

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

***One Hundred and Eighth
Legislature***

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

Volume I

January 5, 1977 to May 25, 1977

KJ PRINTING
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Wednesday, February 9, 1977

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

Prayer by the Reverend Richard C. Dyer of the Winthrop Friends Church.

The members stood at attention during the playing of the National Anthem by the Wiscasset High School Band.

The journal of the previous session was read and approved.

Order Out of Order

An Expression of Legislative Sentiment (H. P. 209) recognizing that:

Paul Belanger of Sanford High School has won the James R. Fitzpatrick Trophy for the most outstanding football player in Maine

Presented by Mr. Gauthier of Sanford. (Cosponsors: Mr. Nadeau of Sanford, Mr. Wood of Sanford)

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Sanford, Mr. Nadeau.

Mr. NADEAU: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: Paul was almost instrumental in pulling out the game over the Red Eddies of Auburn. He has surely proven himself as being one of the outstanding football players in the State of Maine by winning the Fitzpatrick Trophy, which is equal to the Heisman Trophy of college football.

Paul is also a gifted athlete in basketball and baseball. In the Southern Big Eight Conference, he is leading in scoring and assisting steals. He is here today with his Coach, George Carley, his football coach, who I am sure has led him along the right way. We of Sanford and the Maine State Legislature wish Paul the best of luck in his coming years in college. (Applause)

Thereupon, the Order received passage and was sent up for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, ordered sent forthwith to the Senate.

Papers from the Senate

From the Senate:

Bill "An Act to Allocate Moneys for the Administrative Expenses of the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages, Department of Finance and Administration and the State Liquor Commission for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1978 and June 30, 1979" (Emergency) (S. P. 104) (L. D. 233)

Bill "An Act to Make Allocations from the Maine Coastal Protection Fund for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1978 and June 30, 1979" (Emergency) (S. P. 105) (L. D. 234)

Bill "An Act to Allocate Moneys for the Administrative Expenses of the State Lottery Commission for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1978 and June 30, 1979" (Emergency) (S. P. 107) (L. D. 236)

Bill "An Act to Allocate Money from the Federal Revenue Sharing Fund for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1978 and June 30, 1979" (Emergency) (S. P. 106) (L. D. 235)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and ordered printed.

In the House, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Relating to Conduct of Examinations" (S. P. 97) (L. D. 226)

Bill "An Act Relating to Valuation of Real Estate Held by Insurers" (S. P. 101) (L. D. 230)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Business Legislation and ordered printed.

In the House, referred to the Committee on Business Legislation in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Relating to Adult Education" (S. P. 102) (L. D. 231)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Education and ordered printed.

In the House, referred to the Committee on Education in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Providing Legal Definition of Hunter Orange" (S. P. 100) (L. D. 229)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife and ordered printed.

In the House, referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife in concurrence.

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to the Reporting of Child Abuse or Child Neglect" (S. P. 99) (L. D. 228)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services and ordered printed.

In the House: On motion of Mr. Talbot of Portland, tabled pending reference in concurrence and tomorrow assigned.

Bill "An Act Relating to Work Probation in Lieu of Fine" (S. P. 108) (L. D. 237)

Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Requirement of the Secretary of State to Maintain a Copy of Murder Transcripts" (Emergency) (S. P. 109) (L. D. 238)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Judiciary and ordered printed.

In the House, referred to the Committee on Judiciary in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Concerning the Power of the Criminal Justice Academy to Inspect Records to Ensure Compliance with Law Enforcement Officer Employment Requirements" (S. P. 98) (L. D. 227)

Bill "An Act Concerning the Definition of Full-time Local Law Enforcement Officer" (S. P. 103) (L. D. 232)

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on State Government and ordered printed.

In the House, referred to the Committee on State Government in concurrence.

Reports of Committees Ought Not to Pass

Report of the Committee on Election Laws reporting "Ought Not to Pass" on Bill "An Act to Prohibit a Nominee for Public Office from Withdrawing his Candidacy unless he is Physically or Mentally Incapacitated." (S. P. 2) (L. D. 5)

Was placed in the Legislative Files without further action pursuant to Joint Rule 20 in concurrence.

Divided Report

Majority Report of the Committee on Legal Affairs reporting "Ought to Pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-4) on Bill "An Act Exempting Homeowner Occupied Dwellings Built Before January 1, 1974 from Certain Safety Glazing Requirements" (S. P. 30) (L. D. 42)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. CURTIS of Penobscot
CARPENTER of Aroostook
Mrs. CUMMINGS of Penobscot
— of the Senate.

Mrs. DURGIN of Kittery
Messrs. GOULD of Old Town
MOODY of Richmond
COTE of Lewiston
DUDLEY of Enfield
— of the House.

Minority Report of the Same Committee reporting "Ought Not to Pass" on same Bill.

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. BURNS of Anson
SHUTE of Stockton Springs
JOYCE of Portland
CARRIER of Westbrook
BIRON of Lewiston

— of the House.
Came from the Senate with the Majority "Ought to Pass" Report accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-4).

In the House: Reports were read.
Mr. COTE of Lewiston moved that the House accept the Majority "Ought to Pass" Report in concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Stockton Springs, Mr. Shute.

Mr. SHUTE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: As you will note by the report, I was one of the signers of the Minority Report, which is a very close report on this bill.

What this bill does is exempt about 90 percent of the homes in the state from the safety glazing requirements that were enacted in 1973. The reason that bill was enacted in 1973 was because of a rash of accidents, many fatal accidents, of people falling through storm doors and passage ways.

The present law requires that all passage ways and entrance doors have safety glass or plex-a-glass in them. It does not require the safety glass in windows or storm windows.

I think this is a good safety requirement the way we have this law and I would hate to see it repealed at this time.

The way the bill is printed up, it does not exempt apartment houses. The only thing it does exempt is homeowners. I think we should take into account the safety of homeowners as well as those people dwelling in apartment buildings.

Probably I have a more special interest in this than many of you because in 1970, just before this law was enacted, my 10-year-old niece was running into her house, fell through the glass door, cut her throat and, of course, died immediately.

I think this is a good safety requirement. I don't think that we can exempt homeowners from this safety requirement any more than we can exempt the homeowners from the safety requirements of the plumbing code, the electrical code or any other thing.

I would hope that you would reject the Majority Report and then support the Minority Report "Ought not to pass."

