

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
JOURNAL OF THE SENATE**

In Senate Chamber
Tuesday
February 13, 2024

Senate called to order by President Troy D. Jackson of Aroostook County.

Prayer by Pastor Cornel Preda of Farmington Seventh Day Adventist Church.

PASTOR CORNEL PREDA: Mr. President, let's bow our heads in prayer. Loving Father, we come together today before you to praise you for your love and grace that you surround us with every day. We praise you because of the beautiful creation. We recognize that your hands continue to create today. You made this day just for us, in which to manifest your mercy, Lord. I'm approaching your throne of grace to ask that we can receive your blessings and that your wisdom you reserve for our Senators and their staff today. Help us to submit to your will. Bless the work of Senate today's session. To such, extend it every season of our great state of Maine will be touched by it. Give us today the courage to be good, kind, and loving to each other. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

National Anthem Performed by Winslow High School Chorus.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Matthea E. Daughtry of Cumberland County.

Reading of the Journal of Thursday, February 8, 2024.

Medical Provider of the Day, Katie Adams, MD of Lincoln.

Off Record Remarks

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Non-Concurrent Matter

An Act Requiring Training Regarding and Screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences
H.P. 874 L.D. 1360

In Senate, February 6, 2024, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Comes from the House, that Body having **INSISTED** on its former action whereby Bill **COMMITTED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the Senate **INSISTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 897

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of Robert L. Carey of East Boothbay as the Superintendent of the Bureau of Insurance

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Robert L. Carey of East Boothbay for appointment as the Superintendent of the Bureau of Insurance.

Pursuant to Title 24 MRSA §201, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

The Following Communication: S.C. 908

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

February 9, 2024

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority

Dear President Jackson:

Pursuant to Title 3 M.R.S.A., §154, I am withdrawing my nomination of Barrett Gray of Stonington for appointment to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority at the request of the nominee.

This nomination is currently pending before the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 892

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND
FORESTRY**

February 7, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has had under consideration the nomination of Lee Smith of Albany Township, for reappointment to the Maine Land Use Planning Commission.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Ingwersen, H. of York, Black, R. of Franklin
	Representatives	8	Pluecker, B. of Warren, Costain, D. of Plymouth, Cray, D. of Palmyra, Guerrette, T. of Caribou, Hall, R. of Wilton, Hepler, A. of Woolwich, Jackson, C. of Oxford, Jauch, R. of Topsham

NAYS 0

ABSENT 3 Sen. Hickman, C. of Kennebec, Rep. Osher, L. of Orono, Rep. Shaw, K. of Auburn

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Lee Smith of Albany Township, for reappointment to the Maine Land Use Planning Commission be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Bill Pluecker
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** be overridden?"

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Oxford, Senator **BENNETT**, Senator from Androscoggin, Senator **BRAKEY**, and Senator from Lincoln, Senator **RENY**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#513)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BLACK, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Lee**

Smith of Albany Township for reappointment to the Maine Land Use Planning Commission was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 903

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING**

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Tinan Melissa Hue of Portland, for appointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Pouliot, M. of Kennebec
	Representatives	7	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Geiger, V. of Rockland, Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Skold, C. of Portland
NAYS		0	
ABSENT	4		Sen. Daughtry, M. of Cumberland, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Malon, M. of Biddeford, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips

Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Tinan Melissa Hue of Portland, for appointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair House Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#514)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BLACK, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Tinan Melissa Hue** of Portland for appointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 904

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING**

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Elizabeth Dietz of Veazie, for reappointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Pouliot, M. of Kennebec
	Representatives	7	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Geiger, V. of Rockland, Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Skold, C. of Portland

NAYS 0

ABSENT	4	Sen. Daughtry, M. of Cumberland, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Malon, M. of Biddeford, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips
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Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Elizabeth Dietz of Veazie, for reappointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#515)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER,
BLACK, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN,

CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN,
GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON,
HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM,
LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY,
LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE,
POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO,
STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING,
VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Elizabeth Dietz** of Veazie for reappointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 905

