

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

Thursday, February 6, 1975

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

Prayer by the Rev. Wilbur Green of Auburn.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Papers from the Senate

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

Reports of Committees Ought to Pass

Report of the Committee on Taxation reporting "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act Relating to Compatibility of State Income Tax Law with Federal Law" (S. P. 59) (L. D. 139)

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

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

Messages and Documents

The following Communication: (S. P. 164)

State of Maine
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
State Office Building
Augusta, Maine 04330

January 31, 1975

TO: Governor James B. Longley and
Members of the 107th Legislature

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 116 Private and Special Laws 1973, I am pleased to submit a summary report concerning the need for a traffic court system and other methods of handling traffic violations.

Respectfully,
/s/ ROGER L. MALLAR
Commissioner

Came from the Senate read and with accompanying papers placed on file.

In the House, the Communication was read and with accompanying papers ordered placed on file in concurrence.

Petitions, Bills and Resolves Requiring Reference

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

Agriculture

Bill "An Act for the Humane Treatment of Animals in Schools, Public and Private" (H. P. 457) (Presented by Mr. Davies of Orono) (Cosponsor: Mr. Hughes of Auburn)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Bill "An Act Appropriating Funds for Capital Improvements at the Houlton International Airport" (H. P. 460) (Presented by Mr. Carpenter of Houlton)

Bill "An Act to Provide Local Training Courses and Certification for All Maine Law Enforcement Officers" (H. P. 468) (Presented by Mr. Faucher of Solon) (Cosponsor: Mr. Carey of Waterville)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Business Legislation

Bill "An Act Increasing Certain Permit,

Examination and License Fees for Hairdressers and Providing for Biennial Renewal of Certain Licenses" (H. P. 453) (Presented by Mrs. Boudreau of Portland)

Bill "An Act to Provide for Regulation of Insurance Holding Company Systems" (H. P. 462) (Presented by Mr. Hewes of Cape Elizabeth)

Bill "An Act to Create a Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association" (H. P. 467) (Presented by Mr. Hewes of Cape Elizabeth)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Fisheries and Wildlife

Bill "An Act to Increase Certain Hunting and Fishing License Fees" (H. P. 464) (Presented by Mr. Walker of Island Falls)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Judiciary

Bill "An Act Relating to the Municipal Issuance of Concealed Weapons Licenses" (H. P. 452) (Presented by Mrs. Berry of Madison)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act to Require Industrial Accident Insurers to Maintain Agents within the State of Maine" (H. P. 456) (Presented by Mr. Kelleher of Bangor)

Committee on Reference of Bills suggested the Committee on Labor.

On motion of Mrs. Clark of Freeport, tabled pending reference and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 11.

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act Requiring Auctioneers to Keep Records of Purchases and Sales" (H. P. 469) (Presented by Mr. Faucher of Solon) (Cosponsor: Mr. Carey of Waterville)

Committee on Reference of Bills suggested the Committee Legal Affairs.

On motion of Mrs. Clark of Freeport, tabled pending reference and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 11.

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act Requiring Licensing of Antique and Used Furniture Dealers and Their Keeping of Records" (H. P. 470) (Presented by Mr. Faucher of Solon) (Cosponsor: Mr. Carey of Waterville)

Committee on Reference of Bills suggested the Committee on Legal Affairs.

On motion of Mrs. Clark of Freeport, tabled pending reference and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 11.

Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act Relating to the Regulation of Private Detectives and Watch, Guard and Patrol Agency" (H. P. 471) (Presented by Mr. Gray of Rockland) (Cosponsor: Mr. Faucher of Solon)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Public Lands

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Board of Environmental Protection to Issue Licenses, Permits or Approvals for Projects Involving Submerged Lands" (H. P. 465) (Presented by Mr. Blodgett of Waldoboro) (Cosponsor: Mrs. Hutchings of Lincolnville)

Committee on Reference of Bills suggested the Committee on Natural Resources.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes

the gentleman from Nobleboro, Mr. Palmer.

Mr. PALMER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: When the Committee on Reference of Bills suggested this go to Natural Resources, we did not at that time know there were two other bills coming along very similar in nature which have to go to the Committee on Public Lands, which definitely do increase the responsibilities and duties of the Bureau of Public Lands.

All members of the Reference of Bills Committee agree that this bill should be changed from Natural Resources to Public Lands, and I so move that.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Palmer of Nobleboro, referred to the Committee on Public Lands, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

Public Utilities

Bill "An Act Relating to Board of Trustees of Bath Water District" (H. P. 463) (Presented by Mr. Leonard of Woolwich)

Bill "An Act Increasing the Authorized Indebtedness of the Lincoln Water District" (Emergency) (H. P. 466) (Presented by Mr. MacEachern of Lincoln)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Tabled and Assigned

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Require that the Governor be Elected by Majority Vote (H. P. 455) (Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston)

Committee on Reference of Bills suggested the Committee on State Government.

On motion of Mr. Talbot of Portland, tabled pending reference and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 11.

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Eliminate the State Tax on Inventories and Restore the Original Law" (H. P. 451) (Presented by Mr. Powell of Wallagrass Pl.) (Cosponsor: Mr. Peterson of Caribou)

Bill "An Act to Provide an Additional Exemption from the Maine Income Tax for any Maine Resident of 62 Years of Age or Older" (H. P. 454) (Presented by Mr. Hobbins of Saco)

Bill "An Act to Change State Income Tax Rate on All Taxable Corporations to Read 6% with an Additional 4% Surtax on Corporate Earnings over \$25,000" (H. P. 461) (Presented by Mr. Finemore of Bridgewater)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Transportation

Bill "An Act to Provide Special Free License Plates for the 100% Disabled Veteran" (H. P. 450) (Presented by Mr. Theriault of Rumford)

Bill "An Act Relating to Change of Location or Status Concerning Vehicle Registrations" (H. P. 459) (Presented by Mr. Snow of Falmouth)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Orders

Mr. Perkins of Blue Hill presented the following Joint Resolution and moved its adoption: (H. P. 499)

In Memoriam
Having Learned Of The

**Death Of
Frederick W. Leveque
of Blue Hill**

The Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Maine do hereby extend their sincere heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the bereaved family and friends of the deceased; and further

While duly assembled in session at the State Capitol in Augusta under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Maine, do herein direct that this official expression of sorrow be forthwith sent to the family of the deceased on behalf of the Legislature and the people of the State of Maine.

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

(Off Record Remarks)

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

ORDERED, that Thomas P. Albert of Limestone be excused for the duration of his illness.

**House Reports of Committees
Leave to Withdraw**

Mr. Cooney from the Committee on State Government on Bill "An Act to Make the General Election Day a Bank and Business Holiday" (H. P. 166) (L. D. 211) reporting Leave to Withdraw.

