

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Seventh
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1975

KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Tuesday, January 14, 1975

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

Prayer by Rev. Charles D. Kinney of Waldoboro.

The members stood at attention during the singing of the National Anthem by Representative Gauthier of Sanford.

The journal of the previous session was read and approved.

The SPEAKER: The Chair wishes to announce the presence in the hall of the House of Representative-elect Fenlason from Danforth. The Chair would ask the gentleman from Nobleboro, Mr. Palmer, and the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. McKernan, to escort him to the Executive Council Chamber where the Governor will enable him to receive and subscribe the oath necessary to qualify him to enter upon his official duties.

Subsequently Mr. Palmer reported that the necessary oath had been taken by the Representative to qualify him to enter upon his official duties.

Whereupon, Mr. Fenlason of Danforth was assigned to seat number 95, and appointed to the Joint Standing Committee on Education.

The SPEAKER: The Chair at this time would like to announce the rescinding of the appointment of the gentlewoman from Portland, Mrs. Najarian, to the Joint Standing Committee on Performance Audit and announce the appointment of the gentleman from Portland, Mr. LaPointe, to that Committee.

**Papers from the Senate
Non-Concurrent Matter
Tabled and Assigned**

Bill "An Act to Provide Accessible Polling Places for the Physically Handicapped and the Elderly" (H. P. 96) (L. D. 107) which was referred to the Committee on Human Resources in the House on January 8.

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Election Laws in non-concurrence.

In the House: On motion of Mrs. Najarian of Portland, tabled pending further consideration and tomorrow assigned.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act Converting Mount Chase Plantation into the Town of Mount Chase" (H. P. 59) (L. D. 71) which was referred to the Committee on Local and County Government in the House on January 7.

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs in non-concurrence.

In the House:

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

Mr. DAM: Mr. Speaker, I move that we insist and would speak briefly to my motion.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Skowhegan, Mr. Dam, moves that the House insist.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. DAM: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: This morning I spoke to the Chairman of the Legal Affairs Committee in the other body and I explained to him what was trying to be done. He agrees with me now on this. So if we insist, they will be in concurrence then.

Thereupon, the House voted to insist.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Provide Funds for an Additional Assistant District Attorney in Prosecutorial District 6" (H. P. 76) (L. D. 88) which was referred to the Committee on State Government in the House on January 7.

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs in non-concurrence.

In the House: On motion of Mr. Cooney of Sabattus, the House voted to recede and concur.

Bills from the Senate requiring reference were disposed of in concurrence, with the following exception:

Bill "An Act Prohibiting the Use of Motor Boats Powered by Internal Combustion Engines on Nokomis Pond" (S. P. 55) (L. D. 136)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Public Utilities.

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

Mr. MILLS: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: All of these type of bills have been handled by Fish and Game. I therefore suggest it be assigned to that Committee.

On motion of Mr. Rolde of York, tabled pending the motion of Mr. Mills of Eastport to refer to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife in non-concurrence and tomorrow assigned.

**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:

**Appropriations and Financial
Affairs**

Bill "An Act Relating to Grants-in-aid for Construction and Maintenance of Public Facilities for Boats" (H. P. 145) (Presented by Mr. Hennessey of West Bath)

Bill "An Act Increasing State, Maine Maritime Academy and Classified University of Maine Employees' Pay" (H. P. 142) Emergency (Presented by Mr. Bustin of Augusta)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Business Legislation

Bill "An Act Relating to Suspension of Sale of Certain Bedding and Upholstered Furniture" (H. P. 143) (Presented by Mr. Flanagan of Portland)
(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Fisheries and Wildlife

Bill "An Act to Increase the Fee for Nonresident Big Game Hunting Licenses" (H. P. 147) (Presented by Mr. Usher of Westbrook)
(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Health and Institutional Services

Bill "An Act to Require the Licensing of Alcoholic Treatment Facilities" (H. P. 141) (Presented by Mrs. Snowe of Auburn)

Bill "An Act to Permit the Advertising of Prescription Prices" (H. P. 149) (Presented by Mr. Cox of Brewer)
(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Provide for the Receipt and Custody of Prisoners of the United

