

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LEGISLATIVE RECORD**

OF THE

**One Hundred And Fourteenth Legislature**

OF THE

**State Of Maine**

**VOLUME I**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

December 7, 1988 to May 10, 1989

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, the Senate considered the following:

ENACTORS

The Committee on Engrossed Bills reported as truly and strictly engrossed the following:

Emergency

An Act Concerning Legislative Review of Nominations for Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine and for the Natural Resource Financing and Marketing Board

H.P. 18 L.D. 13

(H "A" H-2)

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 30 Members of the Senate, with No Senators having voted in negative, and 30 being more than two-thirds of the entire elected Membership of the Senate, was PASSED TO BE ENACTED and having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for his approval.

Senator GAUVREAU of Androscoggin was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate off the Record.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to express his appreciation to the Majority Leader and the Assistant Majority Leader, to the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Pearson and the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Bustin, for presiding in my absence.

On motion by Senator ANDREWS of Cumberland, ADJOURNED, in memory of John J. Joyce, until Thursday, January 26, 1989, at 11:30 in the morning.

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

9th Legislative Day

Thursday, January 26, 1989

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

Prayer by Reverend Bruce Hudson, Highland Avenue United Methodist Church, Gardiner.

The Journal of Tuesday, January 24, 1989, was read and approved.

Quorum call was held.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following Communication:

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Bureau of Labor Standards

State House Station #45

Augusta, Maine 04333

January 25, 1989

John L. Martin  
Speaker of the House  
State House Station #2  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Speaker Martin:

We are pleased to submit to you the first Annual Report on the Status of the Maine Workers' Compensation system pursuant to Public Law 1987, Chapter 559. This document summarizes the results of data collection by the three agencies involved and is intended to present a profile of the workers' compensation system including costs, administration, adequacy, and an evaluation of the entire system.

To a large extent, each agency is involved with different operational concerns and views the system from a different perspective. Accordingly, this first report is organized into three sections. On the other hand, the report itself is very much a cooperative effort.

Sincerely,

S/ Joseph A. Edwards,

Superintendent,  
Bureau of Insurance

S/ James H. McGowan

Director,  
Bureau of Labor Standards

S/ Ralph L. Tucker

Chairman,  
Workers' Compensation  
Commission

Was read and with accompanying report ordered placed on file.

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES

REQUIRING REFERENCE

The following Bills were received and, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Reference of Bills, were referred to the following Committees, Ordered Printed and Sent up for Concurrence:

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Bill "An Act Making Additional Appropriations from the General Fund and Allocations from Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1989" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 26) (L.D. 24) (Presented by Representative CARTER of Winslow) (Cosponsored by Senator PEARSON of Penobscot, Senator PERKINS of Hancock and Representative HIGGINS of Scarborough)

Ordered Printed.

Sent up for Concurrence.

By unanimous consent, ordered sent forthwith to the Senate.

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Reduce the Amount of Materials from the Waste Stream by Encouraging Recycling" (H.P. 27) (L.D. 25) (Presented by Representative PARADIS of Old Town) (Cosponsored by Senator PEARSON of Penobscot, Representative MICHAUD of East Millinocket and Representative TUPPER of Orrington)

Bill "An Act to Facilitate the Payment of Taxes by Persons Eligible under the Household Tax and Rent Refund Act" (H.P. 28) (L.D. 26) (Presented by Representative HANDY of Lewiston) (Cosponsored by Representative MAYO of Thomaston, Representative OLIVER of Portland and Senator BOST of Penobscot)

Ordered Printed.  
Sent up for Concurrence.

**Reported Pursuant to Resolve**

Representative CLARK for the Commission to Review the Laws Relating to Registered Maine Guides, pursuant to Resolve 1987, chapter 105 ask leave to submit its findings and to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to Licensed Maine Guides" (H.P. 20) (L.D. 15) be referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife for Public Hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 18.

Report was read and accepted, and the bill referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

**Reported Pursuant to Resolves  
Tabled and Assigned**

Representative COLES for the Commission on Sport Fisheries, pursuant to Resolve 1987, chapters 39 and 101 ask leave to submit its findings and to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act Requiring the State to Conduct a Test to Determine Whether Large Freshwater Salmonids can be Grown in the State's Estuarine Waters" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 21) (L.D. 16) be referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife for Public Hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 18.