Report was read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Refer to Committee on Judiciary

Mr. Goodwin from the Committee on Health and Institutional Services on Bill "An Act to Clarify the Laws Relating to Superior Court Commitment of Mentally Disordered Persons" (H. P. 170) (L. D. 225) reporting that it be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Report was read and accepted, the Bill referred to the Committee on Judiciary and sent up for concurrence.

**Ought to Pass
Printed Bill**

Mr. Lynch from the Committee on Education reporting "Ought to Pass" on Bill "An Act Authorizing Additional Indebtedness for School Administrative Districts Nos. 25 and 42" (H. P. 57) (L. D. 69)

Report was read and accepted, the Bill read once and assigned for second reading the next legislative day.

**Passed to Be Enacted
Emergency Measure**

An Act to Authorize the Cumberland County Commissioners to Borrow in Anticipation of Taxes (H. P. 444) (L. D. 520)

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

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

Mr. PETERSON: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: This measure which we have before us in the enactment stage this morning arose because of the problem that Cumberland County faces, and I believe other counties throughout the state face it, but we chose it to go in our own direction for a specific reason, that we have set a limit on the amount that our county commissioners can borrow in anticipation of taxes before our county budget is approved in the legislature.

The bonding counsel for the banks who are going to forward the loan came to the conclusion that county commissioners would be unable to borrow in anticipation of taxes before the county budget had been approved by the legislature. So in other words, we have to authorize, give power, to the county commissioners saying that tax anticipation money for the fiscal year 1975 will be coming. So we have set a ceiling of \$500,000.

The reason this doesn't pertain to all the counties is that we felt some of the smaller counties would not desire to have their county commissioners borrowing up to \$500,000 and, in essence, setting the budget for the county legislative delegation or the legislature.

So it is essential that we pass this emergency enactor today, because it is my understanding that tomorrow the County of Cumberland will be out of total funds to pay its employees. So it is essential that we pass it and send it forthwith to the other body and that the Governor sign it today so that our county commissioners can obtain a loan tomorrow so that Cumberland County can keep moving along.

This being an emergency measure and a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary a total was taken. 134 voted in favor of same and one against, and accordingly the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

By unanimous consent, ordered sent forthwith.

Orders of the Day

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

Senate Divided Report — Majority (1) "Ought to Pass" — Minority (2) "Ought Not to Pass" — Committee on State Government on Resolution, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Reducing the Size of the House of Representatives and Establishing the Size of the Senate (S. P. 2) (L. D. 2) — In Senate, Majority Report accepted and Resolution passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-2)

Tabled — February 4, by Mr. Rolde of York.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Cooney of Sabattus to accept Majority Report.

On motion of Mrs. Najarian, retabled pending the motion of Mr. Cooney of Sabattus to accept the Majority Report and specially assigned for Wednesday, February 12.

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

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Recreation to Prohibit the Use of Canoes with Motors on Part of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway." (H. P. 387) (Committee on Reference of Bills suggested Committee on Natural Resources).

Tabled — February 4, by Mr. Rolde of York.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Mills of Eastport to refer to Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife.

On motion of Mr. Rolde of York, retabled pending the motion of Mr. Mills of Eastport to refer to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 11.

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

Bill "An Act to Extend the Back Bay Sanctuary, Portland" (H. P. 417) (Committee on Reference of Bills

Suggested Committee on Natural Resources).

Tabled — February 4, by Mr. Rolde of York.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Mills of Eastport to refer to Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife.

On motion of Mr. Rolde of York, retabled pending the motion of Mr. Mills of Eastport to refer to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 11.

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

Bill "An Act to Change the Name of Department of Inland Fisheries and Game to Department of Fisheries and Wildlife" (H. P. 413) (Committee on Reference of Bills suggested Committee on State Government).

Tabled — February 4, by Mr. Palmer of Nobleboro.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Mills of Eastport to refer to Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife.

On motion of Mr. Palmer of Nobleboro, retabled pending the motion of Mr. Mills of Eastport to refer to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 11.

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

Bill "An Act to Repeal Requirements for an Atlantic Salmon Stamp under the Fish and Game Law" (H. P. 11) (L. D. 16) — In House, insisted on passage to be engrossed. — In Senate, insisted on acceptance of Minority "Ought to Pass" Report and asked for a Committee of Conference.

Tabled — February 4, by Mr. Rolde of York.

Pending — Further consideration.

On motion of Mr. Rolde of York, retabled pending further consideration and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 11.

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

Bill "An Act Relating to the Taking of Alewives in the Town of Whiting, Washington County" (H. P. 12) (L. D. 17) — In House, passed to be enacted — In Senate, indefinitely postponed.

Tabled — February 4, by Mr. Rolde of York.

Pending — Further consideration.

On motion of Mr. Rolde of York, retabled pending further consideration and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 11.

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

House Joint Order — Re List of Salaries of State Employees (H. P. 448)

Tabled — February 4, by Mr. Farnham of Hampden.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Birt of East Millinocket to indefinitely postpone.

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

Mr. ROLDE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: The other day I spoke to you about this order for the so-called "snoop book," the publication that sets forth the salaries of state employees and university employees. I said at the time that I would try to find out just how much it costs us to have this service and whether it was an expensive luxury or a necessity that we could well afford and absolutely had to have. I now have those figures.

To state it simply, according to the Legislative Finance Office, it cost us \$2,696 during the 106th Legislature to print the snoop book, plus an additional \$1,700 to \$1,800 for the labor costs of compiling the material needed to go into this document. Therefore, during the last legislature, it cost us about \$4,500 to print this work. What will it cost us in this biennium?

From the 105th to the 106th Legislature, there was a printing cost increase of \$1,719 to \$2,696, or about 50 percent. So possibly we are talking about \$6,000 in this biennium to manufacture this snoop book. In any event, the least it could cost us is \$4,500. Now, admittedly, this isn't very much money. It is, however, approximately the average yearly wage for the average workman in Maine.

I don't have any particularly strong feeling on the snoop book. Personally, I am opposed to it; I can't for the life of me see what good it does to have it. If somebody is really interested in what a particular state employee earns, they can dig out the figure from the Legislative Finance Office.

I do go along with the argument, too, that it increases pressures for salary increases, because one employee is able to see what another employee earns. But if you feel that it is worth \$4,500 to \$6,000 of the taxpayers' money to satisfy your curiosity as to what somebody earns, when you can get the same information more cheaply, then you should support the order. As for myself, I personally feel that at a time when we are all scrambling to put every Maine taxpayers' dollar to the most effective use possible, that here is an item we can cut without much pain and put this money to better use. Consequently, I would support the motion of the gentleman from East Millinocket, Mr. Birt, to indefinitely postpone this order.

