train people in specific jobs, such as beauticians, stitching in the shoe industry and what not, and the programs at Stevens are of a higher quality than they are anywhere at any of the other institutions. To have these programs available for only 15 people is almost a crime, and it would seem the better utility of that facility could be obtained by taking those people who are not dangerous, housing them there and providing them with the same rehabilitative opportunities that the girls at Stevens now enjoy.

I would ask you to vote on the merits of

the bill and certainly not on some of the other subterfuge that has been brought into this discussion.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Skowhegan, Mr. Dam.

Mr. DAM: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would like to direct these remarks to the gentleman from Gardiner, Mr. Whitzell. There is one thing that stirs me up, one part of the training program that he said is going on at Stevens. When somebody makes a statement like this, it always stirs me up because they tried to do this in the vocational school at Skowhegan, our public system, back seven years ago, and that is training people for the shoe industry.

We have heard environmental bills that we want good industry in the State of Maine and we want clean industry. I can assure you that shoes I do know a little something about. My mother spent 52 years in the shoe shop. The only thing about the shoe shops in the State of Maine is that they employ people; that is all. And if it were not for the legislature to come down here and raise the minimum wage, they would be working for a dollar an hour or less like the Farah slack people are in Texas.

We don't need any more training at state institutions for people to work for the minimum wage. This is not training them to stay in the State of Maine and become respectable citizens and decent people. If we are going to train people in our state institutions, let's give them training adequate so they can go out and work for a living wage and not work for the bare minimum and go back on relief.

I don't think this is a good training program, if Stevens is running it, and I hate to have anybody refer to training shoe workers at state institutions because shoe workers are among the lowest paid workers in the State of Maine. They are not organized, and because the management has so much money available and so many resources and expertise at his command, he can bring in high paid, out-of-state lawyers and other people to intimidate the workers to vote against collective bargaining. If we had collective bargaining in the state for shoe workers, then I would go along with saying that

we should train them. But when we are training people to work for the bare minimum and without the legislature here to raise the minimum, then I don't think that is a very good training program either.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Berwick, Mr. Goodwin.

Mr. GOODWIN: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: First of all, I would like to make one statement. When I visited the Skowhegan Center there, the only work training program I saw was making shoes. So evidently that is all they have got at Skowhegan.

I would like to ask a question, perhaps of Mr. Dyar or somebody on the Appropriations Committee. As I look at this amendment, what this amendment would do would in effect close Stevens and keep Skowhegan. This amendment would not provide for both institutions. It would close Stevens in Hallowell.

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

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

Mr. DYAR: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I think that should be fairly obvious. I don't know whether the department has authorized their full consideration of this or not. Possibly we should table this for one day so that certain individuals could go over to the fourth floor of the next building and check out what is going on.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Standish, Mr. Simpson.

Mr. SIMPSON: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I think we have discussed a philosophy here this morning maybe rather than an appropriations bill. I suppose actually that the action within the appropriations bill is going to have a very determined effect on whether we keep one institution open or the other one. I don't think there is any doubt in our mind that we can read and we can see that this amendment does nothing but just change the words from one institution to the other.

If you will look at the original bill as it came out, I think you will find that

somewhere in the neighborhood of 128 employees we were talking about a \$1.38 million issue, which now is down somewhere around 87 employees, a reduction of some 41 people. When we take a look at what we were going to spend at the correctional institution for women in Skowhegan, the total for 11 people, I can't see how we can stand here as responsible legislators and say that we should spend that kind of money when consolidation would be in the best effort.

We had a cost management study. It tried to show us where we could save some money. I think we have got an indication right here where we can really save some money on our own. Whether we do it in one place or the other I guess is what we are going to debate. But if the amendment should happen to pass, my question is, does the amount of money then that the Appropriations Committee considered for Stevens then become the same amount of money that would be necessary for Skowhegan, or should this amendment then carry some differences in appropriations?

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

Mr. McNALLY: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I wish this bill could be tabled until the first of the week. As a contractor since 1930, I am a little bit amazed at something. If they have from the BPI \$6 million to renovate Skowhegan — and I personally am quite interested in Skowhegan, being born about 10 miles from there — I would like to have a chance to investigate it just a little bit.

