

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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House Legislative Record
of the
One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature
of the
State of Maine

Volume I

First Regular Session

December 4, 1996 - March 27, 1997

First Special Session

March 27, 1997 - May 15, 1997

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
15th Legislative Day
Thursday, February 20, 1997

Calling of the House to Order by the Speaker.
Prayer by Jon Dillinger, Minister for the Church of Christ,
Kittery.

Pledge of Allegiance.
Doctor of the day, Brian P. O'Donnell, M.D., South Freeport.
Reading of the Journal of Tuesday, February 18, 1997.

SENATE PAPERS

The following Communication: (H.C. 30)
THE SENATE OF MAINE
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

February 11, 1997

The Honorable Elizabeth H. Mitchell
Speaker of the House
118th Maine Legislature
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Mitchell:

In accordance with Joint Rule 506, please be advised the Senate today confirmed, upon the recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development, the nomination of Dennis P. King of Hampden for appointment to the Maine State Housing Authority.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
S/Joy J. O'Brien

Secretary of the Senate

Was read and ordered placed on file.

The following Communication: (H.C. 31)
THE SENATE OF MAINE
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

February 18, 1997

The Honorable Elizabeth H. Mitchell
Speaker of the House
118th Maine Legislature
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Mitchell:

In accordance with Joint Rule 506, please be advised the Senate today confirmed, upon the recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, the nomination of David S. Wakelin of South Portland for reappointment to the Maine State Retirement System Board of Trustees.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
S/Joy J. O'Brien

Secretary of the Senate

Was read and ordered placed on file.

Bill "An Act to Protect Loons" (S.P. 333) (L.D. 1111)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on **Inland Fisheries and Wildlife** and Ordered Printed.

(The Committee on Reference of Bills had suggested reference to the Committee on **Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry**)

Was referred to the Committee on **Inland Fisheries and Wildlife** in concurrence.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Ban Partial Birth Abortions" (H.P. 390) (L.D. 535) which was referred to the Committee on **Judiciary** in the House on January 28, 1997.

Came from the Senate ruled not properly before the Body in non-concurrence.

On motion of Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska, the House voted to Recede.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Madawaska, Representative Ahearne.

Representative AHEARNE: Thank you Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I move that the last four cosponsors listed on the cosponsor sheet be removed from L.D. 535. This merely needs to be done in order to comply with Joint Rule 206, which limits to eight cosponsors.

On further motion of the same Representative, pursuant to Joint Rule 206, the last four cosponsors listed were removed from the bill, in non-concurrence and sent up for concurrence.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Require Recommended Silvicultural Stocking Standards on Land Ownerships Enrolled under the Tree Growth Tax Laws" (H.P. 704) (L.D. 968) which was referred to the Committee on **Taxation** in the House on February 11, 1997.

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on **Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry** in non-concurrence.

The House voted to Recede and Concur.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Make the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife an Elected Position" (H.P. 698) (L.D. 962) which was referred to the Committee on **State and Local Government** and the Committee on **Inland Fisheries and Wildlife** in the House on February 13, 1997.

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on **State and Local Government** in non-concurrence.

The House voted to Recede and Concur.

COMMUNICATIONS

The following Communication: (H.C. 29)

STATE OF MAINE
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE PLANNING OFFICE
38 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

February 14, 1997

The Honorable Elizabeth H. Mitchell
Speaker of the House
State House Station #2
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear Madam Speaker:

On behalf of the Maine Commission for Community Service, I am pleased to present the Commission's third annual report. In it, you will find a summary of the work accomplished over the last

year to further their vision of "vibrant, productive communities with involved, responsible citizens." You will notice the Commission successfully tackled a challenging agenda and significantly advanced the strength of citizen action through service across Maine. The State Planning Office provides administrative support to all their work.

Established under 5 MRSA c. 373, the mission of the Maine Commission for Community Service is to foster community service and volunteerism to meet human and environmental needs in Maine. The board accomplishes this mission by implementing programs that help to build the infrastructure of community service around the state. The vision and mission are clear; the tasks are complex and difficult.