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

Mr. LaPOINTE: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House: I assume a lot of people are inquiring in their own minds as to why I would sponsor such an order. I assure you that I would like to share with you these reasons this morning, and they are in good faith.

In about 15 minutes, someone from the second floor will be coming in here proposing a budget for the State of Maine. There are some feelings on the part of some folks around the state, within and without the legislature, that we are in for drastic cuts in personnel costs to state government. I am not going to guess as to what they may or may not be. But I think that I look upon this so-called "snoop book" as a device or an instrument in helping us as members of the legislature to more carefully scrutinize the budget that is going to be shortly presented to us. So I look at this investment of \$4,500 or \$6,000, or whatever the figure is, as being very small indeed compared to the task that we have before us in the next few months. These are the reasons I put the order in; these are the reasons I oppose indefinite postponement of the order.

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

Mr. KELLEHER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I have supported this order ever since I have come to the legislature, because I have always found it to be a very helpful document.

I am very much surprised at the figures the Democratic floorleader gave this morning on the cost of printing, because

yesterday afternoon I went over to see Mr. Sabeau in the Bureau of Printing just to get what the actual figure was for the order that I had last time, which was approximately \$2,600. He estimated that the maximum he believed it would increase for the printing of this book this year would be 20 percent. I have to assume that he knew what he was talking about.

Some of the legislators that I talked with, asking them to support this book, this legislative financial directory, the order that Mr. LaPointe has presented to you for consideration said, wouldn't it be easier if we simply printed five or ten books as registers that we could use as legislators, and I ask that question of Mr. Sabeau, and he said, "Certainly not, because it is just as cheap for us to print 200 as it would be to produce 10."

I think you members of the House, you newer members of the House, will find this to be a very useful document. You may not use it as frequently as some of us, but it is a very handy instrument to have. The era that we are living in now of providing informational service for us as legislators, you should highly consider it, because it is a very useful document.

I would ask you to oppose the good gentleman from East Millinocket, Mr. Birt, on this motion. He is one gentleman who doesn't use the legislative financial directory, and I appreciate that, but I do and others have, and I am sure you will, and I ask you to vote against his motion this morning.

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

Mr. BUSTIN: Mr. Speaker, I move for the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Bustin, moves that the vote be taken by the yeas and nays.

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

Mr. TALBOT: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I also oppose the motion of indefinite postponement. I find it a useful tool. I will give you just one example. One of my constituents asked me to look up the salaries of three employees that were employed by the state. I tried to do that yesterday, and I called the Legislative Finance Office, and I went through four different numbers and consequently I went through five different people before I got to the right position where I could get the figures.

Mr. Speaker, I supported this in the 106th Legislature, and I will support it this time.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Enfield, Mr. Dudley.

Mr. DUDLEY: Mr. Speaker, Members of the House: I think by now I am considered a conservative member of the House. I think this is a worthwhile document, especially for the freshmen members, and I think they should have it and I think they would find it very helpful. I don't agree that it costs this much, and I understand now that since we have got a new Governor now down on the second floor that we are going to have some competitive bidding on this printing, and it may be that we will save 20 percent rather than pay 20 percent more.

However, I can get along without it. I have no personal strong feelings, but I do think we have a lot of new members here, and they should have one. I am for voting to give it to them. In the years past, I found it very helpful, and I have had a lot of people coming crying on my shoulder that they were starving to death and needed more money — I am talking about state employees. I looked up their salaries and I

was amazed to find out what they were already getting. Without this book I probably would have let them wet my shirt by crying on my shirt collar. So this has saved me some in that area. I think the book will save a lot more than the cost in printing when you people know what is really going on. You are going to be here 20 years, maybe, and you're never going to know what is really going on, never the complete details, but as it goes along you pick up a little more.

For instance, this is something I learned in later years — the University of Maine. We read their salaries in this book, and that is well and good, that is what the state pays them, but a few of you know that a lot of them get paid from three different sources. They get paid what the state pays them, maybe \$20,000 or maybe \$30,000, or what have you, it is in that book. You will find it very interesting to read. But then they get paid for these government grants; that is paid by the federal government, and they don't turn that back to the State Treasurer. That is theirs too. A lot of the ones that are super-duper professors there, they write another book, which sells sometimes for quite a lot of money. They do that while they are working for us, and they also get paid for that. So you have really got no way of knowing what they are getting for pay, total pay, but you are able, through this book, to find out what the state is paying them.

I hope you will vote for the order. You will find it very helpful, especially to the new members.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nobleboro, Mr. Palmer.

Mr. PALMER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I rise in support of the motion of the gentleman from East Millinocket, Mr. Birt, and our majority leader. I really see no great reason for printing this snoop book, and I respectfully suggest that since the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Talbot, found after his fifth call the number he needed to get the information on the salaries, he give us all that number and we could have it and we could save the \$5,000 for the printing of the document.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I oppose the motion for indefinite postponement of this order today, because during this session we as members of this House are going to have to decide on what type of a pay increase we are going to give state employees, whether it is a percentage, increasing the maximum, whether it is going to be so much per week or what. I think it would be very helpful to all the members to know what the state employees are presently receiving so that they might make a proper decision on pay increases later in the session.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I rise to support the motion for indefinite postponement today. I just want to tell you a little bit about some personal experiences I have had with this book.

Before I came to the legislature, I was a graduate student in economics and was sort of a member of the economics faculty at the University of Maine for a while when one of the first snoop books came out. My observation as to the impact of that book

was that it simply set off a tremendous round of pulling and tugging and jealousy within the various departments and had no impact except to push salaries ever higher in the departments at the University of Maine. I think it had a deteriorating effect on faculty relations and certainly the costs of state government in terms of what it does in pushing these salaries upwards and the kinds of jealousy and pulling and tugging that I am talking about is incalculable.

So I don't think it is a cost of just four or five thousand dollars we are talking about. I think it is a long-range cost that we are talking about that runs into many, many thousands of dollars. I just think that this book adds no knowledge that we can't get otherwise and really promotes disharmony in a lot of places and it really ought to be done away with.

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

Mr. PETERSON: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House: I support the motion for indefinite postponement of this order for one reason primarily, and nobody has addressed the issue of privacy. Why should state employees not be afforded the same rights of privacy as individuals hired by private enterprise. We are publicly elected officials, and I feel it is incumbent upon us to expose our sources of income, but I do not think it is necessary and essential, from my experience as a freshman legislator, only once or twice did I refer to that thick book, which is like a telephone directory. It does not classify people; it just lists them according to name and what they receive.