Report was read and accepted.  
(The Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife had been suggested.)

On motion of Representative Mitchell of Freeport, tabled pending reference and specially assigned for Tuesday, January 31, 1989.

**Reported Pursuant to Resolve**

Representative HANDY for the Special Commission on Early Childhood Development and Education, pursuant to Resolve 1987, chapter 110 ask leave to submit its findings and to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act to Expand and Improve the School Year" (H.P. 22) (L.D. 17) be referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Education for Public Hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 18.

Report was read and accepted, and the bill referred to the Committee on Education, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

**Reported Pursuant to Resolve  
Tabled and Assigned**

Representative HANDY for the Special Commission on Early Childhood Development and Education, pursuant to Resolve 1987, chapter 110 ask leave to submit its findings and to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act Appropriating Funds to the Department of Educational and Cultural Services for Early Childhood Education" (H.P. 23) (L.D. 18) be

referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Education for Public Hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 18.

Report was read and accepted.  
(The Committee on Education had been suggested.)

On motion of Representative Carter of Winslow, tabled pending reference and specially assigned for Tuesday, January 31, 1989.

**Study Report-  
Committee to Study Utility Easements  
over Existing Rights-of-Way**

Representative PARADIS for the Committee to Study Utility Easements over Existing Rights-of-Way to which was referred by the Legislative Council the Study Relative to Studying Utility Easements over Existing Rights-of-Way have had the same under consideration and ask leave to submit its findings and to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act to Establish Utility Rights in Certain Easements" (H.P. 24) (L.D. 19) be referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary for public hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 19.

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

**Study Report - Committee on Agriculture**

Representative TARDY from the Committee on Agriculture to which was referred by the Legislative Council the Study Relative to Organization of the Maine Blueberry Commission have had the same under consideration and ask leave to submit its findings and to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act Concerning Membership on the Maine Blueberry Commission" (H.P. 25) (L.D. 20) be referred to this Committee for public hearing and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 19.

Report was read and accepted, and the bill referred to the Committee on Agriculture, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

**(Off Record Remarks)**

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

**PAPER FROM THE SENATE**

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 51)  
ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, January 31, 1989, at 10 o'clock in the morning.

Came from the Senate, read and passed.  
Was read and passed in concurrence.

The following item appearing on Supplement No. 2 was taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

**ORDERS**

On motion of Representative MICHAUD of East Millinocket, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 29) (Cosponsors: Representatives MCGOWAN of Canaan, CHONKO of Topsham, and Senator CAHILL of Sagadahoc)

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE NATURE  
CONSERVANCY AND THE NATURAL HERITAGE  
DATA BASE**

WHEREAS, Maine's new growth management program enacted by the 113th Legislature requires the State to collect and provide important land use and planning information to municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Heritage Data Base will assist the Department of Environmental Protection in its review of development applications, the State Planning Office in its implementation of the Land for Maine's Future program and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in its administration of the endangered species laws; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Heritage Data Base represents over 15 years of research, design, updating and refinement and in excess of \$10,000,000 in financial commitment by the Nature Conservancy; and

WHEREAS, the Nature Conservancy has offered the Natural Heritage Data Base to the State at no cost and has also offered the services of its Natural Heritage Program director to the State at the conservancy's expense for 2 years; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the 114th Legislature, now assembled in the First Regular Session, recognize the continued commitment of the Nature Conservancy to this State and to the conservation of its natural resources, as demonstrated by the generous donation of its services and previous actions, including its involvement in the Donnell Pond purchase; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this joint resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Executive Director of the Nature Conservancy.

Was read and adopted and sent up for concurrence.

By unanimous consent, ordered sent forthwith to the Senate.

At this point, a message came from the Senate, borne by Senator CLARK of Cumberland, proposing a Joint Convention to be held in the Hall of the House at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of extending to His Excellency, John R. McKernan, Jr., Governor of Maine, an invitation to attend and to make such communication as he may be pleased to make.

The House voted to concur in the proposal for a Joint Convention to be held at 6:30 p.m. and the Speaker appointed Representative GWADOSKY of Fairfield to convey this message to the Senate.

