

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
Friday
May 10, 2024

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

Prayer by Senator Craig V. Hickman of Kennebec County.

SENATOR HICKMAN: Good morning. Dear Lord, who shows yourself to us today as you do every day in the thin places of the early morning and the strong lines of the Appalachian Mountain ridges, in the quilted land pushing up garlic and sugar peas, in the light of the eyes of everyone we meet. We come before you this day seeking clarity of insight. For who among us can see all things? Who among us can know all things? Who among us has been everywhere and seen all there is to see? Flooded with options, confused by possibilities, and limited by our own lived experiences, we may feel like broken compasses pointing here and there, aimless and wondering. Wanting to do what is right by the people, desiring to do what is needed, no more and no less. We ask in this time for ears to hear, for eyes to see, for clear minds to discern, for hearts to ponder, and for energy enough to do all that is asked of us this day. Dear Lord, we ask for voices, too. Voices strong enough to be heated, voices with courage enough to bend the arc of the moral universe toward justice, voices that speak as humbly as they speak with conviction. Asking these things of you, we also offer you our thanks for the beauty of this day, for the time with our colleagues, for the faithfulness of so many who serve steadfast with such great care, for the wellbeing of our families and our communities, for the prosperity of our great state. Dear Lord, may the rhythms of this day and the music of this Body be sweet. May it be a blessing to you, dear Lord, and a source of encouragement for all who hear its melody. And so, as we go away this afternoon or this evening or this night, whatever it may be, as we come to the end of this stretch of our journey together, our journey in what we call the 131st Legislature, let us go away with the melody to this familiar blessing singing from our hearts. May the road rise up to meet you. May the wind be always at your back. May the sunshine warm upon your face. May the rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, may God hold you, may God hold you, may God hold you in the hollow of his hands. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Teresa S. Pierce of Cumberland County.

Reading of the Journal of Wednesday, April 17, 2024.

Off Record Remarks

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

ORDERS

Joint Resolution

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, on behalf of Senator **JACKSON** of Aroostook, with unanimous consent, presented the following Joint Resolution. (Cosponsored by Senators: **BAILEY** of York, **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **BENNETT** of Oxford, **BLACK** of Franklin, **BRAKEY** of Androscoggin, **BRENNER** of Cumberland, **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland, **CURRY** of Waldo, **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland, **DUSON** of Cumberland, **FARRIN** of Somerset, **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **GUERIN** of Penobscot, **HARRINGTON** of York, **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, **INGWERSEN** of York, **KEIM** of Oxford, **LaFOUNTAIN** of Kennebec, **LAWRENCE** of York, **LIBBY** of Cumberland, **LYFORD** of Penobscot, **MOORE** of Washington, **NANGLE** of Cumberland, **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **POULIOT** of Kennebec, **RAFFERTY** of York, **RENY** of Lincoln, **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, **STEWART** of Aroostook, **TIMBERLAKE** of Androscoggin, **TIPPING** of Penobscot, Representatives: **ABDI** of Lewiston, **ADAMS** of Lebanon, **ALBERT** of Madawaska, **ANKELES** of Brunswick, **ARATA** of New Gloucester, **ARDELL** of Monticello, **ARFORD** of Brunswick, **BABIN** of Fort Fairfield, **BAGSHAW** of Windham, **BECK** of South Portland, **BELL** of Yarmouth, **BLIER** of Buxton, **BOYER** of Poland, **BOYLE** of Gorham, **BRADSTREET** of Vassalboro, **BRENNAN** of Portland, **BRIDGEO** of Augusta, **CAMPBELL** of Orrington, **CARLOW** of Buxton, **CARMICHAEL** of Greenbush, **CLOUTIER** of Lewiston, **CLUCHEY** of Bowdoinham, **COLLAMORE** of Pittsfield, **COLLINGS** of Portland, **COPELAND** of Saco, **COSTAIN** of Plymouth, **CRAFTS** of Newcastle, **CRAVEN** of Lewiston, **CRAY** of Palmyra, **CROCKETT** of Portland, **CYRWAY** of Albion, **DANA** of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, **DAVIS** of East Machias, **DHALAC** of South Portland, **DILL** of Old Town, **DODGE** of Belfast, **DOUDERA** of Camden, **DRINKWATER** of Milford, **DUCHARME** of Madison, **DUNPHY** of Embden, **EATON** of Deer Isle, **FAULKINGHAM** of Winter Harbor, **FAY** of Raymond, **FOSTER** of Dexter, **FREDERICKS** of Sanford, **GALLETTA** of Durham, **GATTINE** of Westbrook, **GEIGER** of Rockland, **GERE** of Kennebunkport, **GIFFORD** of Lincoln, **GOLEK** of Harpswell, **GRAHAM** of North Yarmouth, **GRAMLICH** of Old Orchard Beach, **GREENWOOD** of Wales, **GUERRETTE** of Caribou, **HAGGAN** of Hampden, **HALL** of Wilton, **HASENFUS** of Readfield, **HEPLER** of Woolwich, **HOBBS** of Wells, **HYMES** of Waldo, **JACKSON** of Oxford, **JAVNER** of Chester, **KESSLER** of South Portland, **KUHN** of Falmouth, **LAJOIE** of Lewiston, **LANDRY** of Farmington, **LANIGAN** of Sanford, **LaROCHELLE** of Augusta, **LAVIGNE** of Berwick, **LEE** of Auburn, **LEMELIN** of Chelsea, **LOOKNER** of Portland, **LYMAN** of Livermore Falls, **MADIGAN** of Waterville, **MALON** of Biddeford, **MASTRACCIO** of Sanford, **MATHIESON** of Kittery, **MATLACK** of St. George, **MEYER** of Eliot, **MILLETT** of Waterford, **MILLETT** of Cape Elizabeth, **MILLIKEN** of Blue Hill, **MONTELL** of Gardiner, **MOONEN** of Portland, **MORIARTY** of Cumberland, **MORRIS** of Turner, **MURPHY** of Scarborough, **NESS** of Fryeburg, **NEWMAN**