Of what use this is to the individual legislator, I do not know. You can already find out the classification of an employee and what that employee who fills that spot would receive. To know exactly the name of the person and the amount that he receives as an annual salary to me serves no useful purpose. I also think the right of privacy of hired state employees is something that we should not flaunt in the public eye.

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

Mr. DAM: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I rise to oppose the motion for indefinite postponement. I have had many occasions to use the so-called "snoop book." It surprises me, as I sit here and listen to the speakers talk about privacy in government and at the same time you hear people stand up, and even previous to this debate we hear about eliminating executive sessions and openness in government.

I don't see any reason there should be any privacy involved when the taxpayers' money is involved in the salaries. Personally, I would like to see a printout come out in the newspapers listing all the state employees' salaries for all the people of this state to see so that they wouldn't have to come to a legislator to ask what so and so is getting for pay. I don't think when you are spending the taxpayers' money that it is a matter of secrecy or a matter of privacy. It think it is a matter of a right to know, and I think we have got just as much right to know what the state is paying, and maybe we can stop a little hanky-panky and maybe we can eliminate the "Watergate" coming to Augusta and keep it where it has been, in Washington.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Westbrook, Mr. Laffin.

Mr. LAFFIN: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I stand and support this. I don't think this should be called the "snoop book." I don't usually agree too much with my colleagues from the other side of the aisle, but in this case I believe it is the right to know of the people of this state. They are paying the money; they are paying for this. I would just love to have this in my store and show the people who pay the bills what these people are receiving. I think it is very important that they know. I don't see any secrecy. I can't agree that they have a right to privacy. This is public money. They have a right to privacy on their own money, but this is public money, and I believe that they should be told where it's going and who is getting it and no secrecy whatsoever.

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

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I think the gentleman from Westbrook, Mr. Laffin, has put his finger right on the basic reason why this book should not be printed with his words, "I think they have the right to know, and I would like to have the book in my store so I can show them." So I can show them how much they are getting. It is common knowledge that — and I would like to straighten out one thing that I harped loud and long, and I think I put in an order for investigating the University of Maine. I wanted to know what the salaries were. My reason for it was because I happen to know that some of the employees, and that doesn't show anything in the "snoop book" so-called or the information book, if we may call it that, that doesn't show what these people are getting from contractual services. That is within the department, and that was in part of my order.

The other reason I hate to get up here because it is also common knowledge that I don't like to get up on too many things controversial when it is on the last day of the week, because I live with the basting till Tuesday. I like it on Tuesday. You have got a chance to come back by Thursday. You get clobbered on Tuesday, you think about it — it shows you how stupid I am, I do think about these things till Tuesday.

But I am going to tell you one thing now, that as far as this information is concerned, within fifteen minutes after this book is put on your desks, somebody is going to get a copy of that book, he is going to have it reproduced, and by the next day he is selling it to anybody that wants to buy it.

If you want to find out what an employee is getting, all you have to do is go over to the Finance Office and they will quickly find out what an employee is getting.

I am amazed at the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Talbot, having to go through five areas to find out that kind of information when it is so easily available. As far as I am concerned, I have never used a private plate. I don't think I am any better than anybody else or any worse than anybody else. I just don't believe in it, that's all.

As far as this book is concerned, I always have opposed the printing of this book, and believe me when I tell you that the good gentleman from Westbrook has given you the real reason why this book should not be printed. It is a menace as far as I am concerned. I don't want my book. I have never looked at it; I don't intend to look at it. It is not a question of privacy, because there I will take issue. This is public

knowledge. We are entitled to know what these things are.

I am not taking sharp issue with my good friend and my very good friend from Skowhegan, Mr. Dam, that this would bring about another Watergate, whether it is printed or not, I doubt if it would. I think there might be other areas that we might look into.

One thing I would like to comment about is that the price tag of this book, for my money, the money that we would spend could be used in other areas. What does amaze me this morning, frankly, and it must amaze you, Mr. Speaker, as you look upon the sea of faces in front of you, to see all the conservatives on their feet for this book. I guess maybe I have turned liberal. But really has amazed me; I have never seen anything like it in my life. I don't know what has happened to the generals and the majors and the captains and the sergeants. I am sure there are going to be a few demotions before the day is over. But in any event, I seriously think that you are making an error. You can find out what this book is. Actually, if you wanted a book, you can go down to the Legislative Finance Office, borrow the book till the next day and mimeograph your own book and you're in business. That can be done.

The gentleman from South Portland, Mr. Hinds, has not only been a legislator and a good legislator over the years, but he has been in the Finance Office. He knows the financial situation of this state in and out, and in that he speaks for this measure, he would have to admit, frankly, that this money that we waste could be used to better advantage.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Enfield, Mr. Dudley.

Mr. DUDLEY: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I just thought of another question that I would like to bring to your attention. I will be very brief.

When I first came here, this so-called book of information or "snoop book," or whatever you want to call it, was like a brochure. You opened it, and there they were. Some 20 years later, now it looks like the Bangor telephone directory.

There is a question you are going to be asked when this session is over by some of your constituents — how many new jobs did you create in Augusta? You are not going to be able to answer it unless you have got one of these books because you can compare it with last years and you will find out that you made 500 new jobs on an average each year. You may not this year with the help of the guy in the front office, but beyond that, generally when you go home and you compare last year's book with this one, you find 500 new jobs that the people in Maine have got to pay for with the same population, by the way. In the years that I have been here the population of Maine hasn't changed from my first brochure to a book that looks like the Bangor telephone directory. I think it serves a purpose when they ask you the question, "Well, how many new jobs did you create?" You are not going to be able to tell them unless you have got one of these, because in there you can just see how many names there are. The easy way to do is count the pages. There are a certain amount on each page, and you can tell rather quickly.

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

Mr. DeVANE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I would rise to oppose the motion to indefinitely postpone.

Nothing seems as elusive to me as the cost of printing in Augusta, Maine. When it comes to the Horseblanket, its higher, its lower. When it comes to this, it is a great expense — it is a small expense. Based on five weeks and very limited experience, I would say the cost of this book would be about what two bears would do to 86 beehives, something that over the years I didn't know was a great concern to the public.