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Cote, that the Majority "Ought to pass" Report be accepted in concurrence. All those in favor of that motion will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

A vote of the House was taken.
41 having voted in the affirmative and 80 having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

Thereupon, the Minority "Ought not to pass" Report was accepted in non-concurrence and sent up for concurrence.

Messages and Documents

The following Communication: (S. P. 110)
State of Maine
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Augusta, Maine

February 1, 1977
To: Members of the 108th Maine Legislature
From: Governor James B. Longley
Subject: Preliminary Message on Education Funding, Property Taxation and Steps Toward Tax Reform
Due to pending legal questions relating to

education funding, the uniform property tax and the inventory tax, it is not possible at this time to outline this administration's total tax reform message to this Legislature. I am advised that it might be at least another week before all the legal determinations are made. Therefore, rather than delay the addressing of some of the major questions, including specific options on the inventory tax, I would like to pay the Legislators the courtesy of sharing with them our preliminary thinking as it relates to the following:

- (1) Recommendations relating to the additional \$28 million scheduled to be collected under the uniform property tax in fiscal 1978.
- (2) Property tax mill(s) rate reduction.
- (3) Property tax assessment and collection.
- (4) Long-range goals and objectives.

While our preliminary decisions in these areas might be affected by final legal opinions and rulings, hopefully this preliminary report will give this Legislature an indication of the direction we hope to take.

THE \$28 MILLION AND MILL RATE REDUCTION

First, it is imperative that we all have a clear understanding of the facts surrounding the so-called "28 million surplus" which is being forecast as being available to appropriate for additional educational spending. I believe that, when the 107th Legislature provided for a statutory reduction in the uniform property tax rate from 13 mills in fiscal year 1977 to 12.5 mills in fiscal year 1978, the intent was to convey to the people a legislative desire to further reduce the level of property tax burden to be borne by this tax. At that time, certainly no one could accurately forecast the amount of property valuation increase which the 1977 state valuation would produce nor could the Legislature anticipate the exact dollar amount of education funding requirements for the next fiscal year. The combination of these unforeseen circumstances have now, surprisingly to some, produced a situation in which the projected dollar yield from the uniform property tax in fiscal year 1978 would exceed by approximately \$28 million the corresponding yield in the present fiscal year if no changes were made in the tax rate. I have previously stated that I do not approve of this tax increase taking place unless the citizens of Maine vote to approve at the local level both the additional property taxes and the additional spending for education at the local level.

Therefore, pending final legal opinions, I will support, in addition to the one-half mill rate reduction outlined in my Budget Address, the return of the remaining \$22 million to the citizens of Maine as follows:

(a) A repeal of the approximately \$18 million income tax increase approved last year by the 107th Legislature without public hearing. This would allow the Maine Legislature, known historically for its fairness, to provide tax relief and reduce the per capita tax burden for the very group of our citizens who were assessed confiscatory taxes without opportunity for input. A repeal of the income tax increase would represent a direct \$18 million tax reduction for Maine people and would equate to a reduction of some \$36 million in the property tax since we are advised that approximately 50 percent of the property tax is paid by businesses and out-of-state residents.

1. We suggest that the difference in the \$18 million income tax repeal and the remaining \$22 million also be returned in the form of an additional fractional reduction in the mill rate, and;

2. Our recommendation is based on the repeal of the rate increase alone and not the standard deductions and low income allowance provisions which also were included in that law.

(b) Or, if we are restricted by law from the

income tax reduction outlined above, or if the Legislature prefers, I will support an approach whereby the remaining \$22 million be returned to the taxpayers in the form of a reduction of as much as an additional two mills in the uniform property tax.

This will enable the people of the towns and cities of Maine . . . not the Governor and the Legislature, to decide if they want to spend this additional amount for education. It is important to understand that this does not shift a tax to local governments . . . it shifts the decision of whether or not to tax and spend more for education to the local citizens rather than have a Legislature and a Governor dictate any further tax burden or dictate even more education spending and higher spending per pupil.

LONG-RANGE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Also, I feel a responsibility today, to outline for the Legislature and the people of Maine the following long-range objectives with regard to property taxation and education finance:

(1) We must separate any state-imposed tax on property from the financing of education. I believe that the present uniform property tax is inappropriately tied to education spending with the result being that the citizens of Maine are unnecessarily divided as towns and cities are fragmented into "pay-in" versus "receiving" communities. Even so-called receiving communities have been deceived into believing they're getting more from Augusta than they're paying in all forms of taxes . . . or, giving up in the form of local control of their own lives and decisions and destinies. To quote a statement co-authored by a member of the current Legislature in a report filed for the Joint Select Committee on State Tax Policy:

"Our primary disagreement with the present law is with the tax policy features, specifically the State Uniform Property Tax. It should be noted that L. D. 1994 and its successors all have been the product of the Joint Standing Committee on Education. In our opinion the Legislature has made a fundamental and grievous error in tying these two major policy areas together in one law. It should separate the two and deal with each on its own merits."

(2) The state must establish its intent to support a basic minimum standard of educational support tied to increased local decision-making with the assurance that those decisions will not infringe upon the right of any Maine student to be provided with a free public education designed to assure a basic level of competence and achievement.

(3) Decisions affecting the establishment of education funding levels within the state budgetary picture must be addressed within the same time frames and under the same priority adoption procedures as are applied to all other state-supported programs.

(4) Because Maine is a property-rich state by comparison and inasmuch as the state is now financially supporting many local programs which have previously been funded from the local property tax, we must agree that a state-imposed tax on property is not only defensible but desirable if done within the context of an overall state/local tax policy. I am, therefore, proposing that the Legislature establish a state property tax which shall be an undedicated revenue source to the general fund but which shall be strictly limited in terms of:

(a) A maximum per capita tax burden on the people of Maine.

(b) A maximum percentage share of general fund revenues, and;

(c) Strict limits must be placed on the responsibility and authority of the Legislature and the Governor to annually allow for increases in the dollar and/or mill rate levels derived from this tax on property.

PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT

Improvements in the administration of the

State property tax will be pursued immediately. I am asking for legislation which will require the Bureau of Taxation to appraise industrial properties in the state, and all operating public utilities subject to taxation with a value in excess of \$10,000,000 (\$1,000,000 by 1985). This legislation will require that the municipalities use these appraisals as the basis for their assessed value of these individual properties. I am submitting legislation in this area which will require municipalities to segregate property in the Valuation Book by types of property in order to insure proper comparisons with market values and other significant valuation data. There are several other pieces of legislation which I will be submitting which I feel will significantly enhance the administration and equalization of our state property tax laws.