States" (H. P. 150) (Presented by Mr. Gould of Old Town) (Cosponsor: Mr. Binnette of Old Town)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Labor

Bill "An Act Eliminating the Waiting Period under the Employment Security Law" (H. P. 137) (Presented by Mr. Laffin of Westbrook) (Cosponsor: Mr. Dyer of South Portland)

Bill "An Act Eliminating the Waiting Period under the Employment Security Law" (H. P. 139) (Presented by Mr. Kelleher of Bangor) Emergency

Bill "An Act Relating to Executive Exemption under the Minimum Wage Law" (H. P. 140) (Presented by Mr. Wilfong of Stow)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Minimum Wage to \$2.50 An Hour" (H. P. 148) (Presented by the same gentleman)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act Relating to Operation of Motorcycles or Motor Driven Cycles over the Land of Another" (H. P. 146)

(Presented by Mr. Littlefield of Hermon)
(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Liquor Control

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Power of County Commissioners to Authorize the Sale of Malt Liquor and Table Wine for Off-premise Consumption on Sundays in Unincorporated Communities" (H. P. 144) (Presented by Mr. Mills of Eastport)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Public Utilities

Bill "An Act to Amend the Charter of the Ogunquit Sewer District" (H. P. 138) (Presented by Mr. Mackel of Wells)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Orders

Tabled and Assigned

Mr. Snow of Falmouth presented the following Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, that in the interest of the health, comfort and safety of those in this chamber and to set an example for the youth of this State who frequent our gallery, the Members of the House of Representatives shall not smoke when the House is in session.

The Order was read.

On motion of Mr. Snow of Falmouth, tabled pending passage and specially assigned for Thursday, January 16.

Mr. Connolly of Portland presented the following Joint Resolution, approved for introduction by a majority of the Committee on Reference of Bills, and moved its adoption:

WE, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Maine in the One Hundred and Seventh Legislative Session assembled, most respectfully present and petition the President, the United States Department of Agriculture and the Maine Congressional Delegation, as follows:

WHEREAS, the administration in Washington through the Department of Agriculture has proposed Regulation Amendment Notice FSD No. 1975-1.2 to take effect March 1, 1975; and

WHEREAS, this amendment will result

in a significant change in the Federal Food Stamp Program by requiring all eligible recipients to pay a flat 30 per cent of their net incomes in order to purchase food stamps; and

WHEREAS, such a change will force almost 95 percent of all food stamp recipients to pay more for the same amount of stamps; and

WHEREAS, those people most adversely affected will be families with net monthly incomes of less than \$100 and elderly households of one or two people, particularly recipients of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Program; and

WHEREAS, all single person households with net incomes above \$154 will be effectively eliminated from the Food Stamp Program; and

WHEREAS, some persons living below the poverty level will be denied food stamps; and

WHEREAS, this amendment will reduce the current Food Stamp Program by \$325,000,000; and

WHEREAS, unemployment, which rises fastest for those with the lowest incomes, is now 8 percent in Maine and is projected to rise to 9.5-10 percent in the coming months; and

WHEREAS, given Maine's depressed economic condition, 20 percent of the State's population is eligible for food stamps and it is projected that 25 percent of Maine's population will be eligible by the end of 1975; and

WHEREAS, food prices are expected to rise by another 15-20 percent in 1975, thereby further devaluing food stamps; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government and the Ford administration should be employing the Food Stamp Program as a cushion for financially depressed Americans; and

WHEREAS, the increasing desperate economic conditions of our country do not justify making low income and unemployed people sacrifice beyond their abilities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That we, your Memorialists, respectfully oppose the implementation of Regulation Amendment Notice FSP No. 1975-1.2 and firmly recommend and urge the U.S. Department of Agriculture to reconsider its proposed action and withdraw the amendment prior to its effective date of March 1, 1975; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this Resolution be transmitted immediately to the Honorable Gerald Ford, President of the United States, to Earl Butz, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, to P. Royal Shipp, Food Stamp Division, Food and Nutrition Services, USDA, Washington, D.C. and to all Members of the Maine Congressional Delegation; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this Resolution, urging similar action, be transmitted to the other 49 state legislatures in the United States. (H. P. 151)

The Joint Resolution was read.