In order to create communities that are vibrant and productive, the Commission must strengthen people's commitment to serve and volunteer; and it must revitalize the ethic of citizenship and civic responsibility. Through programs such as AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve, VISTA, and Senior Corps, the Commission invests in the renewal of civic involvement in every community in Maine.

The coming year promises to be even more challenging and productive. The Commission is partnering closely with the Department of Education and the Corporation for National Service on the creation of a "unified state position" that will help guide and direct community service and civic involvement in meaningful ways. The process will seek input, interaction and dialog with all public and private efforts to promote community service and volunteerism. Helping everyone understand the role and importance of community service will help the state deal more effectively with social and economic development issues.

The members of the Maine Commission for Community Service look forward to the opportunity to work with you in the coming year.

Sincerely,
S/Evan D. Richert, AICP
Director

Was read and with accompanying report ordered placed on file.

The following item was taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

**CONSENT CALENDAR
First Day**

(S.P. 220) (L.D. 679) Bill "An Act to Authorize the Department of Transportation to Use Design-build Contracting for Development of a New Bath-Woolwich Bridge" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **Transportation** reporting "**Ought to Pass**" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-10)

There being no objections. Under suspension of the rules, Consent Calendar second day notification was given.

Under further suspension of the rules, the Bill was passed to be engaged in concurrence. Ordered sent forthwith.

**PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING
REFERENCE**

The following Bills and Resolves 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:

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Bill "An Act to Transfer a Certain Parcel of Land from the Department of Conservation to the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources" (H.P. 823) (L.D. 1128) (Presented by Representative McELROY of Unity) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BELANGER of Caribou, BERRY of Belmont, BROOKS of Winterport, CAMERON of Rumford, CROSS of Dover-Foxcroft, LINDAHL of Northport, STEDMAN of Hartland, Senator: KILKELLY of Lincoln)

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Bill "An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1998 and June 30, 1999" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 832) (L.D. 1137) (Presented by Representative KERR of Old Orchard Beach) (Cosponsored by Representative: POULIN of Oakland, Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, MICHAUD of Penobscot) (Governor's Bill)

Bill "An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1998 and June 30, 1999" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 833) (L.D. 1138) (Presented by Representative KERR of Old Orchard Beach) (Cosponsored by Representative: POULIN of Oakland, Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, MICHAUD of Penobscot) (Governor's Bill)

Banking and Insurance

Bill "An Act to Amend the Continuing Care Retirement Community Laws to Repeal Certain Exemptions and Place Other Requirements on Providers and Developers of Continuing Care Retirement Communities" (H.P. 827) (L.D. 1132) (Presented by Representative TRIPP of Topsham) (Cosponsored by Representatives: FULLER of Manchester, JOYNER of Hollis, Senators: BENOIT of Franklin, DAGGETT of Kennebec, LAWRENCE of York)

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Discrimination Based on Genetic Testing Information" (H.P. 845) (L.D. 1150) (Presented by Representative CHARTRAND of Rockland) (Cosponsored by Senator RAND of Cumberland and Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, JONES of Bar Harbor, SAXL of Bangor, THOMPSON of Naples, TOWNSEND of Portland, VOLENIK of Brooklin, Senators: LaFOUNTAIN of York, MILLS of Somerset)

Business and Economic Development

Bill "An Act to Require That Only Licensed Substance Abuse Counselors Treat Substance Abuse Problems" (H.P. 837) (L.D. 1142) (Presented by Representative MAILHOT of Lewiston) (Cosponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin and Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, BOUFFARD of Lewiston, CHIZMAR of Lisbon, CLARK of Millinocket, MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth, McKEE of Wayne, WINGLASS of Auburn, Senator: BENOIT of Franklin)