It is my feeling that as we proceed and continue to improve our property tax administration that the residential property taxpayer will realize greater protection and less tax penalty and discrimination than many feel presently exists.

I will also be introducing legislation which will require the Governor to present an omnibus tax bill at the same time as the submission of his budget. This bill would include the state tax mix recommended to finance the budget. It would also contain projections of local tax effort so that total state and local tax mix can be derived. Such a bill will give the tax mix visibility and will provide the vehicle for conscious decision-making in this area. Most importantly, it will put the focus on the tax mix and per capita tax burden rather than allow future tax increases without benefit of specific data and/or equity, and/or justification.

I am now in receipt of the recommendations for education funding levels for fiscal year 1978 as submitted by the Commissioner and the State Board of Education. I am presently reviewing these recommendations and will certify to the Legislature on or before February 15th my specific recommendations as they relate to education funding levels and taxation for the upcoming fiscal year. Needless to say, these recommendations may be affected by legal opinions and rulings which are expected within the next few days, but I am proceeding in my review of these issues with the expectation that a reduction in the level of the uniform property tax rate will be allowable during the next fiscal year. As I have indicated earlier, my goal is to hold the line against any increase in the state-imposed uniform property tax dollar assessment and to reserve to the local citizens the determination of any property tax increase which may be voted for education.

I feel we have made considerable progress in refining the education finance law during the past two years. However, I believe we can still do much more to simplify the law, to return more local decision-making in terms of the levels of spending necessary to go beyond a basic educational program. I believe it is important for the state to assure that all municipalities make suitable provision for the education of our youth but I believe that state mandates should not extend beyond those levels of program requirements necessary to assure that all students are provided with a basic educational program. The decision of whether to expend monies to achieve a standard of excellence beyond this basic program standard should be primarily that of local citizens.

I have chosen to focus on the issue of education funding and property taxation at this time since I believe there is a critical need to eliminate some of the confusion which now exists in this area. However, I believe that matters of taxation as they relate to education cannot be addressed in isolation but should be dealt with as part of an overall state/local tax policy. With this in mind, I will be submitting a set of

comprehensive proposals which deal with the entire area of state/local tax policy, percentages of tax mix, and limitations on per capita taxation and debt burden which I believe Maine citizens should be asked to bear. This additional information, pertaining to tax reform must of necessity await receipt and study of pending opinions requested of the Attorney General and a very important question, presently being finalized by the Legislature, for submission to the Supreme Judicial Court of Maine.

(Signed) JAMES B. LONGLEY

Came from the Senate, read and ordered placed on file.

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

The following Communication: (S. P. 120)
State of Maine

One Hundred and Eighth Legislature
Committee on Judiciary

February 2, 1977

The Honorable May M. Ross

Secretary of the Senate

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

re: Order SP 87 relating to

I.B. 1 "An Act to Repeal the
State Property Tax"

Dear Mrs. Ross:

We believe that in view of the change effective April 1, 1976, as described in the enclosed memo, that this Committee has no further duties and I.B. 1 should be returned to your office for further procedure.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) SAMUEL W. COLLINS JR.

Senate Chairman

(Signed) RICHARD A. SPENCER

House Chairman

Came from the Senate, read and with accompanying paper ordered placed on file, and accompanying Bill, I.B. 1, "An Act to Repeal State Property Tax," referred to the Committee on Taxation, and ordered printed.

In the House, the Communication was read and with accompanying paper ordered placed on file, and accompanying Bill, I.B. 1, "An Act to Repeal State Property Tax," referred to the Committee on Taxation in concurrence.

Petitions, Bills and Resolves Requiring Reference

The following Bills, Resolves and Resolution were received and referred to the following Committees:

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Bill "An Act Appropriating Funds for Defense of Indian Claims Litigation" (Emergency) (H. P. 254) (Presented by Mr. Marshall of Millinocket) (Cosponsor: Mrs. Kane of Augusta)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Agriculture

Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Milk Law" (H. P. 216) (Presented by Mr. Torrey of Poland)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Business Legislation

Bill "An Act to Provide for Cumulative Voting by Corporations Registered in Maine" (H. P. 217) (Presented by Mrs. Trafton of Auburn)

Bill "An Act Concerning Transient Sales of Consumer Merchandise" (H. P. 218) (Presented by Mrs. Boudreau of Portland)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Savings and Loan Association Law" (H. P. 255) (Presented by Mr. Higgins of Scarborough)

Bill "An Act Concerning Solicitation Sales of Consumer Merchandise" (H. P. 256) (Presented by Miss Brown of Bethel) (Cospon-

sor: Mrs. Kane of Augusta)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

(Off Record Remarks)

Education

Bill "An Act Relating to Representation of Maine Maritime Academy on the Post Secondary Education Commission of Maine" (H. P. 219) (Presented by Mrs. Lewis of Auburn)

Bill "An Act Relating to the Payment of Special Education Tuition and Board for the Fiscal Year 1977" (Emergency) (H. P. 220) (Presented by Mrs. Beaulieu of Portland)

Bill "An Act to Require the Teaching of the Free Enterprise System" (H. P. 257) (Presented by Mr. Gray of Rockland) (Cosponsor: Mr. Bagley of Winthrop)

Bill "An Act to Increase Flexibility in the Funding and Operation of the Vocational-Technical Institutes" (H. P. 221) (Presented by Mr. Birt of East Millinocket)

Bill "An Act to Amend the State Tuition Equalization Fund" (H. P. 258) (Presented by Mr. Fenlason of Danforth)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Election Laws

Bill "An Act to Clarify Voter Registration Procedures" (H. P. 222) (Presented by Mrs. Trafton of Auburn)

Bill "An Act to Regulate the Circulating of Initiative or Referendum Petitions" (H. P. 223) (Presented by Mr. Lizotte of Biddeford)

Bill "An Act to Provide for Columnar Arrangement of the General Election Ballot by Party" (H. P. 259) (Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston) (Cosponsor: Mr. Joyce of Portland)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Fisheries and Wildlife

Bill "An Act Permitting Reciprocity with States that issue Complimentary Hunting and Fishing Licenses to a Person who is Suffering from Paraplegia or who is Suffering from Loss of or the Loss of the use of Both Lower Extremities" (H. P. 260) (Presented by Mr. Nadeau of Sanford)