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

Mr. CONNOLLY: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would like to take this opportunity to explain the Resolution that you have before you.

If present plans hold true, it is the intention of the federal government on March 1 to implement an amendment to existing food stamp regulations that would

require all eligible recipients to pay a flat 30 percent of their net income to purchase food stamps. Currently, there is a sliding scale that exists that eligible recipients pay between 3 and 30 percent, depending on a series of circumstances and based on a formula developed by the federal government.

The immediate principal effects of this amendment, should it go into effect, would be three. First, it would reduce the amount of money that is currently being spent on food stamps by some \$325 million. Secondly, it would force many people who are now eligible for food stamps to be eliminated from the rolls. The third result would be that 95 percent of those people who would remain eligible would have to pay more money for the same amount of food stamps.

If we adopt this resolution, and if the other body follows us, we will be requesting the federal government to withdraw that regulation and continue the food stamp program at at least its present level. If the food stamp regulation is amended, the most severely affected people would be the elderly and those people with net incomes under \$100 a month. To give you an example, an elderly person now with a net income of \$146 a month pays \$30 for \$46 worth of food stamps. Under the new regulation, that same person with the same net income would pay \$43 a month for the same \$46 worth of food stamps.

It has been estimated by the Department of Health and Welfare that there are over 200,000 people in the State of Maine who are now eligible for food stamps. The unemployment rate in Maine is now just slightly above 8 percent, and it is expected to rise between 9½ and 10 percent in the next few months. If that happens, it is projected by Health and Welfare that over 250,000 people in the State of Maine, or more than 25 percent of the population of the State of Maine, will be eligible for food stamps. It seems to me that now isn't the time for the federal government to make it more difficult for people who are financially depressed to buy food.

I don't view this as a partisan issue, but I view it as an issue that all of us should be concerned about, and I would hope that we could unanimously adopt this resolution today.

Some people have suggested that this resolution doesn't mean anything. If we pass it, it would just be an innocuous kind of thing. But I would just like to point out that if we do pass it, Maine would be the first state in the Union to take this firm a position on the issue. It would be an opportunity for us to lead the Nation and to show our people that we recognize what their problems are and that we are willing to do something about it.

Just one final remark. I originally had intended to have this resolution co-sponsored by the gentleman from Calais, Mr. Silverman, but the rule change that we adopted two weeks ago didn't provide for co-sponsorship of joint resolutions.

Mr. Speaker, I move passage of this resolution.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Calais, Mr. Silverman.

Mr. SILVERMAN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: The Representative from Portland, Mr. Connolly, mentioned that if the rules permitted I would have co-sponsored this legislation. The reason why is because definitely the impact on Maine people, if

the so-called present thinking goes through, would mean a cost of about \$250,000 per month. I think that comes, if you multiply it, to \$3 million a year out of the pockets of low income people. I am quite sure, in this day and age, where we are living in an inflationary period where it is not the cause of the people but the cause of the people in Washington who have not been able to control inflation that have put these people in the position where their budgets no longer can provide their needs.

Checking with the Department of Health and Welfare in the State of Maine on the 8th of January 1975 — and these figures are approximate, not exact — in Maine there were 146,522 people on food stamps. That is about 15 percent of our population. No question in the future but that will probably rise to 25 percent of our population. There was \$5,545,000 worth of food stamps authorized in the month of December, of which \$2,489,000 was spent by the low income of Maine for these food stamps. And the federal bonus — these are federal funds from Washington — accounted for \$3,055,000 to the State of Maine to help promote this program for food stamps. It gets back a little deeper to me because back in the days when they had the surplus food program and some of us here in the House were on these regional-community action programs, we started a program to help see that the people could be properly fed with proper diets.

Then came along from Washington the food stamp program. With that, they said this is a much better idea and it will be more available for the people who need it. But all of a sudden, here we are this date telling the people who need it that they have got to cough up about 10 to 30 percent, possibly more, in their budgets for this program. This, I think, most of us who believe that a proper diet and nutrition to our residents, would ruin them in this field.