Subsequently, Representative GWADOSKY of Fairfield reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

On motion of Representative Mayo of Thomaston, Recessed until six-thirty in the evening.

(After Recess)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

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

In Convention

The President of the Senate, Charles P. Pray, in the Chair.

On motion of Senator DUTREMBLE of York, it was ORDERED, that a Committee be appointed to wait upon the Governor's Cabinet.

The Chairman appointed:

Senators: BERUBE of Androscoggin

Representatives:

ESTES of Cumberland  
CARPENTER of York  
JOSEPH of Waterville  
ROTONDI of Athens  
DAGGETT of Augusta  
CAHILL of Mattawamkeag  
HEESCHEN of Wilton  
LARRIVEE of Gorham  
WENTWORTH of Wells  
BEGLEY of Waldoboro  
HANLEY of Paris  
McCORMICK of Rockport

Senator BERUBE, for the Committee, subsequently reported that the Committee had discharged the duty with which it was charged and the Honorable members of the Governor's Cabinet would attend forthwith.

At this point, the Governor's Cabinet entered and the Chairman welcomed the members.

On motion of Senator CLARK of Cumberland, it was ORDERED, that a Committee be appointed to wait upon his Excellency, Governor John R. McKernan, Jr., to inform him that the two branches of the Legislature was assembled in Convention, ready to receive such communication as he may be pleased to make.

The Chairman appointed:

Senators:

PEARSON of Penobscot  
BRANNIGAN of Cumberland  
PERKINS of Hancock  
CARTER of Winslow  
CHONKO of Topsham  
LISNIK of Presque Isle  
McGOWAN of Canaan  
RIDLEY of Shapleigh  
POULIOT of Lewiston  
CARROLL of Gray  
HIGGINS of Scarborough  
FOSTER of Ellsworth  
FOSS of Yarmouth

Representatives:

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

Whereupon, Governor John R. McKernan, Jr. entered the Convention Hall amid prolonged applause, the audience rising.

The Governor then addressed the Convention as follows:

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, Members of the 114th Maine Legislature, and Fellow Citizens of Maine:

This is my second State of the State address, and as I prepared it, I found myself looking forward to delivering it. Because while tonight offers an opportunity to detail our administration's budget and legislative package, it also provides a chance for all of us to pause for a half hour or so to take stock and discuss our common goals. For me, this State of the State address is a particularly important one, because it marks the midpoint of my administration and offers a special chance to assess just how far we've come and how much further we must go to make Maine a state of opportunity and promise for all of our people.

Thanks to the cooperation and vision and commitment of many of you in this Legislature, we've made progress towards that shared goal. In many areas, it has been tremendous progress.

Maine is blessed in that ours is not a state where partisanship is more important than principles, where political in-fighting makes the good and true outcome impossible.

Maine people -- those of us here in this chamber and those of you listening or watching at home -- believe in certain fundamental truths: that family and friends matter more than objects or ambitions; that the environment is a treasure to be held in safe keeping; that we have a responsibility to look out for our neighbors, and a duty to contribute to our communities. (applause)

Those of us in this Chamber tonight may differ from time to time on a great many issues, but not on the ones that I just mentioned. It is those shared values that have allowed us, in the past two years, to work together -- Republicans and Democrats -- to build a better Maine.

And after two years, it is a better Maine. It is a Maine where prosperity has finally stretched beyond our southern counties and erased the line that once divided us into the two Maines. Who would have thought five years ago that in 1988 the fastest job growth would be seen, not in York and Cumberland and Androscoggin Counties, but in Sagadahoc, Lincoln, Franklin and Washington Counties.

It is a Maine where -- thanks to comprehensive, bipartisan legislation -- our communities have the tools they need to plan for and manage growth so that they can retain those things that are of greatest value to them -- open spaces, access to the water and woods, affordable housing, a sense of community.

It is a Maine where those who have not been blessed with the things so many of us have been blessed with -- whether it is a supportive family, complete education or even just a lucky break or two -- to have a second chance; can find through A.S.P.I.R.E. or a special job training or education program the skills they need to build a better life.