Bill "An Act Concerning Proof of Residence Required for Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Licenses" (H. P. 261) (Presented by Mr. Dow of West Gardiner)

Bill "An Act Concerning Revocation of Certain Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Licenses" (H. P. 262) (Presented by Mr. Dow of West Gardiner)

Bill "An Act Concerning Bass Fishing" (H. P. 263) (Presented by Mr. Dow of West Gardiner)

Bill "An Act Limiting to 8 the Number of Dogs which may be used to Hunt Bear" (H. P. 264) (Presented by Mr. Dow of West Gardiner)

Bill "An Act Concerning the Taking of Black Bass" (H. P. 265) (Presented by Mr. Dow of West Gardiner)

Bill "An Act to Make Allocations from the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1978 and June 30, 1979" (Emergency) (H. P. 266) (Presented by Mr. McBreairty of Perham)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Health and Institutional Services

Bill "An Act to Raise the Age Distinguishing Children's Facilities from Adult Facilities from 16 Years of Age to 18 Years of Age" (H. P. 271) (Presented by Mrs. Gill of South Portland)

Bill "An Act Relating to Communicable Diseases" (H. P. 267) (Presented by Mr. Hobbins of Saco)

Bill "An Act Relating to Physicians' As-

sistants" (Emergency) (H. P. 268) (Presented by Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick)

Bill "An Act Authorizing the Board of Osteopathic Examination and Registration to Establish Rules and Regulations for Physicians' Assistants, Supervising Physicians and other Delegated Physicians" (H. P. 269) (Presented by Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick)

Bill "An Act Relating to Health Care Facilities" (H. P. 270) (Presented by Mrs. Gill of South Portland)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Bill "An Act to Amend the Priority Social Services Program to Serve Elderly Health Needs" (H. P. 224) (Presented by Ms. Goodwin of Bath)

Committee on Health and Institutional Services was suggested.

On motion of Ms. Goodwin of Bath, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Keep Certain Business and Personal Records Confidential" (H. P. 225) (Presented by Mr. Howe of South Portland)

Bill "An Act Relating to Judicial Review of Public Utilities Commission Decisions" (H. P. 226) (Presented by Mrs. Mitchell of Vassalboro)

Bill "An Act to Modify the Immunity Granted by Statute to a Person Who Testifies Before the Public Utilities Commission on Matters Which May Tend to Incriminate that Person" (H. P. 227) (Presented by Mrs. Tarr of Bridgton)

Bill "An Act to Delete Certain Religious Requirements for Adoption Proceedings" (H. P. 272) (Presented by Mr. Howe of South Portland)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Penalties for Violation of State Anti-trust Laws" (H. P. 273) (Presented by Mr. Wyman of Pittsfield) (Cosponsor: Ms. Benoit of South Portland)

(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Later Today Assigned

Bill "An Act Relating to Responsibility of Parents to Provide Medical Care Coverage for Minor Children" (H. P. 274) (Presented by Miss Brown of Bethel)

Committee on Judiciary was suggested.

On motion of Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick, tabled pending reference and later today assigned.

Business Legislation

Bill "An Act to Provide a Civil Penalty for the Willful Violation of the Unfair Trade Practices Act" (H. P. 275) (Presented by Mr. Marshall of Millinocket) (Cosponsor: Mrs. Gill of South Portland)

Bill "An Act Further Defining the Attorney General's Authority Under the Unfair Trade Practices Act" (H. P. 276) (Presented by Mrs. Gill of South Portland) (Cosponsor: Mrs. Kane of Augusta)

Bill "An Act to Revise the Measure of Damages Under the Unfair Trade Practices Act" (H. P. 277) (Presented by Mrs. Gill of South Portland) (Cosponsor: Mr. Marshall of Millinocket)

Committee on Judiciary was suggested.

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

Judiciary cont'd.

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Authority of Members of Volunteer and Governmental

Organizations to Render Emergency Assistance" (H. P. 278) (Presented by Mr. Drinkwater of Belfast)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

State Government

Bill "An Act to Amend the Powers and Duties of the Maine Committee on Aging" (H. P. 229) (Presented by Ms. Goodwin of Bath)
Committee on Judiciary was suggested.
On motion of Mr. Curran of South Portland, referred to the Committee on State Government, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

Judiciary cont'd.

Bill "An Act to Establish the Maine Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act" (H. P. 228) (Presented by Mr. Henderson of Bangor) (Cosponsor: Mrs. Kany of Waterville)
Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to the Classification of Drug Offenses" (H. P. 280) (Presented by Mr. Perkins of Blue Hill) (Cosponsor: Mrs. Gill of South Portland)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Labor

Bill "An Act Concerning the Payment of Workmen's Compensation Pending an Appeal to the Supreme Judicial Court" (H. P. 281) (Presented by Mr. Hobbins of Saco)
Bill "An Act to Include Salaries, Pensions and Insurance for Binding Arbitration under the Municipal Public Employees Labor Relations Law" (H. P. 282) (Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston)
Bill "An Act to Ensure that the Powers and Duties of Fire Chiefs are subject to Municipal Collective Bargaining Agreements" (H. P. 230) (Presented by Mr. Biron of Lewiston)
Bill "An Act Relating to Length of Labor Agreements" (H. P. 231) (Presented by Mr. Strout of Corinth)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act to Insure the Confidentiality of Criminal and Professional Licensing Investigations" (H. P. 283) (Presented by Mr. Joyce of Portland)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Liquor Control

Bill "An Act to Allow the Purchase of Liquor at a Reduced Price in the Town of Sanford" (H. P. 285) (Presented by Mr. Nadeau of Sanford)
Bill "An Act to Provide for Licensing of Bottle Clubs" (H. P. 232) (Presented by Mr. Boudreau of Waterville)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Local and County Government

Bill "An Act Appropriating Funds for the Purchase of Sets of 'The History of Old Boothbay' by Jasper J. Stahl" (H. P. 286) (Presented by Mr. Blodgett of Waldoboro)
Bill "An Act Concerning Meetings of the County Commissioners of Cumberland County" (H. P. 287) (Presented by Mr. Higgins of Scarborough) (Cosponsor: Mr. Brenerman of Portland)
RESOLVE, to Provide for the Purchase of Copies of 'A History of the Town of Hollis' by Olive Hannaford and Martin Jewitt" (H. P. 233) (Presented by Mr. Carroll of Limerick)
RESOLVE, to Authorize the Purchase of 100 copies of 'Acadian and Van Buren History' (H. P. 234) (Presented by Mr. LeBlanc of Van Buren)
(Ordered Printed)

Sent up for concurrence.

