

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
Monday
March 25, 2024

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

Prayer by Reverend Andrew D'Angio White of St. David's Episcopal Church in Kennebunk.

REVEREND ANDREW D'ANGIO WHITE: Will you pray with me? Oh, God, source of life and love, we thank you for bringing us safely to this place today. We gather in thanksgiving for all who have stewarded this place and these lands before us and pray that we may build on their example to leave a legacy of peace, justice, and love. We remember particularly today all those who are without power, heat, or companionship. Work through us, we pray, to help these our neighbors, even as we give thanks for all those who have been working tirelessly to repair powerlines, clear roads, and remove trees. Give them strength to do this critical work of loving service. As the Senate gathers this morning to be about the business of governing and serving your people in the State of Maine, I ask that you keep them faithful to the oaths they have made, that they may do their work with integrity, charity, and joy. You have called them to serve the greatest and the least. May they remember the least. You have called them to serve the strong and the weak. May they remember the weak. You have called them to serve the rich and the poor. May they remember the poor. Bless them and all who work to make the task of governance possible. In this and all things, we offer you our thanks and praise. In your holy name, amen.

National Anthem Performed by the Honorable Deane Rykerson of Kittery Point.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Hickman of Kennebec County.

Reading of the Journal of Thursday, March 21, 2024.

Off Record Remarks

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

ORDERS

Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

The Bangor Christian Schools Boys Varsity Basketball Team, which won the Class D State Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 1681

Sponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senator: GUERIN of Penobscot,
Representatives: DUCHARME of Madison, PERRY of Bangor, RANA of Bangor, ROEDER of Bangor, SUPICA of Bangor.

The Bangor Christian Schools Boys Varsity Basketball Team, which won the Class D North Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 1682

Sponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senator: GUERIN of Penobscot,
Representatives: DUCHARME of Madison, PERRY of Bangor, RANA of Bangor, ROEDER of Bangor, SUPICA of Bangor.

The Joint Orders were **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Baldacci.

Senator **BALDACCI:** Thank you, Mr. President, and good morning, colleagues. I have the real pleasure of introducing the State Champions, the Bangor Christian Patriots, which defeated the Valley High Cavaliers of Bingham. Unfortunately, Senator Farrin is not present with us, but they won over Bingham 44-31 at the Augusta Civic Center in a hard-fought boys class D state championship game. The second seed - and this is from the Bangor Daily News article - the second seed north champion Patriots overcame the first seed south champion Cavaliers with tenacious defense and rebounding. The win gives the Patriots their first state title after coming close a number of times, including losses in two previous Class D State Championship meetings against the Cavaliers in 2002 and 2003. I want to introduce each member, starting with Coach Charlie Colson, seniors Zach Chadburn, Colton White, Jalen Reed, Conrad Straubel, junior Gabe Gahagan, sophomores Elliot Straubel - and I apologize if I'm not pronouncing that right, Elliot and Jesse Booker, Alden Stutheit, freshmen, other freshmen Rayjon Reed, Thomas Curtis, Jack Kowalski, Drake Nash, Camden Perkins, and the team mom, Robyn Straubel. Really, congratulations, guys, on a great win, I know this is a first -- first state championship, and I know it must be a great feeling. So, thank you for being here. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **GUERIN:** Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and

Gentlemen of the Senate. I, too, rise to congratulate the Bangor Christian boys. My son's played on the Bangor Christian team a few years back and it's nice to see them here and along with their coach, Mr. Colson, who was one of my son's coach. The nice thing about this is the historic perspective winning the gold ball, but even greater, I know the desire of Coach Colson and the boys and Mrs. Straubel is to shine the love of Jesus wherever they go, and it's a good opportunity on the basketball court and a good opportunity to share their faith here in the State House today. Thank you.

The Joint Orders were **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the chamber The Bangor Christian School's Boys Varsity Basketball Team, they won the Class D State Championship. They're already rising but would the Senate rise and give thanks to the good team.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication:
S.C. 1043

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

March 21, 2024

The Honorable Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate

The Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House of Representatives

131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Please accept this letter as the report of the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs from its review and evaluation of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy under the State Government Evaluation Act, Title 3 Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 35. The committee unanimously finds that the Office of Cannabis Policy is operating within its statutory authority.