Since 1987, 4,100 Maine people have been trained and placed in jobs through our expanded job training programs. The annual salaries of those workers have added over \$47 million to this state's economy. But it is not the economic impact of those jobs that is of greatest importance, it is the difference those programs have had on the lives of 4,100 Maine people and their families; on the future of a person like twenty-one year old Roy Hatch, who made \$5.34 an hour at Belfast's Penobscot Poultry before the plant closed, and who now, thanks to the state's Rapid Employment and Training Initiative and a state partnership with Bath Iron Works, is a trained welder making \$9.35 an hour. (applause)

And it is a Maine that, perhaps most importantly, has made a strong and lasting commitment to its children. A Maine that has increased fortyfold its spending on child care and has increased -- more than nearly any other state in this country -- its support to education. It is a Maine that believes that an investment in a child is a sound investment in our future. (applause)

As we end this decade and look towards a new century, Maine stands at a unique and proud place in its history. Not since the golden era of lumber and ships has Maine's promise and potential seemed so bright. And never has our responsibility to secure that promise for our children and their children been so great.

One hundred and thirty years ago, in the midst of Maine's first "golden era," Henry David Thoreau made one of his historic trips to the Maine woods. When he got to my hometown he wrote: "There stands the city of Bangor, the principal lumber depot on this continent, like a star on the edge of night, already overflowing with the luxuries and refinement of Europe, and sending its vessels to Spain, to England, and to the West Indies for its groceries."

During that proud era, Maine truly was a merchant to the world, selling lumber, granite, and lime to customers around the world. But when that era was over, when the age of sail gave way to the age of steel and steam, when many of our greatest resources were depleted, Maine's bright promise dimmed. Thoreau would not have recognized Maine at the turn of this century. "White pine, spruce, salmon, ice, and men," Robert P.T. Coffin wrote of that period, "the bumper harvests have all gone."

I don't mean for that short history lesson to suggest that our current prosperity is a house of cards. Clearly, it is not. Maine's present economy is a diverse and strong one. But Maine's history does, I think, help remind us of two very important truths we can never afford to forget.

The first is that, in times of prosperity and strength, we must look to the future and invest in it.

The second is that we cannot afford to squander any of our resources -- whether we are talking about our children, our workers, or our environment. We have heeded those lessons during the last two years. We have set priorities and focused our resources and attention on those areas that could help secure for the entire state economic health and individual promise.

Recognizing that roads are the arteries that pump economic vitality to our communities, we began an ambitious twenty-year highway improvement program that will improve roads and bridges all across this state.

Recognizing that in a rapidly changing economy and increasingly complex world, a high school diploma is no longer adequate preparation for the majority of new jobs, we have, for the past two years, led the nation in percentage increases in funding to higher education, and we have created a statewide telecommunications system that this fall will enable us to bring the university to Allagash, North Haven, Guilford, and twenty other small towns. (applause) Recognizing that a history of inadequate funding left the state unable to meet properly its critical responsibilities to the mentally ill, we made a major commitment to our mental health institutions, a commitment that, in the coming biennium, will infuse some \$20.5 million more into those institutions and community-based care.

We increased funding to the Department of Environmental Protection to ensure that its mandate could be properly and efficiently carried out. And recognizing that Maine's workers' compensation system was a major detriment to job creation and economic growth, we reached bipartisan support on major reforms to that system.

Much has been accomplished in the past two years -- both here in Augusta and all across Maine. But there is more to be done if we are to ensure that Maine's prosperity continues, that all of our citizens benefit from the economic growth, and that -- as this state continues to change -- we do not lose the very things that make Maine so special.

That is why I am proposing a budget and legislative package that, first continues our commitment to making major investments in Maine, her people, and her future; and, two, pays special attention to saving and enhancing Maine's unique quality of life.

The \$3.2 billion budget I am proposing for the next biennium includes \$127 million in spending for new or expanded programs. Legislators have already received copies of the budget documents. Tonight, you will also receive a detailed summary of the material they contain. If you'll promise to read it,

I'll promise to keep my explanation of the package brief.

Rather than cover the entire package, I want to focus on several priority areas.

The first is the investments we are making in Maine people, from pre-schoolers to the elderly.