I would ask the people here who are courageously and constantly on the alert for public information, for freedom of information, to join with the people who have been characterized as conservative in saying, let's let it all hang out, it doesn't cost very much.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Bustin, has requested a roll call vote. 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 East Millinocket, Mr. Birt, that House Paper 448, Joint Order re list of salaries of state employees be indefinitely postponed. All in favor of indefinite postponement will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL

YEA — Bachrach, Bagley, Berry, G.W.; Birt, Bowie, Bustin, Call, Carroll, Chonko, Churchill, Clark, Connolly, Cooney, Curran, R.; Curtis, Durgin, Dyer, Farnham, Faucher, Fenlason, Garsoe, Goodwin, H.; Goodwin, K.; Greenlaw, Hall, Henderson, Hennessey, Higgins, Hughes, Jalbert, Jensen, Kany, Laverty, LeBlanc, Leonard, Littlefield, Lunt, Lynch, Mackel, MacLeod, McKernan, Morton, Najarian, Norris Palmer, Peakes, Perkins, T.; Peterson, T.; Rolde, Smith, Snow, Snowe, Sprowl, Susi, Tarr, Teague, Tyndale, Wilfong, The Speaker.

NAY — Ault, Bennett, Berry, P.P.; Berube, Binnette, Blodgett, Boudreau, Burns, Byers, Carey, Carpenter, Carter, Conners, Cote, Cox, Curran, P.; Dam, Davies, DeVane, Doak, Dow, Drigotas, Dudley, Farley, Finemore, Flanagan, Fraser, Gauthier, Gould, Gray, Hewes, Hinds, Hobbins, Hunter, Hutchings, Immonen, Ingegnieri, Jackson, Jacques, Joyce, Kauffman, Kelleher, Kelley, Kennedy, Laffin, LaPointe, Lewin, Lewis, Lizotte, MacEachern, Martin, A.; Martin, R.; Maxwell, McBreairty, McMahon, Miskavage, Mitchell, Morin, Mulkern, Nadeau, Pelosi, Peterson, P.; Pierce, Post, Powell, Quinn, Raymond, Rideout, Rollins, Saunders, Shute, Silverman, Spencer, Strout, Stubbs, Talbot, Theriault, Tierney, Torrey, Tozier, Truman, Twitchell, Usher, Wagner, Walker, Webber, Winship.

ABSENT — Albert Lovell, Mahany, Mills, Perkins, S.;

Yes, 59; No, 87; Absent, 5.

The SPEAKER: Fifty-nine having voted in the affirmative and eighty-seven in the negative, with five being absent, the motion does not prevail.

Mr. Rolde of York moved this matter be tabled for one legislative day pending passage.

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from York, Mr. Rolde, that this matter be tabled pending passage and specially assigned

for Tuesday, February 11. All in favor of tabling will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

A vote of the House was taken.

53 having voted in the affirmative and 81 having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

Thereupon, on motion of Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston, the Joint Order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

At this point, a message was received from the Senate, borne by Senator Speers of Kennebec, proposing a Joint Convention of both branches to be held forthwith in the Hall of the House, for the purpose of extending to His Excellency, Governor James B. Longley, an invitation to attend the Convention and make such communication as he may be pleased to make.

Thereupon, the House voted to concur in the proposal for a Joint Convention and the Chair appointed Mr. Rolde of York to convey a message to the Senate to that effect.

Mr. Rolde subsequently reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

At this point, the Senate entered the Hall of the House and a Joint Convention was formed.

In Convention

The President of the Senate, Joseph Sewall, in the Chair.

On motion of Senator Speers of Kennebec, it was

ORDERED, that a Committee be appointed to wait upon His Excellency, Governor James B. Longley, and inform him that the two branches of the Legislature are in Convention assembled, ready to receive such communication as he may be pleased to make.

The Chairman appointed:

Senators:

WYMAN of Washington

GREELEY of Waldo

CYR of Aroostook

Representatives:

CURRAN of Bangor

FRASER of Mexico

CARROLL of Limerick

BOUDREAU of Portland

FINEMORE of Bridgewater

TYNDALE of Kennebunkport

BYERS of Newcastle

Senator Wyman, for the Committee, subsequently reported that the Committee had discharged the duties assigned it, and the Governor was pleased to say that he would forthwith attend the Convention.

Whereupon, Governor James B. Longley, entered the Convention Hall amid prolonged applause, the audience rising.

The Governor then addressed the Convention as follows:

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker and Honorable Members of the 107th Legislature:

I asked to address this honorable body today so that I might fulfill my statutory duty as Governor to present to you and to the people of Maine a Budget for the Biennium — a Balanced Budget without a tax increase, that will still meet the needs of the people of this State. That is what I promised the voters of Maine I would do and that is what I believe we have done.

As all of you know, we have some real problems in Maine, many of them thrust upon us by the economy, national policy and circumstance. We cannot, however,

sit and bemoan our situation. We must face the real problems with real solutions. We must address the people problems of tomorrow by dealing with the realities of today.

The budget I am presenting to you today is designed to do two basic things:

1. It is designed to help us keep the store of State Government open in this time of economic uncertainty and to allow us to carry on with essential services and to continue to meet human needs.

2. Secondly, it is designed to give us time to further establish our priorities, while we also:

a. Make a further examination of potential cost savings,

b. Make every effort to broaden our present tax base, and,

c. Project where we are going with plans for the year 2000 as our benchmark.

In developing this budget, we made the needs of the people the top priority because in this area we do not have the luxury of time. Yet, Maine is on a straight line of time and we are already overdue in providing for our people who are unable to provide for themselves. We feel this budget will meet these basic needs, present and future, while allowing us the precious time needed to make a more thorough analysis of the operations of State Government.

I feel deeply that I as Governor and you as elected representatives of the people owe it to the taxpayers and citizens of this State to take this budget approach at this critical time in our history. I am asking you to accept a budget which I feel will meet our current, essential needs and provide us the time to make certain Maine is on the right line of time for the present as well as the future.

However, as Governor, I pledge to you I will immediately call a Special Session of this Legislature at any time when there is evidence of human suffering or evidence that human needs are not being met and joint action of the Governor and the Legislature is needed. In any event, I intend to convene a Session between Labor Day and January 1st, to allow us:

1. To keep the store of State Government open and to meet basic human needs.

2. Six months time to actually measure revenue sources.

3. To take a good hard look at operations in State Government so when we meet in the fall we can more realistically establish dollar priorities for human needs.

So, as Governor I bring to you today our Financial Plan for the next biennium. The theme of this plan is Efficiency, Economy and Effectiveness in State Government. There has been tremendous pressure over the last 10 years to provide more and more services in the State of Maine. We must continue to provide these services whenever and wherever possible. However, along with this demand and the escalating rate of inflation, the cost of State Government in Maine, as in many other states, has been rising at an accelerating rate, especially in the last five years. As shown by this chart, State Government has grown from an annual budget of \$142 million in 1960 to approximately \$540 million in the last fiscal year. This is a level of spending of approximately \$1.5 million per day. That is a 380 percent increase over the last 14 years. This week, our payroll alone is \$2.5 million paying 14,134 employees, and this is the first time in many years any Governor has been able to give an accurate headcount.