It also means, coming from Washington County, and I have checked the figures, we in Washington County have somewhere around 27 percent of our population on food stamps — somewhere around 8,000 people out of 29,000. The recipients are paying \$139,000; the federal bonus is \$175,000. I don't think the federal government should be promoting a food stamp program one year and the next year telling low income people they have got to pay a larger and larger share of it when their budgets are already overextended in the high cost of inflation for fuel taxes and everything else.

Therefore, I strongly back this proposal be passed, memorialized and sent to Washington showing the needs of Maine and its people and we are concerned here in the legislature.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Bath, Mrs. Goodwin.

Mrs. GOODWIN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would like to very briefly explain to you the impact of this proposed change on Maine's elderly, blind and disabled. At this point in time, a single individual in the State of Maine on supplemental security income or the old aid to the aged, blind and disabled program, receives only \$156 a month if they have no other income. If they are fortunate enough to have some other source of income, they can get as much as \$218 a month. Under the new regulations which have been proposed by the Department of Agriculture, all individuals with incomes over \$154 a month will become ineligible for food stamps, period.

Yet, this is the same federal government which has said that it takes \$198 a month for a person to live a minimum existence in Portland, Maine.

So what is going to happen? Every one on SSI, every individual on SSI will be dropped from food stamps if that is their only source of income. The same thing will happen to couples, but not to quite the same extent. A couple who has no other income now receives \$234 a month. If they have some other source of income, they get up to \$318. All couples with income over \$275 a month will become ineligible; yet the federal government says it takes \$298 a month to live a minimum existence in Portland, Maine. Also, those who are still eligible will have to pay about 12 percent more for food stamps.

This action by the federal government, when you couple it with the rampant inflation in this country, is going to deal a devastating blow to the elderly, to the blind and to the disabled. And all it is going to do is accelerate their social, economic and medical problems, and in the end it is going to cost the taxpayers more money if this regulation is enforced.

I urge you to unanimously adopt this resolution.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Dover-Foxcroft, Mr. Smith.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I want to rise very briefly this morning to endorse the resolution presented by the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Connolly.

I come from a district that has probably been hurt more in recent months than any other district in this State economically. It isn't simply for the poor and the elderly that I rise, although I rise for them this morning, also, but it is for many people in my neighborhood who I have traditionally known as members of the middle class, who never participated in welfare programs and wanted to work and were just genuine middle-class citizens, who I find now are going to the food stamp office to ask for assistance.

The unemployment rate in my area of the State is 15 percent. Some areas of my county it is in excess of 20 percent. To me, and to my people, the federal action on food stamps is going to deal, indeed, a devastating blow, and I would hope this legislature would support the gentleman from Portland this morning.

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

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: Back in 1965 I sponsored a bill that would allow Androscoggin County to be under the food stamp program as a pilot program. The bill had hard sledding on the floor of this House. As a matter of fact, at one point it was not passed. I might suggest to the lady from Bath that instead of the expression the word presently can be used very well. That is the word that I have used for many moons, and the other expression I never knew anyway even before last arrived.

Subsequently, a great many counties did not want the program because of the recipients of various other programs. I presented another bill that would place every county to join the food stamp program. That passed, but with one year notice that the counties would have to pay. Subsequently, it was passed, I believe at the special session, another measure that two-thirds of the program would be paid for by the State and one-third by the county.

Things that have not been touched upon — I certainly agree wholeheartedly with all the previous speakers as far as the elderly are concerned. This is bringing over \$60 million into Maine. This actually is the life blood of many many "papa and mama stores" that even now is going into to the higher stores. I don't want to delve into it too much, but I mean a great deal is being done now to cut out those who are possibly abusing this program, but we are not necessarily talking about that this morning.

I would like to congratulate the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Connolly, for this memorial. I would say also that I have already gone one step further. I will give you the time and the place, I know the date, on Saturday, the chairman of the Maine delegation, the Honorable Edmund S. Muskie, will be in Maine, and he will be listening with the Council of the Department of Health and Welfare that is in charge of this program. He will be listening to several citizens that want to come from anywhere in Maine, and this meeting will be in Lewiston so that he can bring the message personally to his colleagues in the Congress of the United States. I will put on the notices before the week is up the time, the place and the date of this meeting which will be held on Saturday.