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING**

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Frank O'Hara of Hallowell, for reappointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS Senators 1 Tipping, M. of Penobscot

 Representatives 6 Roeder, A. of Bangor,
 Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro,
 Drinkwater, G. of Milford,
 Gere, T. of Kennebunkport,
 Russell, R. of Verona Island,
 Skold, C. of Portland

NAYS 0

ABSENT 6 Sen. Daughtry, M. of
 Cumberland, Sen. Pouliot, M.
 of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta,
 J. of Durham, Rep. Geiger, V.
 of Rockland, Rep. Malon, M.
 of Biddeford, Rep. Soboleski,
 M. of Phillips

Seven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Frank O'Hara of Hallowell, for reappointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#516)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER,
 BLACK, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN,
 CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN,
 GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON,
 HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM,
 LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY,
 LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE,
 POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO,
 STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING,
 VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Frank O'Hara** of Hallowell for reappointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 906

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING**

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Patrick Ende, Esquire of Hallowell, for appointment to the Maine Unemployment Insurance Commission.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS Senators 1 Tipping, M. of Penobscot

 Representatives 6 Roeder, A. of Bangor,
 Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro,
 Drinkwater, G. of Milford,
 Gere, T. of Kennebunkport,
 Russell, R. of Verona Island,
 Skold, C. of Portland

NAYS 0

ABSENT 6 Sen. Daughtry, M. of Cumberland,
 Sen. Pouliot, M. of
 Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J.
 of Durham, Rep. Geiger, V.
 of Rockland, Rep. Malon, M.
 of Biddeford, Rep. Soboleski,
 M. of Phillips

Seven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Patrick Ende, Esquire of Hallowell, for appointment

to the Maine Unemployment Insurance Commission be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#517)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BLACK, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, RENEY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Patrick Ende**, Esquire of Hallowell for appointment to the Maine Unemployment Insurance Commission was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 900

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING**

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson

President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Paul H. Gendreau of Waterville, for appointment to the Workers' Compensation Board.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Pouliot, M. of Kennebec
	Representatives	6	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Geiger, V. of Rockland, Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Russell, R. of Verona Island
NAYS	0		
ABSENT	5		Sen. Daughtry, M. of Cumberland, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Malon, M. of Biddeford, Rep. Skold, C. of Portland, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips

Eight members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Paul H. Gendreau of Waterville, for appointment to the Workers' Compensation Board be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#518)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BLACK, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Paul H. Gendreau** of Waterville for appointment to the Workers' Compensation Board was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 901

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING**

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Lynne P. Gaudette of Biddeford, for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Pouliot, M. of Kennebec
	Representatives	6	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro,

Drinkwater, G. of Milford,
Geiger, V. of Rockland, Gere,
T. of Kennebunkport, Russell,
R. of Verona Island

NAYS 0

ABSENT 5

Sen. Daughtry, M. of Cumberland,
Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham,
Rep. Malon, M. of Biddeford,
Rep. Skold, C. of Portland,
Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips

Eight members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Lynne P. Gaudette of Biddeford, for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#519)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BLACK, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, RENY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Lynne P. Gaudette** of Biddeford for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 902

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HOUSING**

February 8, 2024

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing has had under consideration the nomination of Serina DeWolfe of Gray, for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Pouliot, M. of Kennebec
	Representatives	5	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Russell, R. of Verona Island, Skold, C. of Portland
NAYS	Senators	0	
	Representatives	1	Drinkwater, G. of Milford
ABSENT		5	Sen. Daughtry, M. of Cumberland, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Geiger, V. of Rockland, Rep. Malon, M. of Biddeford, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips

Seven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and one in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Serina DeWolfe of Gray, for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#520)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BLACK, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, RENEY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Serina DeWolfe** of Gray for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 893

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

January 22, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. Madigan of Waterville, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 633 An Act to Dedicate Revenue from Alcohol Tax to Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Joe Perry
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 894