of Belgrade, NUTTING of Oakland, O'CONNELL of Brewer, O'NEIL of Saco, OSHER of Orono, PARRY of Arundel, PAUL of Winterport, PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft, PERRY of Calais, PERRY of Bangor, PLUECKER of Warren, POLEWARCZYK of Wiscasset, POMERLEAU of Standish, PRINGLE of Windham, QUINT of Hodgdon, RANA of Bangor, RIELLY of Westbrook, RISEMAN of Harrison, ROBERTS of South Berwick, ROEDER of Bangor, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, RUNTE of York, RUSSELL of Verona Island, SACHS of Freeport, SALISBURY of Westbrook, SAMPSON of Alfred, SARGENT of York, SAYRE of Kennebunk, SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, SHAW of Auburn, SHEEHAN of Biddeford, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, SINCLAIR of Bath, SKOLD of Portland, SMITH of Palermo, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, STOVER of Boothbay, STROUT of Harrington, SUPICA of Bangor, SWALLOW of Houlton, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, TERRY of Gorham, THERIAULT of Fort Kent, THORNE of Carmel, WALKER of Naples, WARREN of Scarborough, WHITE of Waterville, WHITE of Guilford, WOOD of Greene, WOODSOME of Waterboro, WORTH of Ellsworth, ZAGER of Portland, ZEIGLER of Montville),
the following Joint Resolution:
S.P. 1009

**JOINT RESOLUTION TO REAFFIRM THE FRIENDSHIP
BETWEEN MAINE
AND TAIWAN, ENHANCE BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONS
WITH TAIWAN
AND SUPPORT TAIWAN'S INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION**

WHEREAS, the United States and the Republic of China (Taiwan) share a robust bilateral relationship marked by a mutually beneficial partnership, supported by our common values of freedom, democracy, rule of law and a free market economy, and our countries now enjoy the strongest relations ever, and we congratulate Taiwan on its presidential election held on January 13, 2024 and the election of Dr. Lai Ching-te, whose presidential inauguration is to be held on May 20, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the United States ranks as Taiwan's 2nd largest trading partner, and Taiwan is the 8th largest trading partner of the United States, with United States trade in goods with Taiwan totaling an estimated \$127.4 billion in 2023, and Taiwan was the 7th largest consumer of agricultural goods in 2023, totaling \$3.7 billion; and