Bill "An Act to Require the Use of Safety Bars on Chairlifts" (H.P. 846) (L.D. 1151) (Presented by Representative BULL of Freeport) (Cosponsored by Senator JENKINS of Androscoggin and Representatives: BARTH of Bethel, DEXTER of Kingfield, FARNSWORTH of Portland, GOOLEY of Farmington, Senator: BENNETT of Oxford)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act Pertaining to Parental Access to School Records" (H.P. 839) (L.D. 1144) (Presented by Representative LANE of Enfield) (Cosponsored by Representatives: JOY of Crystal, MACK of Standish, STEDMAN of Hartland)

Bill "An Act to Ensure Consistency Between State and Federal Special Education Requirements" (H.P. 842) (L.D. 1147) (Presented by Representative CLUKEY of Houlton) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BELANGER of Caribou, McELROY of Unity, WHEELER of Bridgewater)

Bill "An Act to Protect Local Education Agencies from Excess Costs Attributable to Special Education Students" (H.P. 844) (L.D. 1149) (Presented by Representative CHARTRAND of Rockland) (Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox and Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, McELROY of Unity, McKEE of Wayne, MITCHELL of Vassalboro, POWERS of Rockport, ROWE of Portland, TOBIN of Dexter, Senator: LAWRENCE of York)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Concerning Special Education of Exceptional Students" (H.P. 853) (L.D. 1158) (Presented by Representative CHARTRAND of Rockland) (By Request) (Cosponsored by Representatives: COWGER of Hallowell, McKEE of Wayne)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Child Development Services" (H.P. 859) (L.D. 1164) (Presented by Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland) (Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of York and Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, MITCHELL of Portland, SAXL of Bangor, SHANNON of Lewiston, SIROIS of Caribou, Senators: MacKINNON of York, SMALL of Sagadahoc)

Bill "An Act to Allow School Choice" (H.P. 860) (L.D. 1165) (Presented by Representative SNOWE-MELLO of Poland) (Cosponsored by Senator AMERO of Cumberland and Representatives: FOSTER of Gray, GOODWIN of Pembroke, KASPRZAK of Newport, LAYTON of Cherryfield, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, MACK of Standish, MERES of Norridgewock, SAVAGE of Union)

Resolve, Requiring the Department of Education to Replace the Building Code for Schools (H.P. 819) (L.D. 1124) (Presented by Representative PLOWMAN of Hampden) (Cosponsored by Representatives: JOY of Crystal, MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth, McELROY of Unity)

Resolve, Regarding School Construction and Renovation Projects (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 836) (L.D. 1141) (Presented by Representative THOMPSON of Naples) (Cosponsored by Senator: BENNETT of Oxford and Representative: WATERHOUSE of Bridgton)

Health and Human Services

Bill "An Act to Require that Day Care Facilities for Children and Infants Be Smoke Free" (H.P. 848) (L.D. 1153) (Presented by Representative GERRY of Auburn) (Cosponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset and Representatives: BOLDUC of Auburn, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, Senator: PARADIS of Aroostook)

Resolve, to Ensure Quality Care to Residents of Nursing Facilities through the Establishment of a Task Force on Minimum Staffing (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 828) (L.D. 1133) (Presented by Representative ETNIER of Harpswell) (Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox and Representatives: DAVIDSON of Brunswick, LOVETT of Scarborough, MITCHELL of Portland, PERKINS of Penobscot, ROWE of Portland, THOMPSON of Naples)

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Bill "An Act to Allow Hunting License Vendors a 3% Fee for Nonresident Hunting Licenses Purchased with Credit Cards" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 824) (L.D. 1129) (Presented by Representative DEXTER of Kingfield) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BAKER of Dixfield, BARTH of Bethel, BUNKER of Kossuth Township, NICKERSON of Turner, O'NEAL of Limestone, WHEELER of Bridgewater)

Bill "An Act to Open Trapping Season on Saturday" (H.P. 854) (L.D. 1159) (Presented by Representative GOODWIN of Pembroke)

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 21 (21.03), Amendments to License Agent Reporting Requirements, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 829) (L.D. 1134) (Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072.)