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

January 22, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. O'Neil of Saco, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 916 An Act to Establish a Windfall Profits Tax on Electric Utilities to Assist with Residential Heating Costs

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Joe Perry
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 895

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE**

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

January 22, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. Terry of Gorham, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 1010 An Act to Provide Tax Relief for Working Families

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Joe Perry
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 896

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

January 22, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Pres. Jackson of Arrostook, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 1961 An Act to Support Potato Processing in Maine

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Joe Perry
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 907

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

February 5, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| L.D. 328 | An Act to Improve Mental Health in Maine |
| L.D. 500 | An Act to Improve the Office of the Child Welfare Services Ombudsman |
| L.D. 906 | An Act to Ensure Physicians Receive Full Diagnostic Test Data Concerning Tick-borne Diseases |
| L.D. 1426 | An Act to Secure Housing for the Most Vulnerable Maine Residents by Amending the Laws Governing Municipal General Assistance |
| L.D. 1675 | An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the General Assistance Program Regarding Eligibility, Housing Assistance and State Reimbursement and to Establish a Working Group (EMERGENCY) |

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci Senate Chair	S/Rep. Michele Meyer House Chair
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READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 898

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

January 31, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| L.D. 191 | An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Certain Business Equipment Tax Benefits |
| L.D. 1685 | An Act to Increase Acreage Eligibility and Change Requirements for Filing Plans Under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law |
| L.D. 1774 | An Act Exempting Certain Emergency Distributions and Emergency Savings Accounts from Taxation |
| L.D. 1999 | An Act to Ensure the Equitable Treatment of Military Retirement Plan Income |
| L.D. 2005 | An Act to Eliminate the Aircraft Excise Tax |

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski Senate Chair	S/Rep. Joe Perry House Chair
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READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: S.C. 899

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

January 31, 2024

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| L.D. 1027 | An Act to Prohibit Local Sales Taxes |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|

- L.D. 1335 An Act to Amend the Property Tax Stabilization for Senior Citizens Law
- L.D. 1538 An Act to Provide Tax Benefits to Persons Constructing Accessory Dwelling Units
- L.D. 1893 An Act to Allow a Municipality to Impose a Fee on Short-term Rentals for the Benefit of That Municipality

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Joe Perry
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

The Following Communication: S.C. 909

CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

January 31, 2024

Honorable Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the CDS Annual Legislative Report due by February 1, 2024.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

S/Erin Frazier
State Director of Special Services, Birth to 22

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

ORDERS

Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Saco Middle School, which is the Maine State Winner of the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow US Contest for its 7th-grade project to create 100% biodegradable, sustainable and refillable markers. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 1384
Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Representatives: COPELAND of Saco, GATTINE of Westbrook, O'NEIL of Saco.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

The **PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Bailey.

Senator **BAILEY**: Thank you, Mr. President, Men and Women of the Senate. Today, I'm happy to welcome the seventh-grade students Aislyn Cassidy, Aaron Garland, Juniper L'Italien, Tucker Vincent, Spencer Pahigian, Natalie Chaplin, Abbie Cashin, Amara Doe, Charlotte Ramsey, and Eleanor Studtman from Saco Middle School, who are the Maine state winners for the prestigious Samsung Solve for Tomorrow contest. These bright students, much smarter than I am, under the guidance of teacher Ms. Lindsay Girard, created a 100% biodegradable, sustainable, and refillable markers. Due to their ingenuity, they prevailed over their high school competitors and secured a \$12,000 Samsung prize package, a video kit to assist in the national competition, and a designated Samsung employee mentor. They will now advance to the national competition as the sole middle school amongst the six state finalists. Samsung Solve for Tomorrow is a national competition that challenges students in grades six through 12 to use their STEM skills to address real-world issues in their communities and affect positive social change. Saco Middle School's winning project which was conceived and executed by the inventive minds of these students revolves around creating a 100% biodegradable, sustainable, and refillable markers. And when I learned about what their project was, my first reaction was why didn't I think of that before. The innovative solution aims to combat the staggering environmental impact of the 400 million markers discarded annually in landfills throughout the United States. Today, I'm very proud to present a legislative sentiment to all those students and recognize your creativity, skill, and talent. I am so very proud of you, and I wish you the very best as you advance to the national competition. Thank you, Mr. President.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize the Saco Middle School seventh graders that are winners of the Maine State Samsung Solve for Tomorrow Contest. Senator Bailey probably did a better job announcing their names: Aisyn Cassidy, Aaron Garland, Juniper L'Italien, Tucker Vincent, Spencer Pahigian, Natalie Chaplin, Abby Cashin, Amara Doe, Charlotte Ramsay, and Eleanor Studtman, joined by their teacher Lindsay Girard. Would they all please rise and accept the congratulations of the Maine Senate.