WHEREAS, 2024 marks the 45th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA), Public Law 96-8, which has acted as the cornerstone of United States-Taiwan relations to help maintain peace, security and stability in the Western Pacific and to promote the foreign policy of the United States by authorizing the continuation of commercial, cultural and other relations between the people of the United States and the people of Taiwan, and for other purposes; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan-Maine bilateral trade totaled \$50.3 million in 2023, and Maine exported to Taiwan \$31.1 million in integrated circuits, wafers, printed circuit boards, crustaceans, paper products and other goods, making Taiwan Maine's 17th largest export market in the world and 8th largest export market in Asia, and a formal bilateral trade agreement between Taiwan and

the United States would result in even greater Maine exports to Taiwan and create more jobs for the people of Maine; and

WHEREAS, Maine and Taiwan have mutually agreed to enhancing K-12 education exchange, and we welcome all opportunities for even closer educational cooperation with Taiwan, such as the signing of a memorandum of understanding regarding higher education cooperation and a driver's license reciprocity agreement for those who live and work in Maine and Taiwan; and

WHEREAS, Maine recognizes Taiwan's contribution to a broad range of global issues, and therefore Taiwan's inclusion in international organizations such as the World Health Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is imperative for the best interests and safety of the international community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, support a stronger United States-Taiwan relationship under the Biden administration, including the signing of a bilateral trade agreement and an income tax agreement, and encourage the further exploration of ways to strengthen and promote bilateral exchange between Maine and Taiwan, including signing a driver's license reciprocity agreement and a memorandum of understanding regarding higher education cooperation with Taiwan in the near future, and support pursuing ways to further increase trade and people-to-people exchanges; and be it further

RESOLVED: That we support Taiwan's legitimate right to participate in international organizations, agreements and mechanisms; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States, the members of the Maine Congressional Delegation, the Honorable Janet Mills, Governor of Maine, the Honorable Tsai Ing-wen, President of the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the Honorable Charles Liao, Director-General of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston, Massachusetts.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Rotundo.

Senator **ROTUNDO:** Thank you, Mr. President, Colleagues of the Senate. I understand that members of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston are here in the State House today, and I simply wanted to welcome our friends from Taiwan. Their presence affirms the friendship that exists between the people of Maine and the Taiwanese people and strengthens the many ties that bind us all together. We're very pleased that they're here today in Maine. 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, too, would like to extend in a bipartisan fashion our support for the good people of Taiwan. In fact, I worked previously on driver's license reciprocity personally on that issue. And certainly, as you look at what's happening globally, and this is one area where I do think wading into some of these more federal issues might make sense, particularly as you have things happening around the world where democracy is actually quite literally at stake in a lot of places and people are dying because of it. And supporting our democratic friends in other parts of the country as they go through their own civil strife, I think is an important thing for us to do here in America and certainly given that it's a tenuous subject at best at the federal level, I think these efforts by the states individually to support our friends who are fighting for democratic values and principles around the world is an important thing to do. So, thank you, Mr. President, and I congratulate the people of Taiwan, and appreciate you bringing this resolution forward.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

ORDERS

Joint Resolution

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc on behalf of Senator **JACKSON** of Aroostook, with unanimous consent, presented the following Joint Resolution. (Cosponsored by Senators: **BAILEY** of York, **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **BENNETT** of Oxford, **BLACK** of Franklin, **BRAKEY** of Androscoggin, **BRENNER** of Cumberland, **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland, **CURRY** of Waldo, **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland, **DUSON** of Cumberland, **FARRIN** of Somerset, **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **GUERIN** of Penobscot, **HARRINGTON** of York, **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, **INGWERSEN** of York, **KEIM** of Oxford, **LaFOUNTAIN** of Kennebec, **LAWRENCE** of York, **LIBBY** of Cumberland, **LYFORD** of Penobscot, **MOORE** of Washington, **NANGLE** of Cumberland, **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **POULIOT** of Kennebec, **RAFFERTY** of York, **RENY** of Lincoln, **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, **STEWART** of Aroostook, **TIMBERLAKE** of Androscoggin, **TIPPING** of Penobscot, Representatives: **ABDI** of Lewiston, **ADAMS** of Lebanon, **ALBERT** of Madawaska, **ANDREWS** of Paris, **ANKELES** of Brunswick, **ARATA** of New Gloucester, **ARDELL** of Monticello, **ARFORD** of Brunswick, **BABIN** of Fort Fairfield, **BAGSHAW** of Windham, **BECK** of South Portland, **BELL** of Yarmouth, **BLIER** of Buxton, **BOYER** of Poland, **BOYLE** of Gorham, **BRADSTREET** of Vassalboro, **BRENNAN** of Portland, **BRIDGE** of Augusta, **CAMPBELL** of Orrington, **CARLOW** of Buxton, **CARMICHAEL** of Greenbush, **CLOUTIER** of Lewiston, **CLUCHEY** of Bowdoinham, **COLLAMORE** of Pittsfield, **COLLINGS** of Portland, **COPELAND** of Saco, **COSTAIN** of Plymouth, **CRAFTS** of Newcastle, **CRAVEN** of Lewiston, **CRAY** of Palmyra, **CROCKETT** of Portland, **CYRWAY** of Albion, **DANA** of the Passamaquoddy