The committee encourages the Office of Cannabis Policy to continue working to promote the health and well-being of the people of the State and advance policies that protect public health and safety, emphasizing the health and well-being of minors, as priority considerations in performing all duties; ensure that the administration and enforcement of the laws, rules and regulations of the Cannabis Legalization Act and the Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act are consistent, predictable and equitable; ensure that qualifying patients maintain access to high-quality, effective and affordable cannabis for medical use; and develop good-faith

partnerships between the Office of Cannabis Policy and the stakeholders who participate in and benefit from this emerging manufacturing industry, as set forth in pending legislation to be reported out of committee.

Given the newness of the agency, the industry and the changing landscape of federal cannabis policy, the committee may schedule a follow-up review with the Office of Cannabis Policy in the 133rd Legislature to evaluate the progress of the agency in meeting the recommendations of this committee report. The committee will provide the agency with written notification of its intent to conduct a follow-up review by May 1, 2027. The follow-up review may consist of written progress reports, public hearings with the agency and the committee, or briefings with stakeholders and the committee.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Craig V. Hickman
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Laura D. Supica
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:
S.C. 1038

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

March 20, 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 Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Robert Checkoway of Freeport, for reappointment to the Maine Indian Tribal-State 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	Carney, A. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Moonen, M. of Portland, Beck, M. of South Portland, Haggan, D. of Hampden, Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth,

Moriarty, S. of Cumberland,
Poirier, J. of Skowhegan,
Sheehan, E. of Biddeford

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER,
BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER,
CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON,
FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN,
HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, LAFOUNTAIN,
LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE,
PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO,
STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING,
PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: CHIPMAN, INGWERSON, KEIM,
LAWRENCE, POULIOT, VITELLI

NAYS 0

ABSENT 4 Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Sen.
Brakey, E. of Androscoggin,
Rep. Andrews, J. of Paris,
Rep. Lee, A. of Auburn

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe supports the Committee's
recommendation.

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 Robert Checkoway of Freeport, for reappointment
to the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the
recommendation of the committee on **JUDICIARY** be
overridden?"

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Cumberland,
Senator **CHIPMAN**, the Senator from York, Senator
INGWERSEN, the Senator from Oxford, Senator **KEIM**, the
Senator from York, Senator **LAWRENCE**, the Senator from
Kennebec, Senator **POULIOT**, and the Senator from Sagadahoc,
Senator **VITELLI**, 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 (#616)

YEAS: Senators: None

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators
having voted in the negative, with 6 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 **Robert
Checkoway** of Freeport for reappointment to the Maine Indian
Tribal-State Commission was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:
S.C. 1039

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

March 21, 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 Shari Broder, Esq. of Freeport, for reappointment to the Maine
Labor Relations 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,
Daughtry, M. of Cumberland

Representatives 7 Roeder, A. of Bangor,
Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro,
Drinkwater, G. of Milford,
Geiger, V. of Rockland, Gere,
T. of Kennebunkport, Malon,
M. of Biddeford, Russell, R.
of Verona Island

Broder, Esq. of Freeport for reappointment to the Maine Labor Relations Board was **CONFIRMED**.

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

NAYS 0

The Following Communication:
S.C. 1040

ABSENT 4 Sen. Pouliot, M. of
Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J.
of Durham, Rep. Skold, C. of
Portland, Rep. Soboleski, M.
of Phillips

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

March 21, 2024

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 Shari Broder, Esq. of Freeport, for reappointment to the Maine Labor Relations Board be confirmed.

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

Signed,

Dear Mr. President:

S/Michael Tipping S/Amy Jean Roeder
Senate Chair House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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 Sheila Mayberry, Esq. of Falmouth, for reappointment to the Maine Labor Relations Board.

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

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:

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.

YEAS	Senators	2	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Daughtry, M. of Cumberland
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The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#617)

YEAS: Senators: None

Representatives	7	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Geiger, V. of Rockland, Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island
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NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER,
BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER,
CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON,
FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN,
HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, LAFOUNTAIN,
LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE,
PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO,
STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING,
PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS 0

ABSENT	4	Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Skold, C. of Portland, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips
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EXCUSED: Senators: CHIPMAN, INGWERSON, KEIM,
LAWRENCE, POULIOT, VITELLI

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 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 **Shari**

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 Sheila Mayberry, Esq. of Falmouth, for reappointment to the Maine Labor Relations 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 (#618)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: CHIPMAN, INGWERSON, KEIM, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, VITELLI

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 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 **Sheila Mayberry, Esq.** of Falmouth for reappointment to the Maine Labor Relations Board was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:
S.C. 1041