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Repeal the Requirement That Employers Garnish the Wages of Their Employees Who Owe Child Support" (H.P. 849) (L.D. 1154) (Presented by Representative JOY of Crystal) (Cosponsored by Representative: BUCK of Yarmouth)

Bill "An Act to Grant to Joint Standing Committees of the Legislature Access to Confidential Information" (H.P. 852) (L.D. 1157) (Presented by Representative MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth) (Cosponsored by Senator BENOIT of Franklin and Representatives: BRAGDON of Bangor, MADORE of Augusta, MAILHOT of Lewiston, PLOWMAN of Hampden, QUINT of Portland, Senators: MILLS of Somerset, PARADIS of Aroostook)

Bill "An Act to Amend Child Protective Laws" (H.P. 858) (L.D. 1163) (Presented by Representative MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth) (Cosponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Penobscot and Representatives: BRAGDON of Bangor, BROOKS of Winterport, LOVETT of Scarborough, QUINT of Portland, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, Senator: PARADIS of Aroostook)

Labor

Bill "An Act to Change the Definition of Occupational Disease for Purposes of the Occupational Disease Law" (H.P. 822) (L.D. 1127) (Presented by Representative JONES of Bar Harbor) (Cosponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset and Representatives: ETNIER of Harpswell, HATCH of Skowhegan, JABAR of Waterville, MITCHELL of Portland, SAMSON of Jay, THOMPSON of Naples, Senators: CAREY of Kennebec, RUHLIN of Penobscot)

Bill "An Act Restoring the Right to Sue to Workers Injured Due to Negligence" (H.P. 825) (L.D. 1130) (Presented by Representative RINES of Wiscasset) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BERRY of Livermore, HATCH of Skowhegan, SAMSON of Jay, Senator: KILKELLY of Lincoln)

Bill "An Act Restoring the Right to Sue to Workers Injured Due to Gross Negligence" (H.P. 826) (L.D. 1131) (Presented by Representative RINES of Wiscasset) (Cosponsored by Representatives: HATCH of Skowhegan, SAMSON of Jay, STANLEY of Medway, WRIGHT of Berwick)

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Workers' Compensation Law Concerning Seasonal Agricultural Laborers" (H.P. 835) (L.D. 1140) (Presented by Representative KNEELAND of Easton) (Cosponsored by Representatives: CLUKEY of Houlton, LANE of

Enfield, O'NEAL of Limestone, SPEAR of Nobleboro, WHEELER of Bridgewater)

Legal and Veterans Affairs

Bill "An Act to Extend Political Party Status to 4 Years" (H.P. 856) (L.D. 1161) (Presented by Representative GERRY of Auburn)

Resolve, to Authorize Robert Gray or His Legal Representative to Bring a Civil Action against the State in Order to Investigate Errors Made by State Officials That Caused Children to Erroneously Believe They Had Been the Victims of a Crime (H.P. 841) (L.D. 1146) (Presented by Representative BERRY of Belmont)

Marine Resources

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Duties of the Maine Atlantic Salmon Authority" (H.P. 857) (L.D. 1162) (Presented by Representative O'NEIL of Saco) (Cosponsored by Senator KIEFFER of Aroostook and Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, CLARK of Millinocket, DUNLAP of Old Town, FISHER of Brewer, LaVERDIERE of Wilton, PERRY of Bangor, UNDERWOOD of Oxford, Senator: RUHLIN of Penobscot)

Natural Resources

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 374, Rules Regarding the Traffic Movement Standard of the Site Location of Development Law, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land and Water Quality (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 830) (L.D. 1135) (Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072.)

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 378, Variance Criteria for the Excavation of Rock, Borrow, Topsoil, Clay or Silt and Performance Standards for the Storage of Petroleum Products, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Land and Water Quality (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 831) (L.D. 1136) (Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072.)