The Leavitt Area High School Football Team, of Turner, which won the Class C State Championship for the 2nd year in a row. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 1281

Sponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representatives: MORRIS of Turner.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

The **PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Timberlake.

Senator **TIMBERLAKE**: Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. It's with great pride and a lot of honor that I get to stand here before you today and introduce what I think is one of the -- probably one of the best football teams that have ever come through the State of Maine over the years. This is their second year in a row, three times out of the last four years, they've been state champ under Coach Hathaway. Coach Hathaway has built one whale of a program in that district where the kids start at a very young age and come up through. Leavitt took on the best programs in the state of Maine, some with enrollments more than twice its size. There was a 21-14 win over Oxford Hills, who was the 2022 Class A champs - remembering that Leavitt is a Class C school. There was a 62-32 win over Lawrence, which lost to Kennebunk 40-20 in the Class B state champs this year. There was also a -- went on the road to Saco to Thornton Academy, rallying from a 15-point deficit in the second half to earn a 35-31 win over the Thornton Academy, who won the Class A state championship this year. They have won the state title, as I said, for the last two years, and the last three out of four, with a record of about 29 and 1 with this team. So, it's a very impressive team. It's with great honor that I get to present them this sentiment here today and thank you very much to all of you.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize the football team and their coaches. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate.

Jace Negley, of Greene, a student and football player at Leavitt Area High School, who has received the Frank J. Gaziano Memorial Defensive Lineman Award as the State's top defensive lineman. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 1385

Sponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative: WOOD of Greene.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

The **PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Timberlake.

Senator **TIMBERLAKE**: Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. Again, it's such an honor to stand here before you today. Jace Nagley, who, for those of you who don't know, is about 6-foot-3 and weighs about 280 pounds, and was a two-way starter for Leavitt. And if you ever watched any of his games, if you were on the offense, you hated coming to the line because he was gonna meet you. And when he met you, you'd know you'd been met because he didn't just shake your hand when he got there, he usually took you down and he was done a super job and was so impressive to watch him play all year long and watch him in the state game, you know, deflect the first punt attempt in the state championship. It's with great honor I get to present this sentiment to Jace. And just so you know, he's going to the University of Maine this year, to hopefully play football for them, so.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is very pleased to recognize Jace Negley of the town of Greene. Would he please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate.

Noah Carpenter, of Greene, a senior and a football player at Leavitt Area High School, who has been awarded the James F. Fitzpatrick Trophy. The Fitzpatrick Trophy is given to the top senior high school football player in the State based on voting by the State's coaches and the media. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 1386

Sponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representatives: MORRIS of Turner, WOOD of Greene.

The **PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Timberlake.

Senator **TIMBERLAKE**: Thank you, Mr. President, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I promise this will be the last time I stand today, maybe. But, you know, when you have so much winning, you don't know where to stop, so. It's my honor right now to recognize Noah Carpenter, who Noah's kind of special in a lot of our minds because his grandfather worked for us over the years and ran his own businesses and was a great man and would be so proud of him today. Noah, just so you know, in his career at Leavitt, had a 29-1 record as a quarterback for Leavitt. He rushed for 1,351 yards, 23 touchdowns, and 121 carries, and completed 90 of 142 passes this year, 63%, for 1,801 yards and 21 touchdowns, made 32 of 35 point after kicks and scored 15 two-point conversions from strong safety, he made 110 tackles and with five interceptions and four forced fumbles, and he was also the punter and was impressive to watch. It's with great honor, Mr. President, I get to present this sentiment to Noah, and Noah is also going to the University of Maine this year. So, it's with great honor, Mr. President.