THE BUDGET REVIEW PROCESS

The budget I am presenting today is the result of a fantastic effort by state employees, volunteers, a former commissioner and Mr. Siebert, our Budget Officer. Over the past two months we have taken a hard look at what our real needs and real requirements are for State Government.

We have met for countless hours with a volunteer Budget Review Committee, the State Budget Officer and his staff, department heads and my own staff. This budget represents our collective thinking that this is the direction the State needs to take at this time. I'm told there has never been a more cooperative effort undertaken in preparation of a State Budget. When cuts have had to be made, we have asked department heads to establish priorities in an effort to make certain that human needs will be met. I think these dedicated people who have given their untiring efforts to this budget are owed a vote of thanks by the people of Maine.

The organization of this budget is much different than that of past budgets. Recognizing the need for a better means of presenting, reviewing and responding to the budget requirements of the State, your predecessors in the 106th Legislature directed the State Budget Officer to prepare a program-oriented budget to present to the 107th. Now, for the first time we will be able to look at where the money is going to be spent with respect to the services that are provided. This is a tribute to the vision and conviction of the previous Legislature. As the Governor benefitting from this approach, I thank them. I do not stand here today saying that this budget is a perfect document. But, I do say that it represents the feeling of many people that it is the approach that must be taken at this time. I ask the Members of this Legislature not to judge it on a short term basis but to look at the long-range implications that uncontrolled spending would have on the working men and women of this State.

We simply have to decrease the rate of growth of Government spending and at the

same time accelerate the delivery of services so more dollars will reach the bottom line where they count the most. The bottom line in business is profits. We must make the bottom line in Government be the elderly and the retarded and the people of Maine who need help.

In drafting this budget, we established several policy areas and each department of State Government falls under one of these areas. They are:

1. General Government
2. Economic Development
3. Education and Culture
4. Human Services
5. Manpower
6. Natural Resources
7. Public Protection
8. Transportation

REVENUES

The several sources of revenues anticipated to be available for the biennium were projected in the usual manner taking into consideration normal growth factors, including inflation. In order to provide additional input into the estimating process, two independent projections were made — one by the University Office of Financial Planning at Bangor and one by the ESCO Economic Institute at the Center for Research and Advanced Study, University of Maine, Portland-Gorham.

One of the considerations in using the final estimates is the very adequate safeguards provided to me in case of a shortfall in revenues to reduce allotments in order to maintain a balanced situation.

The level of General Fund Revenues anticipated for the biennium is \$665 million. This is made up of \$320 million in the first year and \$345 million in the second year. This is less the amount required for State-Local Revenue Sharing as provided by law.

To this must be added an amount of \$15.5 in Federal Revenue Sharing in each year of the biennium. It should be noted that current congressional authorization of Revenue Sharing is only through the third quarter payment in fiscal year 1977. At the present time, continuation is expected

although the dollar level and distribution between levels of government is now under consideration. At the present time local units of government receive about twice the dollar amount received at the state level.

BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

In screening budget requests, we used a basic criteria. Requests that were designed to help people were given priority over requests that merely advocated more brick and mortar to expand programs.

As a result of our searching analysis of requests, we were able to:

1. Reduce the requests of over a billion dollars to \$700 million.
2. Postpone all capital construction except those projects which represented only the highest priority repairs and new projects that were absolutely essential. Therefore, capital construction requests of some \$35 million were reduced to \$3 million.

I would now like to discuss in detail some areas of the budget.

A. EDUCATION

The budget calls for spending of \$31 million for the Department of Education, \$229 million for School Subsidy and \$70 million for the operations of the University of Maine.

I would like to reaffirm my support for the basic philosophy of Equality of Opportunity of L. D. 1994 and its attempts to bring a more uniform cost to the financing of education in the State of Maine. Of the recommendations made recently by the Education Subsidy Commission, I am in favor of the following:

1. Basing the subsidy for schools on the last known year's expenditures with a provision for inflation. This will eliminate the possibility of repeating the current deficit situation.
2. Minor Capital Outlay should be based on a per pupil standard. By incorporating this in the Uniform Property Tax we would be able to return control over capital expenditures to the local level where it belongs.

I am recommending continuation of the same level of funding for the University as is presently authorized. I am further asking the Board of Trustees and Administrators of the University to make the same searching analysis and review of their operations and programs that are being sought in other agencies of State Government. I am asking that they make every effort to reduce administration costs and to curtail purely public relations programs to promote the University and/or personalities within the administration or beyond the problem of governmental incest as it relates to spending. In any event I am asking the University to eliminate spending of student and taxpayer money to promote further spending of student and taxpayer money.

B. HEALTH AND WELFARE

The current level of spending in the Human Services Department of Health and Welfare of \$96.6 million has been increased in our budget to \$112.1 million to cover the cost of current programs. This will allow us to better serve those citizens who have the greatest need in the following areas:

1. Increasing the Food Services for the Elderly.
2. Continuation of the Mandatory and Optional Supplemental Security Income Program.
3. Expansion of the Food Stamp

**GENERAL FUND
SUMMARY OF UNDEDICATED REVENUES**

Revenue Source	Actual	Estimated	Budget Recom.	
	1973-74	1975-76	1975-76	1976-77
Taxes on Land	\$5,726,262	\$7,570,325	\$12,320,536	\$14,184,643
Inheritance & Estate Taxes	7,112,543	8,125,000	8,500,000	8,500,000
Personal Income Tax	37,268,331	43,063,559	50,200,000	58,250,000
Local Government Fund*	1,490,733	1,722,542	2,008,000	2,330,000
General Fund Portion	35,777,598	41,341,017	48,192,000	55,920,000
Corporate Income Tax	13,063,265	14,850,000	14,900,000	14,900,000
Local Government Fund*	524,115	594,000	596,000	596,000
General Fund Portion	12,539,150	14,256,000	14,304,000	14,304,000
Cigarette Taxes	19,991,671	22,662,321	23,600,000	23,650,000
Sales & Use Taxes	127,297,625	135,854,915	157,225,000	170,725,000
Local Government Fund*	5,120,157	5,434,197	6,289,000	6,829,000
General Fund Portion	122,177,468	130,420,718	150,936,000	163,896,000
Corporation Taxes	587,764	806,300	417,500	421,500
Public Utility Taxes	8,369,915	7,947,000	10,090,000	11,080,000
Insurance Premiums Taxes	6,369,103	7,940,500	8,440,000	9,440,000
Commission on Pari-Mutuels	862,146	850,000	1,200,000	1,200,000
Income from Investments	5,839,965	6,615,545	5,816,600	5,817,700
Income from Alcoholic Beverages	20,134,352	20,918,473	21,600,000	22,400,000
Income from State Lottery		3,078,000	4,100,000	4,100,000
Other Revenue	9,335,677	9,427,399	10,323,283	10,414,046
Total Undedicated Revenue	261,958,619	289,709,337	328,732,919	355,082,889
Local Government Fund*	7,135,005	7,750,739	8,893,000	9,755,000
Available for Appropriation	\$254,823,614	\$281,958,598	\$319,839,919	\$345,327,889
		\$536,782,212	\$665,167,808	

*State/Local Revenue Sharing

Program. In fact, our budget calls for a threefold increase in the second year of the biennium.

