MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senate Legislative Record

One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Legislature

State of Maine

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STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE SECOND REGULAR SESSION JOURNAL OF THE SENATE

In Senate Chamber

Thursday January 5, 2012 Senate called to order by President Kevin L. Raye of Washington County. Prayer by Pastor David Ouellette of the North Woolwich United Methodist Church. PASTOR OUELLETTE: Good morning. Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we come to You in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and we thank You, Lord, first and foremost for this incredible state of Maine, Lord, that You have created. Lord, having lived out of the state, having lived out of the country, Lord, it is just such an incredible privilege to once again to be allowed to live in this just incredible place, Lord. I thank You likewise for the people that You have put here in Maine, Lord. These incredibly different, individual, ornery people, Lord, and we just, Lord, love the character of the people that You have put here. Lord, likewise having lived overseas, I just want to thank You for the form of government that You have allowed us to have, Lord, and it is unusual and it is rare and it is not what most people in this world have. We thank You for it. Lord, we ask this morning for Your blessing on the work of the day. Lord, specifically under that word "blessing" I ask for wisdom, Lord. Just like the window in the roof here that allows light in. Lord, we ask for windows in our hearts and in our understanding and our minds to allow Your wisdom to come and illuminate the things that need to be decided. Lord, we have reason, but without Your help it will mislead us. Lord, we ask for Your wisdom to understand the true nature of the things that need to be decided. Lord, to overcome all the various individual and party and corporate interests. Lord, that can mislead us. Lord, we ask that You please allow us to really see what the people of this incredible state need. You understand the problems. We ask for Your help in understanding and addressing them correctly. Lord, we ask all these things in the name of Your son, Jesus Christ. Lord, that throughout the world it would be known that in America people still pray about their government and because of that, Lord, You honor Your own name and You answer prayers, and You bless. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Justin L. Alfond of Cumberland County.
Reading of the Journal of Wednesday, January 4, 2012.
Doctor of the day, Judith Chamberlain, MD of Brunswick.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator COURTNEY of York, the following Joint Order: S.P. 599

Ordered, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, January 10, 2012, at 10:00 in the morning.

READ and PASSED.

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Joint Order

The following Joint Order:

H.P. 1280

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Rules be amended by adding Joint Rule 319 to read:

Rule 319. Review of proposed tax expenditures.

Whenever legislation proposes a new tax expenditure or a change that prolongs or expands an existing tax expenditure, the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over the proposal shall hold a public hearing on the legislation and subsequently determine the level of support for the proposal among the members of the committee. If there is support for the proposal among a majority of the members of the committee of jurisdiction, they shall request the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters to review and evaluate the proposal. The joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters shall report to the committee of jurisdiction with an advisory opinion on the legislation. A new tax expenditure or a change that prolongs or expands an existing tax expenditure may not be enacted into law without the review and evaluation by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over taxation matters.

Comes from the House, READ and REFERRED to the Joint Select Committee on JOINT RULES.

READ and REFERRED to the Joint Select Committee on JOINT RULES, in concurrence.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication:

H.C. 278

STATE OF MAINE CLERK'S OFFICE 2 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

On motion by Senator COURTNEY of York, ADJOURNED, pursuant to the Joint Order, to Tuesday, January 10, 2012, at 10:00 in the morning.

January 4, 2012

The Honorable Joseph G. Carleton, Jr. Secretary of the Senate 3 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Carleton:

Please be advised that pursuant to House Rule 201.1 (I)(a), the Speaker appointed Representative David Slagger of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development effective immediately.

Sincerely,

S/Heather J.R. Priest Clerk of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

SENATE PAPERS

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, 2012 and June 30, 2013" (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 600 L.D. 1746

Presented by Senator ROSEN of Hancock. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Cosponsored by Representative FLOOD of Winthrop.

On motion by Senator ROSEN of Hancock, REFERRED to the Committee on APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

All matters thus acted upon were ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Senator **COURTNEY** of York was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate off the Record.