Marine Resources

Bill "An Act to Conserve the Marine Worm Population by Limiting Commercial Marine Worm Digging from November 25th to March 1st of Each Year" (H. P. 235) (Presented by Mr. Silsby of Ellsworth)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Natural Resources

Bill "An Act to Improve the Viability and Efficiency of Local Conservation Commissions" (H. P. 236) (Presented by Mr. Henderson of Bangor)
Bill "An Act Concerning Chemical Control; of Vertebrate Animals" (H. P. 288) (Presented by Mr. Dow of West Gardiner)
Bill "An Act to Revise the Method of Funding Water Pollution Abatement Planning" (H. P. 289) (Presented by Mr. Hunter of Benton)
Bill "An Act Prohibiting the Sale of Certain Aerosol Sprays after January 1, 1979" (H. P. 290) (Presented by Mr. Perkins of Blue Hill) (Cosponsors: Mrs. Mitchell of Vassalboro, Miss Brown of Bethel, Mr. Blodgett of Waldoboro)
RESOLVE to Appropriate Moneys for Research on Black Fly Biology and Continued Research on an Environmentally Safe Insecticidal Control for Black Flies" (Emergency) (H. P. 291) (Presented by Mr. Davies of Orono) (Cosponsor: Mr. MacEachern of Lincoln)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Performance Audit

Bill "An Act Relating to Expenditures of Municipalities for General Assistance" (H. P. 237) (Presented by Mr. Strout of Corinth)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Bill "An Act to Amend the State Supplemental Income for Blind, Disabled and Elderly People to Insure the Automatic Pass-along of Federal Supplemental Security Income Cost-of-Living Increases" (H. P. 292) (Presented by Ms. Goodwin of Bath) (Cosponsors: Mr. Morton of Farmington, Mr. Curran of South Portland)
Committee on Performance Audit was suggested.
On motion of Ms. Goodwin of Bath, referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

Public Utilities

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Borrowing Capacity of the Fort Fairfield Utilities District and to Provide for the Imposition of Liens to Secure Payment of Sewer Rates of the District" (Emergency) (H. P. 293) (Presented by Mr. Mahany of Easton) (Cosponsor: Mr. Peterson of Caribou)
Bill "An Act to Eliminate Membership Deadlines for the Cobossee Watershed District" (H. P. 294) (Presented by Mr. Dow of W. Gardiner) (Cosponsor: Mr. Bagley of Winthrop)
Bill "An Act Granting Implied Power to the Public Utilities Commission" (H. P. 295) (Presented by Mr. Kelleher of Bangor)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

State Government

Resolve, Authorizing the Treasurer of State to Release Funds (H. P. 296) (Presented by Mrs. Gill of South Portland)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act Relating to Weights and Measures" (H. P. 297) (Presented by Mr. Rollins of Dixfield)
Committee on State Government was suggested.
On motion of Mr. Birt of East Millinocket, tabled pending reference and tomorrow assigned.

Health and Institutional Services

Bill "An Act Concerning the Administration of the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner" (H. P. 298) (Presented by Mr. Perkins of Blue Hill) (Cosponsor: Mrs. Boudreau of Portland)
Committee on State Government was suggested.
On motion of Mr. Curran of South Portland, referred to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

State Government cont'd.

Bill "An Act Concerning the Seeking of Competitive Bids by the Treasurer of State" (H. P. 299) (Presented by Mr. Jensen of Portland)
Bill "An Act to Make the Term of Office of the Director of the Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages Coterminous with That of the Governor" (H. P. 300) (Presented by Mr. Raymond of Lewiston)
Bill "An Act to Establish the Salary Level for the Superintendent of the Bureau of Consumer Protection" (H. P. 238) (Presented by Mrs. Boudreau of Portland)
RESOLVE, Authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Public Lands to Convey the State's Interest in a Lot in Richmond, Sagadahoc County, to Clarify Title (H. P. 240) (Presented by Mr. Moody of Richmond)
Bill "An Act Creating a Mental Health Advisory Council" (Emergency) (H. P. 301) (Presented by Miss Brown of Bethel)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act Concerning Merit Ratings for State Employees" (Emergency) (H. P. 302) (Presented by Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston) (Cosponsor: Mrs. Bachrach of Brunswick, Mr. Bagley of Winthrop)
Committee on State Government was suggested.
On motion of Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston, tabled pending reference and tomorrow assigned.

State Government cont'd.

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Limit the Governor to a Single Four-year Term (H. P. 303) (Presented by Mr. Quinn of Gorham)
(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act to Improve the Administration of the State's Merit System" (Emergency) (H. P. 239) (Presented by Mr. Kilcoyne of Gardiner) (Cosponsors: Mr. Hickey of Augusta, Mr. Kelleher of Bangor, Mr. Bustin of Augusta)
Committee on State Government was suggested.
On motion of Mr. Kelleher of Bangor, tabled pending reference and tomorrow assigned.

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Include Farm Trailers, Horse Trailers and Boat Trailers in the Trade-in Law" (H. P. 242) (Presented by Mr. Churchill of Orland)
Bill "An Act Relating to the Motor Vehicle Excise Tax" (H. P. 243) (Presented by Mr. Higgins of Scarborough) (Cosponsors: Mr.

Rideout of Mapleton, Mrs. Mitchell of Vassalboro, Mr. Devoe of Orono)

Bill "An Act Concerning the Administration of Property Tax Laws Administered by the Bureau of Taxation" (H. P. 244) (Presented by Mr. Carey of Waterville) (Cosponsors: Mr. Wood of Sanford, Mr. Brennerman of Portland)

Bill "An Act Exempting Scouting Supplies and Equipment from the State Sales Tax" (H. P. 245) (Presented by Mr. Boudreau of Waterville) (Cosponsor: Mr. Kelleher of Bangor)

Bill "An Act Exempting Gas for Cooking and Heating in Homes from Sales Tax" (H. P. 304) (Presented by Mr. Peterson of Caribou) (Cosponsor: Mr. McBreaity of Perham)

Bill "An Act to Delay the Effective Date of the Implementation of the New State Valuation" (Emergency) (H. P. 305) (Presented by Mr. Mackel of Wells)