4. Expansion of the Funding for the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) Program.

5. Increasing the Medical Care Program close to \$8 million.

6. Expansion of the Intermediate Care Program for Citizens in Nursing Homes.

This department has made repeated requests to the taxpayers for an enormous increase in funding to meet new and expanding social programs and the increases that I am suggesting fall within the ability of the State to pay. I am now calling on the department to improve its operation to eliminate the error and fraud that exists in its programs. By implementation of this all out effort, many of the additional money requests will not be needed, as we will be making dollar recommendations in the area of aid to charitable institutions and the Catastrophic Illness Program.

We are not making recommendations in the area of Aid to Charitable Institutions and the Catastrophic Illness Program because there is evidence that there is need for further study to determine if services under these programs are actually reaching the people. These are among the programs that can better be addressed at the Special Session of this Legislature, which I have already indicated I will call after Labor Day. I'm told that no human services will be adversely affected as these represent deferred payments.

C. MENTAL HEALTH AND CORRECTIONS

The Current Services Budget for the Department of Mental Health and Corrections has been increased \$4.3 million over the current authorized funding of \$60.6 million. A special analysis was needed to take into account the extraordinary increases in the cost of food and fuel for the Institutions in that Department. We also have noted a trend, supported by my Administration, toward Community Mental Health Centers in an effort to take much of the burden off the more traditional State Mental Health Institutes. In fact, there has been a significant drop in the number of persons residing at the Institutions over the last five years. As Governor, I am asking this Department to show declining expenses to reflect this declining population.

D. HIGHWAY

Establishing the Highway Budget was particularly difficult since the energy situation has seriously affected revenues supporting the program and inflation has skyrocketed costs associated with maintaining and improving our road system in Maine. The Department of Transportation has responded to this situation by reducing activities and increasing its effectiveness. Every effort must be made to continue this effort. As a result of the Department's efforts, we can assure you that the approximately \$70 million per year required to provide for necessary highway programs is available from anticipated dedicated revenues.

To protect the State's significant investment in highways and for the safety of citizens operating on Maine roads, I am proposing a Capital Improvement Program requiring \$17.1 million dollars in State funds which is the same amount authorized by the 106th Legislature. This program initiates a major effort to replace and improve many of the older, deficient

bridges in the State and while the emphasis of the program addresses the significant bridge problems, the program also includes many smaller cost items which will improve existing highways rather than call for new highway construction. To support the Capital Improvement Program, I am recommending several new approaches:

1. Adjustment in fees associated with the Highway Program which we estimate will produce \$6.2 million dollars.

2. A replacement bond issue in the amount of \$10.9 million.

While this proposal creates a situation whereby we are not raising the overall level of bonded indebtedness, I intend to strive for a pay as you go situation as an ultimate goal in the Highway Program. Under this long range plan which we have asked the Department of Transportation to design, new bond issues would be arranged to coincide with the amortization of old bond issues.

PROBLEMS FACING US

In addition to L. D. 1994 which I mentioned earlier, there are other problems facing the Governor and this Legislature. One of these is the Control Program for the Spruce Budworm. I urge the Legislature to consider this problem area carefully. I will work closely with the Legislature to come up with a funding program that is fair to all concerned, particularly the taxpayers of this State. I feel personally that the timber companies who are the primary owners and beneficiaries have the obligation to implement and fund this Control Program if it should be undertaken. The State should be only expected to pay what its fair share should be whether it be 10, 20, 30 percent or more of the amount remaining after federal funding.

I deeply regret that our financial situation will not permit us to do all things for all the people that I might like to do or others might like to see done. Funds for a general raise at this moment for all State employees could only be generated through layoffs or a major tax increase. With unemployment lines growing daily in the State, I feel this would compound the problem and I also feel there are those on unemployment lines who would be willing to trade places with anyone with a secure job. This is one of those areas that can better be addressed at the next session of this Legislature which hopefully will be before next January.

I've said repeatedly that dedicated State employees should be paid equal to their counterparts in private industry, but we need more time to locate and reward those employees who are making a sacrifice to stay in state employment. I hope State employees will embrace this approach in fairness to the unemployed and underemployed in this State and in recognition of the serious economic problems we now face.

Our Biennial Budget creates the problem of anticipating levels of funding two and one-half years in advance. Even an annual review given the present economic climate is uncertain and leads to emergency funding problems that must be addressed for the current fiscal year.

I have previously discussed the L. D. 1994 funding problems. I am advised by my Commissioner of Education and advisors that to meet this deficit situation in which we find ourselves will require \$20.5 million — an appropriation of \$9.9 million dollars from our available surplus and the funding of the remaining balance

of \$10.6 million from the presently authorized \$25.0 million dollar bond issue.

To make it clearer, the funding of the State's share of this year's school construction program, \$10.6 million will be from the presently authorized \$25 million bond issue and the remaining balance by appropriating \$9.9 million from our available surplus. This was an unfortunate situation and I plead with this legislature in the future to avoid legislation that does not have adequate safeguards or adequate funding in advance of passage.

Additionally, we have requests from Health and Welfare for 2.1 million dollars to finance SSI for the balance of this fiscal year and an additional amount of \$4.2 million dollars for Medical Care, AFDC, General Assistance and other necessary social services.

We must also provide \$600,000 to replace funding for Tax Relief to the Elderly, \$69,500 for the Tree Growth Tax Payments and \$1,494,000 to provide for the full amount of reimbursements to the municipalities in phasing out the Personal Property Tax.

These and several other appropriations are provided for in the Emergency Appropriations Act to be funded from General Fund unappropriated surplus estimated to be available.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I would ask the Members of the 107th Legislature to examine this Budget Document and the premise upon which it is presented carefully before criticizing particular areas.

Let me say again that we are simply asking that this budget, which we feel meets basic needs and which will keep the store open, be given full consideration by this Legislature. We ask this Legislature to consider the needs of the State as a whole and the plight of the working men and women rather than only centering its concern on a particular department or a specific special interest.