Tribe, **DAVIS** of East Machias, **DHALAC** of South Portland, **DILL** of Old Town, **DODGE** of Belfast, **DOUDERA** of Camden, **DRINKWATER** of Milford, **DUCHARME** of Madison, **DUNPHY** of Embden, **EATON** of Deer Isle, **FAULKINGHAM** of Winter Harbor, **FAY** of Raymond, **FOSTER** of Dexter, **FREDERICKS** of Sanford, **GALLETTA** of Durham, **GATTINE** of Westbrook, **GEIGER** of Rockland, **GERE** of Kennebunkport, **GIFFORD** of Lincoln, **GOLEK** of Harpswell, **GRAHAM** of North Yarmouth, **GRAMLICH** of Old Orchard Beach, **GREENWOOD** of Wales, **GRIFFIN** of Levant, **GUERRETTE** of Caribou, **HAGGAN** of Hampden, **HALL** of Wilton, **HASENFUS** of Readfield, **HENDERSON** of Rumford, **HEPLER** of Woolwich, **HOBBS** of Wells, **HYMES** of Waldo, **JACKSON** of Oxford, **JAVNER** of Chester, **KESSLER** of South Portland, **KUHN** of Falmouth, **LAJOIE** of Lewiston, **LANDRY** of Farmington, **LANIGAN** of Sanford, **LaROCHELLE** of Augusta, **LAVIGNE** of Berwick, **LEE** of Auburn, **LEMELIN** of Chelsea, **LIBBY** of Auburn, **LOOKNER** of Portland, **LYMAN** of Livermore Falls, **MADIGAN** of Waterville, **MALON** of Biddeford, **MASTRACCIO** of Sanford, **MATHIESON** of Kittery, **MATLACK** of St. George, **MEYER** of Eliot, **MILLETT** of Waterford, **MILLETT** of Cape Elizabeth, **MILLIKEN** of Blue Hill, **MONTELL** of Gardiner, **MOONEN** of Portland, **MORIARTY** of Cumberland, **MORRIS** of Turner, **MURPHY** of Scarborough, **NESS** of Fryeburg, **NEWMAN** of Belgrade, **NUTTING** of Oakland, **O'CONNELL** of Brewer, **O'NEIL** of Saco, **OSHER** of Orono, **PARRY** of Arundel, **PAUL** of Winterport, **PERKINS** of Dover-Foxcroft, **PERRY** of Calais, **PERRY** of Bangor, **PLUECKER** of Warren, **POIRIER** of Skowhegan, **POLEWARCZYK** of Wiscasset, **POMERLEAU** of Standish, **PRINGLE** of Windham, **QUINT** of Hodgdon, **RANA** of Bangor, **RIELLY** of Westbrook, **RISEMAN** of Harrison, **ROBERTS** of South Berwick, **ROEDER** of Bangor, **RUDNICKI** of Fairfield, **RUNTE** of York, **RUSSELL** of Verona Island, **SACHS** of Freeport, **SALISBURY** of Westbrook, **SAMPSON** of Alfred, **SARGENT** of York, **SAYRE** of Kennebunk, **SCHMERSAL-BURGESS** of Mexico, **SHAGOURY** of Hallowell, **SHAW** of Auburn, **SHEEHAN** of Biddeford, **SIMMONS** of Waldoboro, **SINCLAIR** of Bath, **SKOLD** of Portland, **SMITH** of Palermo, **SOBOLESKI** of Phillips, **STOVER** of Boothbay, **STROUT** of Harrington, **SUPICA** of Bangor, **SWALLOW** of Houlton, Speaker **TALBOT ROSS** of Portland, **TERRY** of Gorham, **THERIAULT** of Fort Kent, **THORNE** of Carmel, **UNDERWOOD** of Presque Isle, **WALKER** of Naples, **WARREN** of Scarborough, **WHITE** of Waterville, **WHITE** of Guilford, **WOOD** of Greene, **WOODSOME** of Waterboro, **WORTH** of Ellsworth, **ZAGER** of Portland, **ZEIGLER** of Montville), the following Joint Resolution:
S.P. 1010