READ and PASSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is very pleased to recognize Noah Carpenter of the town of Greene. Would he please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate.

Off Record Remarks

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass

The Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act Regarding the Duties of Bail Commissioners" H.P. 1313 L.D. 2051

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

The Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Exclude Certain Operating Under the Influence Crimes from the Immunity Provisions That Are Triggered When Law Enforcement Is Called for a Suspected Overdose" H.P. 1316 L.D. 2054

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Restore the Board of Dental Practice's Authority to Issue Letters of Guidance" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 1302 L.D. 2040

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-741)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-741)**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-741) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Create a Liaison Position Between the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services on Early Childhood Education Matters" H.P. 595 L.D. 948

Reported that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senators:

LIBBY of Cumberland
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

BRENNAN of Portland
BAGSHAW of Windham
DODGE of Belfast
POLEWARCZYK of Wiscasset
SARGENT of York

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-305)**.

Signed:

Senator:

RAFFERTY of York

Representatives:

LYMAN of Livermore Falls
MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth
MURPHY of Scarborough
SAMPSON of Alfred
WORTH of Ellsworth

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**
Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York, Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Divided Report

Seven members of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Require Broadband Internet Access Service Providers to Prorate Customer Bills"
H.P. 1240 L.D. 1932

Reported in Report "A" that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-734)**.

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York
GROHOSKI of Hancock

Representatives:

ZEIGLER of Montville
GEIGER of Rockland
KESSLER of South Portland
RUNTE of York
WARREN of Scarborough

Three members of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report "B" that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:

HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:

BABIN of Fort Fairfield
PAUL of Winterport

One member of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report "C" that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-735)**.

Signed:

Representative:

FOSTER of Dexter

Comes from the House with Report "A", **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-734)**, **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-734) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-737)** thereto.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **LAWRENCE** of York, Report "A", **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-734)**, **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-734) **READ**.

House Amendment "A" (H-737) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-734) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-734) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-737) thereto **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senate

Ought to Pass

Senator CHIPMAN for the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Resolve, to Correct the Designation of a Bridge in Canaan to Be Named After Staff Sergeant Richard Gerald Salsbury (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 928 L.D. 2183

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator BALDACCI for the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Prevent Closures and Ensure Sustainability of Nursing Facilities, Private Nonmedical Institutions and Residential Care Facilities by Removing So-called Budget Neutrality"
S.P. 743 L.D. 1827

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-521)**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-521) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Remove All Marijuana-related Provisions from the Maine Criminal Code and Expunge All Convictions Involving Marijuana"
S.P. 714 L.D. 1789

Reported that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senators:

BEEBE-CENTER of Knox
HARRINGTON of York
LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec

Representatives:

SALISBURY of Westbrook
ARDELL of Monticello
LAJOIE of Lewiston
NEWMAN of Belgrade
NUTTING of Oakland
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-520)**.

Signed:

Representatives:

HASENFUS of Readfield
LOOKNER of Portland
MATHIESON of Kittery

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

SECOND READERS

The Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading** reported the following:

House As Amended

Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Cooperative Affordable Housing Ownership Act"
H.P. 960 L.D. 1505
(C "A" H-736)

Bill "An Act Regarding Compliance with Environmental Permit and License Application Requirements"
H.P. 1320 L.D. 2058
(C "A" H-738)

READ A SECOND TIME and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**, in concurrence.

Senate As Amended

Bill "An Act to Support Farmland Conservation and Transition Planning for Farmers"
S.P. 247 L.D. 579
(C "A" S-519)

READ A SECOND TIME and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

ENACTORS

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

Pursuant to Constitution Public Land - Emergency

Resolve, Authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands to Convey Peacock Beach State Park to the Town of Richmond
H.P. 1323 L.D. 2061
(C "A" H-733)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **FINAL PASSAGE**, in concurrence.