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

March 21, 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 Rebekah Smith, Esq. of Union, for reappointment to the Maine Labor Relations 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, Daughtry, M. of Cumberland
	Representatives	7	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Geiger, V. of Rockland, Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		4	Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Skold, C. of Portland, 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 Rebekah Smith, Esq. of Union, for reappointment to the Maine Labor Relations 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 (#619)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, PRESIDENT JACKSON

M. of Biddeford, Russell, R. of Verona Island

NAYS 0

ABSENT 4 Sen. Pouliot, M. of Kennebec, Rep. Galletta, J. of Durham, Rep. Skold, C. of Portland, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips

EXCUSED: Senators: CHIPMAN, INGWERSON, KEIM, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, VITELLI

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 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 **Rebekah Smith, Esq.** of Union for reappointment to the Maine Labor Relations Board was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:
S.C. 1042

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

March 21, 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 Christina Bonney of Portland, for appointment to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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, Daughtry, M. of Cumberland
	Representatives	7	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Bradstreet, D. of Vassalboro, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Geiger, V. of Rockland, Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Malon,

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 Christina Bonney of Portland, for appointment to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits 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 (#620)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: CHIPMAN, INGWERSON, KEIM, LAWRENCE, POULIOT, VITELLI

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 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 **Christina Bonney** of Portland for appointment to the Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Promote Equity in the Forest Products Industry by Allowing Commercial Wood Haulers to Be Eligible for Certain Sales Tax Exemptions and Refunds"
S.P. 994 L.D. 2279

Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** suggested and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Maine's Workforce Through Preapprenticeship Training Programs"
S.P. 995 L.D. 2280

Presented by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland and Senators: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, DUSON of Cumberland, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, Representative: ROEDER of Bangor.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

On motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

ORDERS

Joint Orders

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, the following Joint Order:
S.P. 992

ORDERED, the House concurring, that Joint Order 2023, H.P. 3 be amended by striking out all of section 5.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **PASSAGE**.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 213: Rules for the Salmonella Enteritidis Risk Reduction and Surveillance Program for Commercial Egg-type Flocks, a Late-filed Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1427 L.D. 2226

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-841)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-841)**.

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-841) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**, in concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Clarify the Minimum Sentencing Standards for a Violation of Operating Under the Influence"
H.P. 1443 L.D. 2247

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

Signed:

Senators:
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox
HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:
SALISBURY of Westbrook
ARDELL of Monticello
HASENFUS of Readfield
LAJOIE of Lewiston
MATHIESON of Kittery
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**.

Signed:

Representative:
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

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

Reports **READ**.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Fund Military Sexual Trauma Liaison Positions at Community-based Organizations"
H.P. 1453 L.D. 2263

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 37-B, section 3, subsection 1, paragraph D, subparagraph (25).

Signed:

Senators:
HICKMAN of Kennebec
BRENNER of Cumberland
TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin

Representatives:
SUPICA of Bangor
BOYER of Poland
COLLINGS of Portland
MALON of Biddeford
MONTELL of Gardiner
RIELLY of Westbrook
WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not to Pass**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 37-B, section 3, subsection 1, paragraph D, subparagraph (25).

Signed:

Representatives:
HYMES of Waldo
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 37-B, section 3, subsection 1, paragraph D, subparagraph (25)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, the Majority
OUGHT TO PASS pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 37-B, section 3, subsection 1, paragraph D, subparagraph (25) Report **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in concurrence.

Ordered sent down forthwith.

Senate

Ought to Pass Pursuant to Public Law

Senator LAWRENCE for the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Require Public Safety Answering Point and Dispatch Center Cost Reporting and to Direct the Formation of a Staffing and Recruiting Stakeholder Group"
S.P. 993 L.D. 2278

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass**, pursuant to Public Law 2023, chapter 186, section 3.

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

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator LAWRENCE for the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Charter of the Wiscasset Water District"
S.P. 897 L.D. 2104

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-599)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-599) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator LAWRENCE for the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Set a Debt Limit for the Anson and Madison Water District" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 964 L.D. 2242

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-598)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-598) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator PIERCE for the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** on Bill "An Act to Establish a Process to Vest Rights for Land Use Permit Applicants"
S.P. 331 L.D. 772

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-600)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-600) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator PIERCE for the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** on Bill "An Act to Support the Development of Workforce Housing to Promote Economic Development in Maine"
S.P. 920 L.D. 2169

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-601)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-601) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Clarify the Property Tax Exemption for Air Pollution Control Facilities" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 855 L.D. 2027

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-602)**.