Bill "An Act to Create a Permanent Funding Source for the Saco River Corridor Commission" (H.P. 850) (L.D. 1155) (Presented by Representative O'NEIL of Saco) (Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of York and Representatives: CHIZMAR of Lisbon, GREEN of Monmouth, KANE of Saco, KONTOS of Windham, McALEVEY of Waterboro, MURPHY of Kennebunk, O'NEAL of Limestone, Senator: PENDLETON of Cumberland)

Reference to the Committee on **Natural Resources** suggested.

On motion of Representative ROWE of Portland, the Bill was tabled pending reference and later today assigned.

State and Local Government

Bill "An Act to Provide Legal Counsel for Legislative Committees" (H.P. 847) (L.D. 1152) (Presented by Representative MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth) (Cosponsored by Senator BENOIT of Franklin and Representatives: ETNIER of Harpswell, KNEELAND of Easton, MADORE of Augusta, MAILHOT of Lewiston, WINSOR of Norway, Senators: FERGUSON of Oxford, PARADIS of Aroostook)

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish 4-year Terms for Constitutional Officers (H.P. 855) (L.D. 1160) (Presented by Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska) (Cosponsored by Representatives: HATCH of Skowhegan, TUTTLE of Sanford, Senator: NUTTING of Androscoggin)

Taxation

Bill "An Act Concerning Payment of Interest on State Income Tax Overpayments" (H.P. 821) (L.D. 1126) (Presented by Representative O'BRIEN of Augusta) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, FULLER of Manchester, MADORE of Augusta, WHEELER of Bridgewater)

Bill "An Act to Allow Certain First-year Farmers and Persons Who Fish Commercially Tax-exempt Status" (H.P. 834) (L.D. 1139) (Presented by Representative JOY of Crystal) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BRAGDON of Bangor, BRUNO of Raymond, JOYCE of Biddeford, PINKHAM of Lamaine, Senator: KIEFFER of Aroostook)

Bill "An Act to Provide Sales Tax Relief for Low-income Citizens" (H.P. 843) (L.D. 1148) (Presented by Representative BIGL of Bucksport) (Cosponsored by Representatives: CAMERON of Rumford, TOBIN of Dexter)

Bill "An Act to Establish an Educational Program for Minors Regarding Tobacco Use" (H.P. 851) (L.D. 1156) (Presented by Representative TOWNSEND of Portland) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, DAVIDSON of Brunswick, GAGNON of Waterville, MITCHELL of Portland, ROWE of Portland, SHIAH of Bowdoinham, THOMPSON of Naples, Senator: PINGREE of Knox)

Was referred jointly to the Committee on **Taxation** and the Committee on **Health and Human Services**, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

Transportation

Bill "An Act to Allow a Left Turn on a Red Light on One-way Streets" (H.P. 818) (L.D. 1123) (Presented by Representative SAVAGE of Union) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BIGL of Bucksport, CHARTRAND of Rockland, DRISCOLL of Calais, FISHER of Brewer, GIERINGER of Portland, LABRECQUE of Gorham, LINDAHL of Northport, LOVETT of Scarborough) (Submitted by the Department of Transportation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Driver's Licenses" (H.P. 820) (L.D. 1125) (Presented by Representative PLOWMAN of Hampden) (Cosponsored by Representatives: JOYNER of Hollis, MADORE of Augusta, MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth)

Resolve, to Name the New Topsham-Brunswick Bridge across the Androscoggin (H.P. 838) (L.D. 1143) (Presented by Representative TRIPP of Topsham) (Cosponsored by Representatives: DAVIDSON of Brunswick, ETNIER of Harpswell, PINKHAM of Brunswick, SHIAH of Bowdoinham)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Turnpike Authority Laws to Eliminate Conflicts of Interest" (H.P. 840) (L.D. 1145) (Presented by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford) (Cosponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin and Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, GERRY of Auburn, KASPRZAK of Newport, KONTOS of Windham, MITCHELL of Vassalboro, SAXL of Portland)

Reference to the Committee on **Transportation** suggested.
On motion of Representative DRISCOLL of Calais, tabled pending reference and later today assigned.