If we can accept this basic premise of this budget, I feel we can shorten this Legislative Session and use the weeks and months in the near future to more carefully plot our future course. In this time we can develop a partnership between the Legislature, the Governor's Office and the Business Community and further develop potential cost savings and study programs to make sure the maximum amount of dollars are reaching the people who need help.

During this period, using the new budget as a management tool, we can also reassess priorities and identify those programs which overlap or are duplications or where additional efficiencies can be introduced or where the bottom line of the beneficiary is not the people who should be helped but rather a department of government.

This may be the most important budget ever considered by a Maine Legislature. How we deal with it may well determine whether we start down the path of sound fiscal management or whether we continue to have management by crisis in State Government. For the good of the people of Maine, we have to acknowledge that there is no such thing as a free lunch or a free education. There is no free ride for very long and eventually the piper has to be paid.

As I said earlier, this budget represents the very best efforts of a great many people to:

1. Keep the store of State Government open and to meet basic human needs.

2. Allow 6 months time to actually measure revenue sources.

3. Take a good hard look at operations in State Government so when we meet in the fall we can more realistically establish dollar priorities for human needs.

This budget, I feel, and my pledge that I will call a Special Session of the Legislature accomplishes these things.

As I said, this budget represents my own best efforts to present a balanced budget without a tax increase and to meet people needs in the best possible manner.

But, to the extent the Legislature sees it differently and can develop a better and fairer way, I pledge to you the Members my support and cooperation.

Before closing I want to say how much pleasure and confidence I have that this legislature will do what is right. As a matter of fact, your Governor is saying he has more confidence in the Legislature in Maine than apparently the President of the United States has in the Congress of the United States. He has presented a budget with a deficit of \$52 billion, \$1 billion each week, and a day of reckoning has to come. Apparently he lacked confidence that his Congress, the Congress of the United States, would agree to a balanced budget approach, or at least the opportunity to evaluate on its own that approach. By contrast, I feel this Legislature will do everything possible to avoid a tax increase at this time. I have done my part; I am now asking you to do yours.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to address this Honorable Body.

(Prolonged applause, the audience rising.)

At the conclusion of the Governor's address, the Governor withdrew amid applause, the audience rising

The purpose for which the Convention was assembled having been accomplished, the Chairman declared the same dissolved and the Senate retired to its chambers, amid applause of the House, the members rising.

In the House

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

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

HOUSE DIVIDED REPORT — Majority (11) "Ought not to Pass" — Minority (2) "Ought to Pass" Committee on State Government on Bill "An Act Establishing a Seal for Official Use of the Legislature." (H. P. 58) (L. D. 70)

Tabled — February 5, by Mr. Rolde of York.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Cooney of Sabattus to accept Majority Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from East Millinocket, Mr. Birt.

Mr. BIRT: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: It is a rather interesting time to get up to discuss any particular piece of legislation, but I will attempt it. I would like to explain to you the background of this particular legislation, how it happened to come into being and see if it can help you to make a decision as to what you might desire to do with this bill.

Initially, back two years ago, I had been interested not in the number of orders but the cost of reproducing the orders and resolutions that came before the legislature. At that time, during the

regular session, a cost of the orders and memorials that had been presented this legislature was a cost of \$3,119.70. At that time, the procedure was to have each one of these orders, memorials, resolutions sent out to the Kennebec Journal, set up in type, and having run off one copy, the cost of running off additional copies was very minimal and usually they gave the sponsor of the memorial or the resolution about fifty copies. I had wondered if there was some way of cutting this down.

Another big factor that results in most of these is the amount of work that is required by the people in the Legislative Research Office to write these up. I knew that it took a good deal of time, particularly at that time, it was done mainly by the assistant director. He used to take them home and do them at night where he had some time to think and he wasn't under the pressure of someone dropping into the office.

Last summer he came up with some thoughts on standardized memorials and resolutions and presented them to the Legislative Council. In the course of it, he recommended that the legislature develop some form of seal and have one of these available with the hand mechanism in both the Clerk's Office and the Secretary of State's Office.

When this was done, there was a committee the Legislative Council appointed to look into the possibility to this proposal that came from the Director of the Legislative Research. We did discuss with BPI — they had one of their people over in their department that is handy with a pen — and he drew up a couple of proposals, one of which the Legislative Council looked at and generally they approved and endorsed and authorized it to be used. But at this time the Attorney General came into the picture and looking the thing over ruled that the state seal could not be used by any other department without permission, without legislative action, because the state seal is completely in the province of the Secretary of State.

We could use the system of going down stairs every time that it was necessary and have any order or resolution given a seal or we could ignore the thing altogether. We asked him for an opinion and he recommended that if we wished to do anything in this area that we do have some legislation drawn up, which is what you have to consider before you today.

I have been asked one other question, "Why do you need a seal?" This is a good and fair question, I guess, and it seems to be a part of our whole society that they do. I don't know where the idea originally generated from or developed, but I think it might even go back into the Roman times. I do notice one notice that came on our desks this morning. It says a notary public is available in the Clerk's Office with seal each day of the week in the event that members need notarization of documents.

The overall cost of that is another question I was asked. These little stamping devices cost about \$14.00 a piece. To have the seal made up and put in there and it requires some art work. I understand from talking with the Director of Legislative Research the overall cost would be less than a \$100.

I think the idea of having some standardized memorial and maybe some more work could be done to dress this up a little bit, and the process that was outlined does make a lot of sense. The Legislative Council explored it thoroughly, I feel, and they did recommend this procedure. I

would just conclude with the hope that you might defeat the motion to accept the majority report and then accept the minority report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will order a vote. The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Sabattus, Mr. Cooney, that the House accept that Majority "Ought not to Pass" Report. All in favor of that motion will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

A vote of the House was taken.

53 having voted in the affirmative and 71 having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

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

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

Mr. LaPOINTE: Mr. Speaker, is the House in possession of House Paper 448, Joint Order relative to listing of salaries of state employees?

The SPEAKER: The House is in possession of House Order 448.

Mr. LaPOINTE: Mr. Speaker, I now ask that the House reconsider its action whereby it passed House Paper 448, and having done so, I ask the members of the House to vote against my motion.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. LaPointe, moves the House reconsider its action of earlier in the day whereby House Joint Order relative to the printing of state employees' salaries received passage. All in favor of reconsideration will say yes; those opposed will say no.

A viva voce vote being doubted by the Chair, a vote of the House was taken.

40 having voted in the affirmative and 87 having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

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

From the Senate: The following Order: ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they adjourn to Tuesday, February 11, at ten o'clock in the morning. (S. P. 165)

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

On motion of Mr. Faucher of Solon Adjourned until Tuesday, February 11, at ten o'clock in the morning.