Signed:

Senators:

GROHOSKI of Hancock
CHIPMAN of Cumberland
LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:

PERRY of Bangor
CARMICHAEL of Greenbush
CROCKETT of Portland
HASENFUS of Readfield
LAVIGNE of Berwick
MATLACK of St. George
RANA of Bangor

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Representatives:

LIBBY of Auburn
QUINT of Hodgdon
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

Reports **READ**.

On motion Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT**.

ENACTORS

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

Emergency Resolve

Resolve, to Establish the Task Force to Support Commercial Dairy Farms in the State
S.P. 511 L.D. 1274
(C "A" S-577)

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 29 Members of the Senate, with 0 Senators having voted in the negative, and 29 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.

Acts

An Act to Clarify the Definition of "Underground Facility" and Reduce Administrative Burdens Under the So-called Dig Safe Law
S.P. 967 L.D. 2245

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

An Act to Ensure the Workers' Compensation Board's Allocations Are Properly Funded
S.P. 927 L.D. 2176
(C "A" S-575)

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

Resolve

Resolve, to Prepare Preapproved Building Types
S.P. 697 L.D. 1752
(C "A" S-578)

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

Senate at Ease.

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

Senate

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator **RAFFERTY** for the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Require Schools to

Provide Instruction Regarding Prevention of the Illegal Use of Fentanyl and Other Drugs and Drug Poisoning Awareness in Grades 6 to 12 and to Establish Drug Poisoning Awareness Week"
S.P. 882 L.D. 2089

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-607)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-607) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator **CARNEY** for the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Modernize and Consolidate Certain Court Facilities"
S.P. 883 L.D. 2090

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-605)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-605) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator **GROHOSKI** for the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Adjustments for Sudden and Severe Disruption of Municipal Valuation"
S.P. 828 L.D. 2006

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-606)**.

Report **READ**.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **ACCEPTANCE**.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Senate

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Provide Funding to the Maine School of Science and Mathematics Using the School Funding Formula Criteria"
S.P. 914 L.D. 2118

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-608)**.

Signed:

Senators:

RAFFERTY of York
LIBBY of Cumberland
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

BAGSHAW of Windham
DODGE of Belfast
LYMAN of Livermore Falls
MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth
MURPHY of Scarborough
POLEWARCZYK of Wiscasset
SAMPSON of Alfred
SARGENT of York
WORTH of Ellsworth

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Representative:

BRENNAN of Portland

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-608) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Senate

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Strengthen Freedom of Speech Protections by Extending Laws Against Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation"
S.P. 367 L.D. 870

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-604)**.

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland
BAILEY of York
BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

MOONEN of Portland
KUHN of Falmouth
LEE of Auburn
MORIARTY of Cumberland
POIRIER of Skowhegan
SHEEHAN of Biddeford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Representatives:

ANDREWS of Paris
HAGGAN of Hampden
HENDERSON of Rumford

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-604) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Unfinished Business

The following matters in the consideration of which the Senate was engaged at the time of Adjournment had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by Senate Rule 516.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (3/19/24) matter:

5.

Tabled and Later Assigned

An Act Establishing Concurrent Jurisdiction with the Federal Courts in Certain Juvenile Matters
S.P. 923 L.D. 2171
(C "A" S-549)

Tabled - March 19, 2024, by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook

Pending - **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence

(In Senate, March 19, 2024, **RECALLED** from Governor's Desk pursuant to Joint Order SP 985. On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, in concurrence.)

(In House, March 6, 2024, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**, in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby it **ADOPTED** Committee Amendment "A" (S-549).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-603) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-549) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. This is a bill that thankfully received unanimous passage out of the Judiciary Committee earlier this year, and we certainly appreciate the work that they did on this bill. Unfortunately, when it got down to the Governor's desk, it was then noticed that there was an issue that was flagged by the Maine Prosecutors' Association which accidentally -- what we've

accidentally done is have two conflicting paragraphs. And so, Shira Burns, who is the executive director there, just writes; as written, subsection three and four conflict with each other. Subsection three talks about the court having exclusive jurisdiction and subsection four talks about the juvenile court having exclusive jurisdiction, and since these subsections are added into Title 17-A, Section 10, which is referencing adult court jurisdiction, they then would conflict with one another. So, the two sections should've been combined to reference the juvenile court having exclusive jurisdiction when a juvenile crime is committed within the boundaries of a military installation, and so, effectively, that is what this floor amendment does here that would hopefully address that concern and then end up in the same posture shortly back on the Governor's desk and awaiting signature. Thank you, Mr. President.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-549) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-603) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-549) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-603) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