Mr. Speaker, when the vote is taken, I hope it will be taken by the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Morton.

Mr. MORTON: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I am pretty much aware of the facts that are stated in the "whereas's" because I have personally investigated a number of cases and attempted to find out if people are eligible for food stamps or not.

However, I do have a question I would like to address to anyone, probably the sponsor of this, as to whether food stamp regulation number 1975-1.2, which is the one referred to here, in addition to changing the prices, does address itself to any of the abuses that the food stamp program is subject to, particularly the one that seems to have gotten quite a bit of publicity, that college students are using food stamps even though the families from which they come and which are supporting them at the college are not eligible for food stamps?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Morton, poses a question through the Chair to anyone who may care to answer.

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

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Morton, has a very, very good sense of hearing. I discussed that this does not involve abuses that might be entertained. There are abuses, as he well knows, in other programs and all programs. I know of some of the abuses in this program, and believe me, I have come out publicly and I know that the paper that is printed in Lewiston gets to his home, and I am certain he has probably read about it. I am continuously going to the welfare office to tell them to go after abuses, and that is exactly what they are doing.

This is not talking about the abuses. The department has the tools to get to these people, and they should be gotten to. I think the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Morton, would agree with me that there are cheaters in any program. But

frankly, I would not want to punish probably 95 percent of the people for 5 percent of those who would want to deliberately cheat on this program.

While I am on my feet, I might tell you this, I well remember last July when the machine broke down in the post office here in Augusta that would send the allocation to the various recipients of the food stamps so that they did not get their food stamp allocation. I received several calls at home — this happened to fall in the area of the 4th of July so that they did not get their allocations and consequently there they were with the money they had to buy the stamps, they knew the allocation wouldn't change, they had the money to buy the stamps, and they would spend that money for food and they would then find themselves without money, when their allocations came, to buy their stamps.

I physically well recall going to several homes in a certain section of Lewiston and I saw one family — I got the man to one side and asked him what the situation was. He said, "Well, I can't very well spend my money because I need it to buy my food stamps with." There were four people at the table. There was a son and a daughter, a father and a mother, and I saw a bottle of Root Beer in the middle of the table. The son and daughter were eating a hot dog and the father and mother were eating a half a hot dog. I saw these with my own eyes on the fourth floor of a building in Lewiston, and I can assure you, when I saw that I wasn't thinking about abuses at all. I got the man to one side and he told me exactly what his situation was. I can assure you that he had a little something besides a hot dog for supper, and I wasn't thinking about abuses either, and I am not thinking about abuses now. There are cheaters even in the automobile business.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Morton.

Mr. MORTON: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I won't comment on the last remark. I don't know as that was called for. I think I am just as interested in the problems of people who are in want as the gentleman from Lewiston.

I will agree that it is very difficult to pick up a copy of the Lewiston Sun without finding the name of the gentleman from Lewiston in it. I merely asked a direct question with relationship to regulation number 1975-1.2. The gentleman from Lewiston did not answer my question; I would like to have it answered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Connolly.

Mr. CONNOLLY: Mr. Speaker, in response to the question, I would just like to point out that this proposed amendment does not direct itself in any way to the abuses that the gentleman speaks of. Its primary objective, as I understand it, is to reduce the amount of money being spent on the food stamp program by \$325 million now and by additional money in the future to deal with the problem of inflation.

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

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: At the beginning of his remarks, the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Morton, said "I will not bother talking about the last remark that was made" which included the automobile dealers. Then he proceeded to say it was very hard to pick up the Lewiston Sun and

not see the gentleman from Lewiston's name in the paper, so he answered it. I know he meant his comment concerning me. I meant my comment concerning his attitude.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from York, Mr. Rolde.

Mr. ROLDE: Mr. Speaker, a point of inquiry. Did the gentleman from Lewiston ask for the yeas and nays?

The SPEAKER: The Chair understands that the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert, did request the yeas and nays.