I would call your attention to one little fact. They are going to build an office building down there that will take the entire Transportation Department and the Motor Vehicle Division, and the cost of that is \$6.3 million. You are going to have a large sized garage to take the bulk of all these cars that are parked around this State House over here around the corner where they moved out the Central Beauty School. And that only costs \$1,300,000, and I can't imagine what they are going to do for \$6 million up to Skowhegan. I wish somebody would table this so I could get a chance to review it a little bit with BPI.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Eagle Lake, Mr. Martin.

Mr. MARTIN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would pose a procedural matter again. As you may or may not have seen, the gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Sproul, has prepared an amendment for the current services act, and his amendment reads, "House Amendment 'A' to Senate Paper 800, L.D. 2289," which was the original document that is no longer before us and is not in a position to be offered as an amendment to this bill. If he still intends to offer this amendment, we are in fact going to have to table the appropriations act anyway. It may well be that we ought to table it at this point before we finally dispose of this amendment at this time.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Sproul of Augusta, tabled pending the motion of Mr. Simpson of Standish that House Amendment "A" be indefinitely postponed, and specially assigned for Monday, February 25.

Passed to Be Engrossed

Bill "An Act Relating to Fees Administered by the Department of Environmental Protection" (H. P. 1862) (L. D. 2356) (H. "A" H-697)

Bill "An Act Establishing a State Register of Critical Areas" (H. P. 1977) (L. D. 2518)

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

Bill "An Act to Correct an Error in the Effective Date of the Law Exempting "Trade-in" Property from the Stock in Trade Tax" (H. P. 1718) (L. D. 2111) (C. "A" H-695)

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

On motion of Mrs. Lewis of Auburn, the House reconsidered its action of yesterday whereby Committee Amendment "A" was adopted.

The same gentlewoman then offered House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-699).

House Amendment "A" to Committee

Amendment "A" (H-699) was read by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Brunswick, Mr. McTeague.

Mr. McTEAGUE: Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Chair if there has been compliance with Joint Rule 12.

The SPEAKER: The Chair understands the gentleman questions whether House Amendment "A" may be offered.

Mr. McTEAGUE: Mr. Speaker, may I ask if there is a price tag printed on House Amendment "A"?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would answer in the negative.

Mr. McTEAGUE: In conformity with Joint Rule 12, I would move that the bill and the amendment be recommitted to the Committee on Taxation.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Brunswick, Mr. McTeague, moves that this Bill and all accompanying papers be recommitted to the Committee on Taxation.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Waterville, Mr. Carey.

Mr. CAREY: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: The gentleman may withdraw his motion when he finds that the money which is to pay for this bill is in the original document that was presented and passed at the last session.

Thereupon, Mr. McTeague withdrew his motion to recommit to the Committee on Taxation.

Thereupon, House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" was adopted. Committee Amendment "A" as amended by House Amendment "A" thereto was adopted.

The Bill was passed to be engrossed as amended and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day

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

Bill "An Act to Repeal Reference in Law that University of Maine Officers and Employees are Unclassified Employees of State of Maine" (H. P. 1775) (L. D. 2247) (C. "A" H-676)

Tabled — February 19, by Mr. Bragdon of Perham

Pending — Passage to be enacted.

Thereupon, the Bill was passed to be

enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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

Bill "An Act Relating to Transporting Children to Other than Public Schools" (S. P. 880) (L. D. 2466)

Tabled — February 19, by Mr. Murray of Bangor.

Pending — Passage to be engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cumberland, Mr. Garsoe.

Mr. GARSOE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: This was tabled the other day after I raised a question on Joint Rule 12, feeling that there should be a fiscal note attached to

this piece of legislation. I know I haven't been here long enough to understand how this body works, but there seems to be some divergence of opinion as to whether there should, in fact, be a fiscal note. However, I have been told by Legislative Finance that this bill will go to the Legislative Appropriations Table where it will remain, because it will call for an appropriation in fiscal '76. So I say, just let it go along.

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

(Off Record Remarks)

On motion of Mr. Birt of East Millinocket,

Adjourned until Monday, February 25, at four o'clock in the afternoon.