All matters thus acted upon, with the exception of those matters being held, were ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, President Jackson. Members of the Senate, I rise today to celebrate another famous Maine woman in conjunction with Women's History Month. Last week our colleague from Cumberland, Senator Brenner, began her remarks quoting a historian who said 'Well-behaved women seldom make history.' That statement was true of Martha Ballard and it's also true of the Honorable Lois Galgay Reckitt. Lois Reckitt served in the 128th through the 131st Legislature, until she passed away in October last year of colon cancer. She was a tenacious fighter for justice in Maine, the U.S., and the world right up until her passing. She was also a loving wife to Lyn, a wonderful grandmother, and a devoted aunt. Lois worked on a broad range of issues to promote women's rights and the rights of other disadvantaged people throughout her lifetime, including helping to found the Maine Women's Lobby in 1978. Lois Reckitt was a board member of the National Organization for Women for 15 years and served in the leadership role as the elected National Executive Vice President from 1984 to 1987. In the 1980s, she was a co-founder of the Human Rights Campaign Fund and Lois was inducted into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame in 1998. For 36 years, Lois was executive director of the Family Crisis Services in Cumberland County. She was at the forefront of

efforts to stop domestic violence and help survivors, lobbying for stronger laws and more enforcement in Maine before she even considered running for the Legislature. She also worked to help police, prosecutors, and judges better understand domestic violence and the harm it caused. Her long-time friend, retired judge Michael Cantara, said 'Her approach rested on the belief that people want to do what is right and just, and that most people will respond better to a victim's needs if that person has knowledge of the dynamics of domestic violence.' For decades, Lois fought to pass the Equal Rights Amendment in Maine. Even when those efforts fell short, she fought on. She was rightfully proud of her many Legislative accomplishments, including protecting those who are sex trafficked from prosecution while holding the sex traffickers responsible, legislation that actually went into effect just a few days before she passed away. If you ever spent time with Lois, you would note that this biography so far is much too tame to capture her essence, what made her special during her life and what will keep her memory alive, so I'm going to recite a few of these other aspects of Lois. She had a very eclectic career path, including working as a marine biologist and also as a swim instructor. She was arrested twice for civil disobedience in the 1980s. One time she protested apartheid at the South African embassy in Washington, D.C., and the other time she was arrested in front of the White House for protesting the Reagan administration's inadequate response to the AIDS epidemic. She tells a story about having 'the odd distinction of being the first woman in the U.S. arrested by police using those Playtex rubber gloves' which they used, and again this is quoting Lois, 'reached down my pants to see if I was carrying who knows what.' Lois was a die-hard Boston Red Sox fan, holding season tickets for decades. She was also invited to speak at a national conference on ending sexual exploitation in October, just a few weeks before she passed away. Lois gave her presentation from the Maine Medical Center Emergency room as her health condition worsened. In appreciation, the National Center on Sexual Exploitation gave her one final award, the Dignity Defense Award, which I think is so appropriate. Lois was definitely an arm twister, as those in this Chamber likely experienced when she, I know that Senator Moore knows what I'm going to say, when she whipped votes for the Equal Rights Amendment or when she persuaded nearly every lawmaker in this building to join the Irish American State Legislators Caucus, that was several years ago. Lois also used her sharp sense of humor to make a point. Her t-shirt collection in the Maine State Achieves includes a shirt that reads '1984 George Orwell for President.' I was waiting for some laughs. She's also famous for launching the Judiciary Committee's work on data privacy by informing us that she's the only person on the face of the Earth who routinely read social media terms of use and privacy disclosures in their entirety. I'll close my remarks on this famous Maine woman by noting Lois' willingness to show her vulnerability in order to raise awareness and compassion. During the course of her work in this building, Lois shared her experiences as a child survivor of incest, as a woman and lesbian being subjected to discrimination, and as a person with Multiple Sclerosis and colon cancer, all in the course of advocating for important legislation. Lois once stated that the three loves of her life were the women's right movement, the lesbian rights movement, and the movement to end violence against women. 'I have lived an interesting life,' she said, and I think that is true. Thank you.

Off Record Remarks

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **ADJOURNED** until Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 10:00 in the morning.