By unanimous consent, all reference matters requiring Senate concurrence having been acted upon were ordered sent forthwith.

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

In accordance with House Rule 519 and Joint Rule 213, the following items:

Recognizing:

Robert Marshall, who unselfishly volunteered his time to establish an unofficial Legislative Web Page containing information about the State's Legislature and its Legislators. His work provided the knowledge and impetus to help the Maine State Legislature establish its own Web Page. We extend our congratulations and best wishes; (HLS 114) by Representative CARLETON of Wells. (Cosponsors: Representative SPEAR of Nobleboro, Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln)

On objection of Representative CARLETON of Wells was removed from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Wells, Representative Carleton.

Representative CARLETON: Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Last year Bob Marshall, an ordinary citizen of this state, had a vision. His vision was that every citizen of this state should be able to know what goes on in their State Legislature, quickly and easily. He knew, as we all knew, that it is sometimes difficult for the average citizen to know what we do up here. Bob Marshall decided to do something about this. He didn't have grant money and he didn't have support, but he decided that he would do something anyway. He started gathering all the information he could about the Legislature, its rules, its people, its bills and he started posting them on a web page on the internet. He called it the "Unofficial Legislative Home Page." He started small. He experimented and worked with his local library, a couple of legislators and the Clerk of the House to put up this information. He did it is a volunteer, a public service for the people of this state.

At the end, it took him two full days of work every week to keep it up to date. People began to notice. As the months went by, more and more people visited his web site to find out about our Legislature. As more and more people noticed, more people talked with their legislators about what a wonderful thing it was. The number of visitors to his web site reached 1,000; 5, 000; 10,000 and finally 20,000 people at the end. People started taking notice that the internet was a wonderful way to keep people informed of the public's business.

Bob Marshall continued his service to the people of Maine as a volunteer member of the first Special Legislative Committee on Information and Technology. Bob Marshall is a modest man who has done an extraordinary and valuable thing for the people of this state. It is appropriate that we take this moment to thank him for it.

Was read and passed and sent up for concurrence.

Thomas Blaisdell, of Buxton, for his years of service with the Maine Emergency Management Agency. We extend our congratulations and best wishes; (HLS 117) by Representative VEDRAL of Buxton. (Cosponsor: Senator LIBBY of York)

On objection of Representative VEDRAL of Buxton was removed from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

On motion of Representative VEDRAL of Buxton, tabled pending passage and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 25, 1997.

John Logan, of Westfield, upon receiving the Maine Potato Board President's Award, presented for the hard work he performed as Director of Marketing and Quality Control. John's contributions, not only on the Maine Potato Board but also at WAGM television, include quality control, marketing, merchandising and promotion of agriculture and forestry throughout Aroostook County and the State. We extend our congratulations and best wishes; (HLS 113) by Representative WHEELER of Bridgewater. (Cosponsors: Senator PARADIS of Aroostook, Senator KIEFFER of Aroostook, Senator MICHAUD of Penobscot, Representative JOY of Crystal, Representative CLUKEY of Houlton, Representative KNEELAND of Easton, Representative DONNELLY of Presque Isle, Representative DESMOND of Mapleton, Representative BELANGER of Caribou, Representative O'NEAL of Limestone, Representative SIROIS of Caribou, Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska, Representative BELANGER of Wallagrass)

On objection of Representative DONNELLY of Presque Isle was removed from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Presque Isle, Representative Donnelly.

Representative DONNELLY: Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I didn't object to this because John Logan was sitting in the audience today or because I wanted to highlight again that there are some people that are taking particular interest in working on the quality of Maine potatoes, which John has devoted his life to. When we walk through the sentiment calendar everyday, frequently we find a place where people have contributed greatly to their communities who are honored after they passed away. We have an opportunity here today. I just wanted to mention it and highlight it because John is one of those truly unique individuals who has dedicated his life to helping others.