Acts

An Act to Update the Laws Governing Electronic Device Information as Evidence
H.P. 1021 L.D. 1576
(C "A" H-732)

An Act to Align the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program with Federal Regulations
S.P. 865 L.D. 2037

An Act to Update Air Quality Health Warnings
H.P. 1306 L.D. 2044

An Act to Expand Accreditation Options for Laboratories That Conduct Blood-alcohol or Drug Testing
H.P. 1312 L.D. 2050

An Act Regarding Processing of Applications Under the Natural Resources Protection Act to Ensure Consistency with Shoreland Zoning Laws
H.P. 1321 L.D. 2059

PASSED TO BE ENACTED and, having been signed by the President, were presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Off Record Remarks

RECESSED until 11:30 in the morning.

After Recess the Senate was called to order by the President.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Pursuant to Statute Administrator of the unorganized territory

The **Administrator of the unorganized territory**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, section 1604 asked leave to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act to Establish Municipal Cost Components for Unorganized Territory Services to Be Rendered in Fiscal Year 2024-25" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1414 L.D. 2207

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

REFERRED to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218, in concurrence.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Pursuant to Joint Order

The Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** on Bill "An Act to Increase the Cap on Bonds Issued by the Maine State Housing Authority to Reflect Current Housing Production Needs in the State"
H.P. 1416 L.D. 2209

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING**, pursuant to Joint Order, H.P. 3, section 3.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING**, in concurrence.

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 Resolve

Resolve, to Ensure That the Independent Commission to Investigate the Facts of the Tragedy in Lewiston Has Necessary Authority to Discharge Its Fact-finding Mission
H.P. 1405 L.D. 2192
(C "A" H-740)

The **PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Carney.

Senator **CARNEY**: Thank you, Mr. President. President Jackson and Esteemed Colleagues of the Senate, I rise today in support of the pending motion, Ought to Pass as Amended, on -- excuse me, the enactment on LD 2192. The independent commission to investigate facts of the tragedy in Lewiston was formed so that families, friends, the Lewiston community, and our state as a whole, can know in detail what led to the mass shooting in Lewiston. The commission's role is strictly fact finding. Those facts will inform future policy making to be undertaken by the Maine Legislature. We can advance knowledge and understanding today by voting in favor of this legislation. The resolve as proposed would give the commission power to subpoena witnesses, take testimony from those witnesses in executive session when necessary, and determine whether witness testimony taken pursuant to a subpoena and executive session would become publicly available. The proposed

amendment provides additional clarity about how the independent commission would exercise its discretionary power and, in particular, the discretionary authority related to the public access to this information. Subpoena power is urgently needed so that this independent commission can gather all available information as soon as possible and before memories fade. I urge you to vote in favor of enactment of this legislation. It's important to Mainers throughout our state, and especially those in Lewiston. Thank you.

The **PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Stewart.

Senator **STEWART**: Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I wasn't originally intending to say anything, but I wanted to just echo the remarks of my colleague from Cumberland and to say thank you to the folks who are putting a lot of time and effort into this fact-finding mission that the commission is on here to uncover what went wrong, what led up to the very tragic events in Lewiston that are all still fresh in our minds. And I want to thank the committee members who took the time to work this bill into the final product that it is, I think it's a testament to the true legislative process and a good outcome of what can happen when folks are willing to collaborate and sort of put their partisan swords away and come up with what the best approach is to answering a question and solving a problem. And in this case, it's an incredibly new approach, new thing that we're doing here in the legislature. Obviously, the circumstances demand as much. And so, I appreciate all the work that's gone into it, and my colleague from Androscoggin who is the Republican lead on the committee unfortunately isn't here today, but I just want to credit the work that he and my colleague to my right did in that -- in that work session to get to this final outcome that is unanimous and does underscore a good piece of legislation, I think, that'll lend to an effort that is incredibly important for us as Mainers to uncover. So, with that, I encourage everybody here today to support this bill and look forward to reading the results and learning more about this, the good work that the commission is doing on my own. Thank you, Mr. President.