A couple of months ago, Bob Keeshan -- better known as Captain Kangaroo -- spoke in Augusta and spoke very eloquently. He said something that needs to be repeated. He called childhood a garden "where we plant the seeds of love and the seeds of hate, the seeds of happiness and the seeds of misery; a garden whose harvest we all share, for good or evil." He made the case for more early education and child care programs that give our children a solid foundation upon which to grow and learn. Tonight, I want to make that same case. Our budget includes over \$2.5 million in new and expanded programs to ensure that our youngest children, particularly those who are at-risk, are cared for and nurtured.

The budget also includes \$3 million in new funding for programs aimed at older children who are at risk. In an imperfect world, it is not always possible to identify and treat -- before it is too late -- the problems of a troubled child such as Scott James. But the additional funding in this biennium's budget will allow for more casework for troubled youth, more referral options, better foster care and juvenile justice systems, and expanded efforts at parent-teen communications. (applause)

For all of our children, we must continue our commitment to improving the quality of our education system. This past year, Maine had the largest percentage increase in state support to local schools of any state in the nation. But there is still work to do. We must continue to focus on quality, and the budget includes nearly \$4 million in grant programs to local units to encourage quality and innovation in our classrooms.

But we must also focus on something even more basic -- the quantity of time our children spend in school. Maine has the second shortest school year of any state in the nation. It will cost us \$4 million for every additional day we add. It's time we made that investment. Simply put: it's time for more time in the classroom.

We must continue our commitment to improving the public university system in this state. The budget includes \$25 million to do that, and it also includes \$7 million to make higher education financially accessible for every person in this state. (applause)

Maine, through the Student Incentive Scholarship Program is able to offer grants to only one-half of those who qualify; I can tell you as a father of a son about to enter college, I know the difficulty parents have in meeting the growing costs of post-secondary education. Our budget seeks to more than double our student aid grants by 1991 and to offer them to nearly all eligible applicants.

That's the first important step in making higher education more affordable and more accessible to our students; there are other steps we must also take. We are proposing to consolidate all of our student aid programs within one Higher Education Authority that will offer "one-stop shopping" to students, parents, and guidance counselors seeking financial aid assistance and information. Within that Authority, we intend to create a loan program of last resort in order to make it crystal clear to everyone in this state that, as far as this administration is concerned, no eligible Maine student is going to be denied access to higher education solely due to an inability to pay. (applause)

In making such a guarantee, we send a clear message that this state values education and believes in the promise and potential of every one of our children.

Tonight, I want to make sure that the teachers of this state receive a similar message about the tremendous importance of their work. Included in this budget is a half million dollars to provide financial assistance to public school teachers and administrators pursuing advanced degrees. If we are serious about providing professional advancement opportunities to our educators, if we are serious about encouraging teachers to challenge themselves and their students, we must assist them in those efforts.

Accessibility and affordability are issues confronting our health care system as well. Our budget includes \$5.3 million to help provide greater access and quality care to our most vulnerable citizens.

It includes additional funding for AIDS treatment, training, and education; more dollars for congregate services to the elderly to allow them to remain in their homes and communities for as long as possible; strengthened maternal and child health services; and funding to address the health care worker shortage through an expansion of the Health Occupation Training Program created during the last session.

But we need to do more. The cost of health care is beyond the means of too many Maine citizens and is becoming one of this state's most vexing problems. But as H.L. Mencken once wrote; "Every complex problem has a simple solution, and it is usually wrong." Simply throwing taxpayer dollars at the health care problem will not make it go away. (applause) During this session, we must work together to ensure access to quality, affordable health care, and we must also address the underlying causes of the system's rising costs. We must look at a variety of issues -- tort reform, mandated insurance benefits, a lack of competition in the system -- and make some tough choices. Until we do that, our solutions will be band-aids, not the long-term care the system so badly needs.

All of the programs I have just outlined -- from education to health care -- continue our commitment to making Maine a state of opportunity and promise for all of our citizens.