John is suffering from a crippling and soon to be fatal disease. I thought it was especially fitting that the Maine Potato Board honored him while he was still with us. I just wanted to point out that we have an opportunity as we vote unanimously, I suspect, to pass along this resolution to honor someone while they are still with us and while they are still contributing as John is winding up his days with Lou Gehrig's disease.

Was read and passed and sent up for concurrence.

CONSENT CALENDAR

First Day

In accordance with House Rule 519, the following item appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H.P. 187) (L.D. 240) Bill "An Act to Terminate Spousal Support upon the Death of the Payee" Committee on **Judiciary** reporting "**Ought to Pass**"

There being no objections, the above item was ordered to appear on the Consent Calendar of Tuesday, February 25, 1997 under the listing of Second Day.

ENACTORS

An Act Concerning Dangerous Buildings in the Unorganized Territories (H.P. 38) (L.D. 63) (H. "A" H-2)

An Act to Make Technical Changes in Laws Authorizing the Sale of the Pineland Center (H.P. 133) (L.D. 175)

Were reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed, passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

The following items were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 346)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate Adjourn they do so until Tuesday, February 25, 1997, at 10:00 o'clock in the morning.

Came from the Senate, read and passed.

Was read and passed in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Membership of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission" (S.P. 347) (L.D. 1166)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on **Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry** and Ordered Printed.

Was referred to the Committee on **Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Enhance Parental Involvement in Developing Educational Programs for Students with Disabilities" (S.P. 344) (L.D. 1121)

Resolve, to Reorganize the University of Maine System (S.P. 349) (L.D. 1168)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on **Education and Cultural Affairs** and Ordered Printed.

Were referred to the Committee on **Education and Cultural Affairs** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Timber Trespass Laws" (S.P. 348) (L.D. 1167)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on **Judiciary** and Ordered Printed.

Was referred to the Committee on **Judiciary** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend Department of Defense and Veterans' Affairs Laws" (S.P. 351) (L.D. 1170)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on **Legal and Veterans Affairs** and Ordered Printed.

Was referred to the Committee on **Legal and Veterans Affairs** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Repeal Municipal Shellfish Ordinances" (S.P. 345) (L.D. 1122)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on **Marine Resources** and Ordered Printed.

Was referred to the Committee on **Marine Resources** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Allow the Recording of Registry Records on Optical Disks" (S.P. 343) (L.D. 1120)

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Annexation of Certain Land by Lake View Plantation" (S.P. 350) (L.D. 1169)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on **State and Local Government** and Ordered Printed.

Were referred to the Committee on **State and Local Government** in concurrence.

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

An Act to Authorize the Department of Transportation to Use Design-build Contracting for Development of a New Bath-Woolwich Bridge (S.P. 220) (L.D. 679) (C. "A" S-10)

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Old Orchard Beach, Representative Kerr.

Representative KERR: Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I just feel compelled to discuss this issue for a little bit. My understanding is the total cost of this project is about \$70 million. Thirty-eight million dollars will be coming from the South Portland Bridge in monies that were not expended. We are left with about \$32 million where we have to come up with some extra money. Between \$8 million and \$15 million will be coming from pots of money within the Highway Fund. You will still be short about \$20 million. There will be a bond package and I am not sure that anyone has seen it as of yet, that will have some money that will be put toward that \$20 million. By no means am I trying to stop this bill from moving forward. I just wanted to be clear that everyone in this chamber understands that this project has a cost of somewhere around \$70 million. There will be \$38 million, again, coming from the South Portland Bridge. The remainder is up in the air. If, in fact, the bond package that is being proposed does not pass, those revenues that were predicated on the passage of that bond issue, will not be there to fund this project. That is all I would like to say.

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 119 voted in favor of the same and 6 against and accordingly the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate. Ordered sent forthwith.

On motion of Representative BUCK of Yarmouth, the House adjourned at 11:50 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 25, 1997.