Bill "An Act to Provide for an Across the Board Tax Refund to Persons Eligible Under the Elderly Householders Tax and Rent Refund Act" (H. P. 306) (Presented by Mr. Hunter of Benton)

Bill "An Act Exempting Certain Uses of Gas and Electricity from Taxation under the Sales and Use Tax Law" (H. P. 307) (Presented by Mr. Brennerman of Portland) (Cosponsor: Mr. Wood of Sanford, Mr. Carey of Waterville, Mr. Higgins of Scarborough)

Bill "An Act to Increase Exemption on Estates of Veterans" (H. P. 241) (Presented by Mr. Moody of Richmond)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Transportation

Bill "An Act to Revise Certain Motor Vehicle Related Laws" (H. P. 246) (Presented by Mr. Carroll of Limerick)

Bill "An Act to Permit Carpools Under the Public Utilities Law" (H. P. 247) (Presented by Mr. Jensen of Portland)

Bill "An Act Concerning Coach Plate Under the Motor Vehicle Law" (H. P. 249) (Presented by Mrs. Hutchings of Lincolnville)

Bill "An Act to Clarify Transporter Registration and Licensing" (H. P. 250) (Presented by Mr. MacEachern of Lincoln)

Bill "An Act Relating to Nonresident Truck Registration" (H. P. 248) (Presented by Mr. Strout of Corinth)

Bill "An Act Concerning the Required Height of Motorcycle Handlebars" (H. P. 279) (Presented by Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Veterans and Retirement

Bill "An Act Establishing Retirement Age for State Fire Inspectors at 55 Years" (H. P. 284) (Presented by Mr. Jacques of Lewiston)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

**Study Reports
Joint Select Committee
on County Government**

Mrs. Berube from the Joint Select Committee on County Government to which was referred the study relative to County Government, pursuant to H. P. 1670 of the 107th Legislature, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to submit its findings and report that the accompanying Bill, "An Act to Strengthen the Counties' Role in Human Services" (H. P. 213) (L. D. 223) be referred to the Committee on Local and County Government for public hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 17. (Clerk of the House suggests 1,800 printed)

Mrs. Berube from the Joint Select Committee on County Government to which was referred to study relative to County Government, pursuant to H. P. 1670 of the 107th Legislature, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to

submit its findings and report that the accompanying Bill, "An Act to Clarify and Reform the Laws Relating to County Law Enforcement" (H. P. 214) (L. D. 224) be referred to the Committee on Local and County Government for public hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 17. (Clerk of the House suggests 2,000 printed)

Mrs. Bachrach from the Joint Select Committee on County Government to which was referred the study relative to County Government, pursuant to H. P. 1670 of the 107th Legislature, have had the same under consideration and ask leave to submit its findings and minority report that the accompanying Bill, "An Act to Establish County Boards, to Allow Them to Set and Approve County Budgets and to Allocate Services" (H. P. 215) (L. D. 225) be referred to the Committee on Local and County Government for public hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 17. (Clerk of the House suggests 1,800 printed)

Reports were read and accepted, the Bills referred to the Committee on Local and County Government, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

Study Report

Committee on Performance Audit

Mrs. Berube from the Committee on Performance Audit to which was referred the study relative to the State Lottery Commission, pursuant to H. P. 2173 of the 107th Legislature, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to submit its findings and to report that the accompanying Bill, An Act to Improve the Performance of the State Lottery (H. P. 212) (L. D. 222) be referred to this Committee for public hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 17. (Clerk of the House suggests 2,000 printed)

Mrs. Berube from the Committee on Performance Audit to which was referred the study relative to the State Lottery Commission, pursuant to H. P. 2173 of the 107th Legislature, have had the same under consideration, and ask leave to submit its findings and to report that the accompanying Bill, "An Act to Clarify the Powers of the Department of Audit when it is Acting as a Legislative Staff Agency" (H. P. 211) (L. D. 221) be referred to this Committee for public hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 17. (Clerk of the House suggests 2,000 printed)

Reports were read and accepted, the Bills referred to the Committee on Performance Audit, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

Orders

Mrs. Post of Owls Head presented the following Joint Order and moved its passage: (H. P. 253)

Whereas, the 200-mile limit is to become effective this year; and

Whereas, the State's response to the 200-mile limit and possible extensions of the state's territorial jurisdiction is uncertain; and

Whereas, it is in the best interest of the State to play a positive and forceful role in the implementation of the 200-mile limit; and

Whereas, extensions in federal and state territorial jurisdiction will increase the importance of marine research activities in the State, including the research being undertaken at the Bigelow laboratories and the Department of Marine Resources laboratories; and

Whereas, these changes demand consideration of the increased opportunities for effective state action; now, therefore be it

Ordered, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources be authorized to study marketing, extension and research activities relating to marine resources

in relation to extensions of federal and state territorial waters; and be it further

Ordered, that for purposes of this study, the Committee on Marine Resources may conduct public hearings throughout the State in order to solicit and receive information from individuals and agencies expert in the field, including but not limited to, the Maine Department of Marine Resources; and be it further

Ordered, that the committee report to the Legislature the results of its findings, together with any proposed recommendations and copies of any necessary implementing legislation in final draft form prior to May 1, 1977; and be it further

Ordered, upon passage in concurrence, that a suitable copy of this Order be forwarded to each member of the committee and to each agency mentioned in this order.

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

On Motion of Mr. Nadeau of Sanford, it was ORDERED, that Angela Aloupis of Bangor be excused February 9th and 10th for legislative business.

The following papers appearing on Supplement No. 1 were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

Bill "An Act Relating to Budget Requirements of the Town of Winthrop" (Emergency) (H. P. 308) (Presented by Mr. Bagley of Winthrop)

Under suspension of the rules and without reference to a committee the Bill was read twice, passed to be engrossed and sent up for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, ordered sent forthwith to the Senate.

Mr. Tarbell of Bangor presented the following Joint Resolution and moved its adoption: (H. P. 252)

**Joint Resolution
Commemorating the Birth
of Abraham Lincoln**

WHEREAS, February 12, 1977 marks the 168th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the American people have set aside Lincoln's birthday as an occasion to contemplate our appreciation of a towering statesman who devoted his life to the preservation of the sacred principles of liberty and equality for the benefit of all members of the human family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That we, the Members of the House of Representatives and Senate of the 108th Legislature of the State of Maine, as representatives of a generation momentarily entrusted with the well-being of the American Republic, faithfully execute our solemn duty to maintain and perpetuate the goodness of this nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men and women are created equal, so that the government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth.