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Hancock, Senator **GROHOSKI**, and further excused the same Senator from today's Roll Call votes.

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 31 Members of the Senate, with no Senators having voted in the negative, and 31 being more than two-thirds of the entire elected Membership of the Senate, was **FINALLY PASSED** and, having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

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

Off Record Remarks

The **PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Duson.

Senator **DUSON**: Thank you. The focus of today's spotlight in black history is Frederick Douglass. Mr. Douglass, born in 1817, and died in 1895, was born a slave in Maryland. He escaped to the north in 1838 and settled in Massachusetts with his family. In 1841, he attended a convention of the Massachusetts anti-slavery society, and soon after, embarked on a path which led him to become a leading figure in the anti-slavery movement. Indeed, Frederick Douglass became one of the foremost abolitionist thought leaders of the 1800s. Mr. Douglass traveled extensively on speaking tours promoting the abolition of slavery, including throughout New England, with stops here in Maine. Historical records at Colby College document a speaking engagement in Waterville. He also spoke at Bates College and the archives at the Maine Historical Society include a photograph and documentation of his presence and speeches in Portland. After the publish of his autobiography, the Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave, in 1845, and becoming fearful of possible re-enslavement, he traveled to England, and stayed there for two years, lecturing in support of the anti-slavery movement in America. With help from Quaker movement friends and supporters, Mr. Douglass raised enough money to buy his own freedom, and in 1847, he returned to America as a free man. Later settling in Rochester, New York, he published the Northern Star, an abolitionist newspaper. He and his family were part of the local Underground Railroad, helping smuggle escaped slaves through Maine, into Canada, and he worked to end racial segregation in Rochester's public schools. Frederick Douglass is especially recognized as an important historical figure in my family. My father and brother, Frederick Douglass Duson, Sr. and Jr., were named for this incredible orator, writer, tireless advocate for emancipation of the enslaved, and champion of suffrage for blacks and women. Mr. Douglass's own biographical writings and speeches, together with many, many well-researched books and articles, convey his rich legacy as an important figure in black history, whose life included connections to our beloved state. I give full attribution to these many resources as the fountain from which today's spotlight is drawn. I hope to have offered just enough to inspire your further exploration. This Friday, the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Hickman, and I, along with members of the other body, will be traveling to Boston to participate in the first annual New England Summit in honor of Black History Month. One of the highlights of that gathering will be a new bust of Frederick Douglass recently unveiled in the Senate Chamber at the Massachusetts State House. I've requested distribution of the newspaper article announcing the arrival of this new sculpture, and it is at your seat today. Thank you for listening, and thank you, Mr. President.

The **PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Guerin.

Senator **GUERIN**: With tomorrow being Valentine's Day, the celebration of love, I wanted to share a bible verse related to love. It is from I John 4:19: We love because he first loved us.

Off Record Remarks

The **PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Bailey.

Senator **BAILEY**: Thank you. As many of you may have heard, last Friday in Saco, we had a very concerning incident involving a shooting and a chase and a car accident. And although the incident itself and what happened is not a usual event in the city of Saco, what was usual was the community's response to that event. And I just wanted to take the opportunity to thank those involved in the community, in particular the Saco schools and their reaction in keeping our students safe during that time period. I wanted to thank the Saco Police Department, our Chief of Police, Jack Clements, and all of the law enforcement agencies that came to assist. They were -- we got assistance from neighboring towns, from the York County Sheriff's Office, from the Federal Marshals office, and I wanted to publicly thank them. And I wanted to thank our community and our community members again for coming together and ensuring that our students remained safe, that they were -- got home safely that day, that they worked together sharing videos, sharing pictures. In particular, I was just so impressed with one of the vehicles involved in the aftermath and the accident was a school bus and some of those students on the school bus actually took pictures with their cellphones that they shared with police, and it really helped the police in their investigation, so I wanted to publicly thank them. Thank you, Mr. President.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **ADJOURNED** until Thursday, February 15, 2014 at 10:00 in the morning.