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 Portland, Mr. Connolly, that Joint Resolution, House Paper 151, be adopted. All in favor of that motion will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL

YEA: Albert, Ault, Bachrach, Bagley, Bennett, Berry, G. W.; Berry, P. P.; Berube, Binnette, Birt, Blodgett, Boudreau, Bowie, Burns, Byers, Call, Carey, Carpenter, Carroll, Carter, Chonko, Churchill, Clark, Connors, Connolly, Cooney, Cote, Cox, Curran, P.; Curran, R.; Dam, Davies, DeVane, Doak, Dow, Dirgotas, Durgin, Dyer, Farnham, Faucher, Fenlason, Finemore, Flanagan, Fraser, Garsoe, Gauthier, Goodwin, H.; Goodwin, K.; Gould, Gray, Greenlaw, Hall, Henderson, Hennessey, Hewes, Higgins, Hinds, Hughes, Hunter, Hutchings, Immonen, Ingegneri, Jackson, Jacques, Jalbert, Jensen, Joyce, Kany, Kauffman, Kelleher, Kelley, Kennedy, Laffin, LaPointe, Laverty, LeBlanc, Leonard, Lewin, Lewis, Littlefield, Lovell, Lunt, MacEachern, Mackel, MacLeod, Mahany, Martin, A.; Martin, R.; Maxwell, McBreairty, McKernan, Mills, Miskavage, Mitchell, Morin, Morton, Mulkern, Nadeau, Najarian, Norris, Palmer, Peakes, Pelosi, Perkins, S.; Perkins, T.; Peterson, P.; Peterson, T.; Pierce, Powell, Quinn, Raymond, Rideout, Rolde, Rollins, Saunders, Shute, Silverman, Smith, Snow, Snowe, Spencer, Sprowl, Strout, Stubbs, Susi, Talbot, Teague, Theriault, Tierney, Torrey, Tozier, Truman, Twitchell, Usher, Wagner, Walker, Webber, Wilfong, Winship, The Speaker.

NAY:

ABSENT: Bustin, Curtis, Dudley, Farley, Hobbins, Lizotte, Lynch, McMahon, Post, Tarr, Tyndale.

Yes, 140; No, 0; Absent, 11.

The SPEAKER: One hundred forty having voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, with eleven being absent, the Joint Resolution is adopted.

Sent up for concurrence.

On motion of Mr. Binnette of Old Town, it was

ORDERED, that Arthur Lynch of Livermore Falls be excused because of illness in his family.

On motion of Mr. Binnette of Old Town, ORDERED, that Douglas W. Curtis of Rockland be excused January 14, 15, 16, 21 and 22, for personal reasons.

On motion of Mr. Binnette of Old Town, it was

ORDERED, that Ralph Lovell of Sanford be excused from February 3 to February 7 for personal reasons.

On motion of Mr. Binnette of Old Town, it was

ORDERED, that David Bustin of Augusta be excused for this week, January 14, 15 and 16 for personal reasons.

Mr. Rolde of York presented the following Joint Order and moved its passage:

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative Finance Officer be authorized and directed to pay each member of the Legislature prior to February 1, 1975 a \$200 allowance for constituent services as authorized in Title 3, Section 2 of the Maine Revised Statutes. (H. P. 159)

The Joint Order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

House Report of Committee Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Mr. Dudley from the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act to Prevent the Department of Transportation from Confiscating or Appropriating Private Water Supply Equipment in Certain Situations" (H. P. 30) (L. D. 38) reported "Ought to Pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A"

Report was read and accepted and the Bill read once. Committee Amendment "A" (H-2) was read by the Clerk and adopted and the Bill assigned for second reading tomorrow.

Orders of the Day

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

Bill "An Act Relating to Contraband Cigarettes" (H. P. 123)

Tabled — January 9, by Mr. Finemore of Bridgewater.

Pending — Reference.

On motion of Mr. Finemore of Bridgewater, referred to the Committee on Taxation, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

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

Bill "An Act Relating to Reinstatement of Suspended Corporations under the Business Corporation Act" (H. P. 133)

Tabled — January 9, by Mr. Dirgotas of Auburn.

Pending — Motion by Ms. Clark of Freeport to Reconsider Reference.

Thereupon, the House reconsidered its action of January 9 whereby the Bill was referred to the Committee on Taxation.

On motion of Ms. Clark of Freeport, referred to the Committee on Business Legislation, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

Pursuant to House Rules,
Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.