The Resolution was received out of order by unanimous consent, read and adopted and sent up for concurrence.

**House Reports of Committees
Leave to Withdraw**

Mr. Rideout from the Committee on Business Legislation on Bill "An Act to Increase the Monetary Limitation on Flight Insurance Policies" (H. P. 27) (L. D. 46) reporting "Leave to Withdraw"

Report was read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Ought to Pass

Mr. Curran from the Committee on State

Government on Resolve, Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey by Sale the Interest of the State in Certain Lands in the Unorganized Territory (H. P. 104) (L. D. 128) reporting "Ought to Pass"

Mrs. Chonko from the Committee on Taxation on Resolve, Reimbursing Certain Municipalities on Account of Taxes Lost Due to Lands being Classified under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law (H. P. 92) (L. D. 119) reporting "Ought to Pass."

Mrs. Post from the Committee on Taxation on Resolve, Reimbursing Certain Municipalities on Account of Property Tax Exemptions of Veterans (H. P. 91) (L. D. 117) reporting "Ought to Pass."

Reports were read and accepted, the Resolves read once and assigned for second reading tomorrow.

Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Mr. Carey from the Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act to Increase the Property Tax Exemption for Parsonages to \$50,000" (H. P. 25) (L. D. 34) reporting "Ought to Pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-11)

Mr. Curran from the Committee on State Government on Resolve, Authorizing the Bureau of Public Lands to Convey by Sale the State's Interest in Certain Real Property in Hebron, Oxford County (H. P. 69) (L. D. 93) reporting "Ought to Pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-9).

Reports were read and accepted and the Bill and Resolve read once. Committee Amendment "A" to each was read by the Clerk and adopted and the Bill and Resolve assigned for second reading tomorrow.

Divided Report

Majority Report of the Committee on Election Laws reporting "Ought Not to Pass" on Bill "An Act to Delete the Requirement that a Candidate's Name on a General Election Ballot Must be Followed by a Community Designation" (H. P. 23) (L. D. 32)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. TROTZKY of Penobscot,
DANTON of York
KATZ of Kennebec

-of the Senate

Messrs. BUSTIN of Augusta
BIRT of E. Millinocket
RAYMOND of Lewiston
BOUDREAU of Waterville
McMAHON of Kennebunk
TALBOT of Portland
Mrs. BOUDREAU of Portland
DURGIN of Kittery

-of the House

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting "Ought to Pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-10) on same Bill.

Report was signed by the following members:

Mrs. MITCHELL of Vassalboro
Mr. TRUMAN of Biddeford

-of the House

Reports were read.

On motion of Mrs. Boudreau of Portland, the Majority "Ought Not to Pass" Report was accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Consent Calendar First Day

In accordance with House Rule 49, the following items appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H. P. 114) (L. D. 144) Bill "An Act Concerning Approval of Marriages by the Judge of Probate After the Filing of an Objection" —

Committee on Legal Affairs reporting "Ought to Pass"

(H. P. 88) (L. D. 114) Bill "An Act to Allow the Taking of Suckers with Bow and Arrow" — Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife reporting "Ought to Pass"

(S. P. 6) (L. D. 11) Bill "An Act Relating to Transfer of Unexpended Appropriations of State Funds" — Committee on State Government reporting "Ought to Pass"

(H. P. 30) (L. D. 47) Bill "An Act Placing Professional Wrestling Matches, Shows and Exhibitions under the Jurisdiction of the Maine Boxing Commission" — Committee on Business Legislation reporting "Ought to Pass".

No objections being noted, the above items were ordered to appear on the Consent Calendar of February 10, under listing of the Second Day.

Consent Calendar Second Day

In accordance with House Rule 49, the following item appeared on the Consent Calendar for the Second Day:

(H. P. 56) (L. D. 77) Bill "An Act Concerning Certified Copies of Records of Marriage" (C. "A" H-5)

(H. P. 57) (L. D. 78) Bill "An Act Pertaining to Issuance of Marriage Licenses" (C. "A" H-4)

(S. P. 37) (L. D. 45) Bill "An Act to Revise the Charter of the Aroostook-Prestile Treatment District"

No objections having been noted at the end of the Second Legislative Day, the Senate Paper was passed to be engrossed in concurrence, and the House Papers were passed to be engrossed and sent up for concurrence.

Passed to Be Engrossed

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Provide for a Four-year Term of Office for Sheriff. (H. P. 24) (L. D. 33)

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

Amended Bill Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act Pertaining to Birth Records" (H. P. 52) (L. D. 73) (H. "A" H-12 to C. "A" H-8)

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

On motion of Mr. Cote of Lewiston, tabled pending passage to be engrossed specially assigned for February 16.

Bill "An Act Authorizing Municipalities to Raise or Appropriate Money for a Consumer Action Program" (Emergency) (H. P. 7) (L. D. 17) (C. "A" H-6)

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

Passed to Be Enacted Emergency Measure

An Act Relating to Removal of County Buildings (H. P. 9) (L. D. 19) (H. "A" H-2)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure and a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 129 voted in favor of same and none against and accordingly the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act to Increase the Total Authorized Indebtedness of the Kennebunk Sewer District

from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000 (H. P. 41) (L. D. 58)

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

Enactor

Tabled and Assigned

An Act Appropriating Funds for the Purchase of Copies of "The Penobscot Expedition" (S. P. 7) (L. D. 12) (C. "A" S-3)

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

(On motion of Ms. Goodwin of Bath, tabled pending passage to be enacted and tomorrow assigned.)

An Act Appropriating Funds for the Purchase of Copies of the History of Newfield (H. P. 137) (L. D. 138)

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

(On motion of Ms. Goodwin of Bath, was placed on the House Appropriations Table.)

The Chair laid before the House the following matter:

"Bill "An Act Relating to Responsibility of Parents to Provide Medical Care Coverage for Minor Children" (H. P. 274) which was tabled earlier in the day and later today assigned pending reference.

Thereupon, the Bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I am exercising this morning what little privilege I might possibly have with my tenure in this body.

When we first meet, we organize our leaders, we elect them, we stand and applaud them, and then we try to find ways to somehow or other disagree with them or trip them up or not cooperate with them altogether.

I am delighted to be able to say that since I have spoken to the Speaker, the presiding officer in the other unmentionable branch who thoroughly agrees with me, and the two majority leaders in this body, several measures have been pulled out of the basket in the Legislative Research Office.