But the commitments do not end there. Within state government, we have vowed to deliver services as efficiently and effectively as possible and to ensure that past commitments are honored. This budget includes funding to staff new correctional facilities, and to complete a financial and administrative systems project that will bring state government out of the technological dark ages, it will provide state employees with the tools they need to do their jobs, and allow us to conduct the state's business far more quickly and effectively. It includes increased funding for the Maine State Retirement System; General Fund dollars to support the work of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; and new staff and resources to ensure that the Department of Environmental Protection carries out its critical work.

This administration, through its budget, continues its commitment to strengthening Maine's quality of life.

"Change is certain," someone once said, "progress is not." Growth and prosperity have brought with them new opportunities for the people of our state, but they have also brought new challenges. And in order to make sure that this changing state remains a

safe, affordable, and beautiful place to live, we must take aggressive action in 1989.

We must take aggressive action to diffuse the threat of drug abuse and crime. The business of distributing illegal drugs in our state is conservatively estimated at \$100 million. Our budget includes funds to increase by fivefold state support for the Bureau of Intergovernmental Drug Enforcement. We're going to make it perfectly clear that drug dealers and users have no business, absolutely none, in our state. (applause)

We must take aggressive action to ensure that rising property values do not make something as basic as a decent, affordable place to live beyond the means of Maine people. Our budget includes \$5 million to help communities and individuals build homes that are within the financial reach of a young family dreaming of owning their first home. (applause)

We must take aggressive action to ensure that no person in this state is forced to sell his or her home because the burden of property taxes has become too great. Our budget includes funding for the Family HomeSaver Program which, when combined with existing programs, brings to \$46 million the amount dedicated to lowering the property tax burden on individuals. Our Family HomeSaver Program will help make it possible for a lobsterman in Jonesport or an elderly widow in South Portland to continue to live in the house where he or she grew up, and not have to sell out to the highest bidder simply because they can no longer afford to pay taxes on property that has escalated dramatically in value. (applause)

In all, in the past two years, the state has approved in excess of \$50 million in new property tax relief to our communities and citizens. This budget continues that commitment by providing additional relief, and promises the potential of returning, each year, up to \$25 million or more to municipalities by sharing future state surplusses.

Finally, we must take aggressive and decisive action in 1989 to save Maine from a future plagued by unmanageable waste and environmental degradation. More than ten years ago, Maine people had the vision to enact one of this nation's first returnable bottle bills. Our roads and rivers are cleaner because of that act. But now, we must take that commitment to our environment one giant step further.

Our budget includes nearly \$3 million, a \$3 million down payment, to begin to implement a comprehensive solid waste management system that will provide our communities with the resources they need to handle waste on a regional basis and that will ask each of us to help save Maine's environment by recycling our trash.

Our goal is to reduce this state's waste stream by 25 percent by 1995. To prove my commitment to that goal, tomorrow morning I will sign an executive order requiring all state government agencies to begin recycling their office paper. And tonight, I am asking every person in this state to make a similar commitment. We have a responsibility to future generations to ensure that we do not trash this beautiful place. And as a sign of our shared commitment, I am going to ask all of you to help stop the waste and to start spreading the word with this new bumper sticker (holds the bumper sticker up so the audience can see it). This particular bumper sticker is sized especially for Fred Moholland's pickup (laughter)(applause) -- you will all be pleased to know that we are having smaller ones made for all the rest of us.

Thoreau described this state in the 1850's as being "like a star on the edge of night," shining brightly, burning with energy and strength and

promise. Now, as we are about to enter the last decade of this century, the same can, once again, be said of this great state.

You may not know this, but at the top of the state seal, is the North Star, the polar star, the sailor's guide in conducting the ship to its destination. I would hope that that star and the motto beneath it -- Dirigo, "I lead" -- would serve as our symbol and our inspiration during this important session of the Legislature.

Maine has a long and proud tradition of innovation and resourcefulness, of charting its own course, and following its own star. Tonight, faced with both tremendous opportunities and challenges, I would ask all of you to recommit to long-term responses to the issues that are before us. We need to look up again, look to the future, and, together, lead this state into a promising new decade and century.

I look forward to charting that course with all of you.

Thank you very much. (applause)

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, the members rising.

In the House

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

On motion of Representative Gwadowsky of Fairfield,

Adjourned until Tuesday, January 31, 1989, at ten o'clock in the morning pursuant to Joint Order (S.P. 51).