At the outset, I would like to state that the reports we have had that we were heading for a record-breaking submission of bills might have been overplayed a little bit, because the word that should have been used and was not used was the word "request" for the submission of bills, not necessarily that these bills would be drafted, not necessarily that even if they were drafted and even if they were printed on this calendar would they be introduced. Proof of that is on page 13 of your calendar this morning. Very rarely do I table any measure here, but I tabled item 71 and I am delighted that my colleague and friend from Bangor, Mr. Kelleher, tabled item 23. The fact of the matter is that both of these bills are identical.

I have had my bill in the Legislative Research Office for several months. As a matter of fact, the gentleman from Winthrop, Mr. Bagley, called me several months ago and apparently was going to put in a like bill and agreed to be a cosponsor as well as Mrs. Bachrach. This means also the printing of 2,000 bills. I intend to get together with the sponsors and cosponsors of these two measures and one of them, possibly my own, will be withdrawn, which will save

time and save money in the printing of the bills because they are identical.

I know that many members in both branches have with them bills in their desk drawers, at home, or in their pockets for some reason or other. And as the Speaker said last week, if this situation persists, we would be here much later than we anticipated. By our own law, we will meet 100 days. We can have that extended 10 days, and then we adjourn and we can only come back if the Governor calls us back or if we do so by petitioning. I question if either would happen. We could, however, stay here until Labor Day. For those of you, and I am sure you all know, the way that we are reimbursed is we get nine paychecks every two weeks, and after the ninth paycheck, the tenth is held, held to the day that we do adjourn, so that all we get is expenses which certainly, in my opinion, doesn't cover our expenditures.

I am delighted this morning to have seen some bills with the Speaker's name find the hopper. I know that the basket has taken a drop in the Legislative Research Office. As a former member of the Research Committee, I go in that office quite often and they informed me, and they are right, that they are in no different position now than they were two years ago. I think they are doing yeoman's work.

I think the Speaker of the House commented on our situation last week. I think it was a fair warning. I am certainly not threatening anybody, I am not warning anybody, but I am beseeching you to please dig up the bills, wherever they are, find your cosponsors, and if you can't find them, sign them and put them into the hopper.

Believe me when I tell you this. Last week we debated a measure that I presented myself for about 25 minutes. It wasn't that earthshaking. It was presented by another good member of the House. That measure is coming back because it is a constitutional amendment and I know it will be debated again, and that will take time.

I commend this body for its seriousness, for its willingness to want to work and for adapting themselves to the situation. I do not commend this body, however, when on the 9th of February we are meeting for the first time this week at 9:30. It is ten minutes of eleven and when I get through pestering you, we will adjourn, we will meet tomorrow afternoon and by three o'clock at the latest we will be on our way home — cost, \$25,000 to \$30,000 a day. It does not leave a good taste in the mouths of the taxpayers. Believe me, it doesn't.

As I said, I am in no way chastising you. I properly notified the Speaker that I was going to ask unanimous consent on the record today, and I think that should be done. I think it is a good way to save time. It is always a good idea, because the Speaker might dissuade you if he doesn't feel it is all that important. I feel this was important. It will be important later on when you have got some very, very strong measures coming up here. I have seen us argue for three days on whether we should put a bounty on bears, and then when it got pretty nice out and it was planting time, I have seen the Appropriations Act, to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars, be enacted without a word of debate. I think these things have come to an end, and I am delighted that they have come to an end.

I urge you very strongly to cooperate with the leadership. I would ask the leadership to name five members who would be prodders so to speak, and they would ask the various members — you have so many bills, the Research Committee indicates that you have them, either they are in there or you have got them put away somewhere for some reason or other, would you please sign them and drop them into the hopper.

Believe it or not, yesterday there only six or seven committees that were meeting while

others were doing nothing or were at home. This afternoon, several committees have no meetings. From here they go home — 9:30 to 11:00. Several committees have no meetings tomorrow. They will be here for about an hour tomorrow. I think the Speaker was correct and I think the leadership is correct in being worried. I urge you, Mr. Speaker, to name these five prodders, if I may suggest the title for them. I assure the presiding officer in the other branch has indicated to me that he would name people himself in that unmentionable body to do that very thing.

I would like to thank the membership for listening to me, for being allowed to address you. I want to close by saying that I am not in any way trying to toss my weight around, so to speak, or dictate to anybody, but I urge you, please, Mr. Speaker, to name these five people, and I urge all you members to cooperate so we can put our best foot forward, continue to have a real good session and go to work as we should.

Mr. Laffin of Westbrook was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. LAFFIN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I don't put in Resolutions any more, but I feel that when something bothers me, such as bothered me over the weekend, and I am sure that most of the members of this House are well aware of it, and I don't know whether it is true or whether it is not, but when an organization starts up to have the Klu Klux Klan moving in this state, I think it is the concern of every elected official who represents their people on the basis of the people they represent, not the color of their skin, not the church that they go to. The other things I recognize that they stand for in our day of society is an injustice to all the people.

I have seen the Klu Klux Klan. I saw them in person in Macon, Georgia in 1952 or 1953 — I am not sure of the exact year. I was in baseball at the time, and I saw 20,000 hooded people in the most pitiful act that I have ever seen exist in this country. It was pitiful because it was an injustice. I would rather have a whole boatload of colored people instead of one white Gary Gilmore. I feel that the people of Maine should be concerned, because when you start taking people backwards, we do an injustice.

I had one call on this over the weekend, and I don't know whether it is true or whether it isn't. I don't care what a person's religion is, I don't care what church they go to or if they don't even go to church, but I believe that all people should be judged by their individual performances and not white supremacy, because that is not the way we live in today's society.

I do not judge a Democrat because he is a Democrat. I have got a lot of good Democrat friends in this House and I don't judge them because they are Democrats, I judge them because of the people and the principles they stand for.

I told a friend of mine that I was going to speak on this and I was not going to get emotional, I am not going to holler, but I feel it is important, and if we can't bring important things to the members of this House, then we don't belong here. If we can't stand up and say what we feel is right for the majority of the people of this House, then we don't belong here.

I know we have got a stupid organization with a bunch of screwballs in this state that support them, but so be it. They also support the Communist Party, and the people of Maine should be pleased with Representative Jalbert to get those morons off our ballot and have the majority of the people speak by what they believe and not racism as we know it today.

On motion of Mr. Goodwin of South Berwick. Adjourned until three o'clock tomorrow afternoon.