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 28, 2024 AS MAINE ACADIAN DAY

WHEREAS, in 1604, French settlers established the first European settlement in Maine on Saint Croix Island, and these settlers, known as Acadians, were adaptable and resilient, turning hardy wilderness into fertile farmland using nutrients from the sea; and

WHEREAS, Acadians endured great hardships during their settling in the Acadian region, including their expulsion between 1755 and 1764, when more than 10,000 men, women and children were forcefully deported from the region at the hands of the British governors of Nova Scotia and Massachusetts to

southern colonies and British prisons, with some escaping and becoming refugees; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, a Royal Proclamation was signed in Canada that acknowledged the wrongdoings committed in the name of the English Crown during the Acadian deportation between 1755 and 1764 and established June 28th of every year as "a day of commemoration of the Great Upheaval"; and

WHEREAS, Acadians settled in the Madawaska region decades before Maine achieved statehood; and

WHEREAS, today more than 1/3 of the population of the State is of French descent, mostly of Quebecois and Acadian origin; and

WHEREAS, Franco-Americans and those of Acadian heritage have contributed greatly to the history and cultural heritage of the State; and

WHEREAS, French, and by extension Acadian, culture is celebrated throughout the State with events such as Franco-American Day; and

WHEREAS, residents who are fluent in both French and English are of great cultural and economic importance to the State; and

WHEREAS, French is the primary language for thousands of Maine residents, and a 2nd language for thousands more; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize June 28, 2024 as Maine Acadian Day in honor of the Acadian culture that holds great significance in the Saint John Valley and throughout the State.

READ and ADOPTED.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Off Record Remarks

ORDERS

Joint Orders

Don Flannery, of Glenburn, on his retirement as Executive Director of the Maine Potato Board after 27 years of service working to promote the interests and sustainability of the State's potato industry. Working in the potato industry all his life, Mr. Flannery was a grower and worked in economic and business development. He started with the Maine Potato Board in 1997 as Assistant Executive Director and was promoted to Executive Director in 2002. Since then, he has been directly involved in development and research activities and has been active in securing federal and state funding for many projects, including the construction of a potato research facility, infrastructure development for two processing plants and funding to support the State's seed production facility. We extend our appreciation and best wishes;

SLS 2076

Sponsored by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot.

Cosponsored by Representative: GRIFFIN of Levant.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **GUERIN:** Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. It is my pleasure to say Don Flannery, thank you for your many years of service. He has become certainly one of my favorite hall dwellers and a trusted source of information and excellent constituent. Thank you for your many years of advocacy for the potato industry, Don. Your opinion has made a difference on both sides of the aisle, as you have been widely viewed as a man of integrity, but beyond the proverbial meat and potatoes, you have done more for fostering a spirit of civility in the Legislature than perhaps any other person through your legendary summer potato tours, where we all learned a lot about farming issues and even more about each other as regular people. Thank you, Don. I will miss your presence in the hall, your trusted advice, and I pray that you will have a blessed retirement.

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

Senator **TIMBERLAKE:** I thought the Senator from Aroostook was going to -- you faked him out. Good afternoon -- good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. It's with honor I get to stand here and recognize Mr. Flannery. I've had the pleasure in the last 14 years of teaching him a lot about farming. It's been my pleasure to school you on some of the important things in farming. Mr. Flannery, it's, you know, I know before you didn't know, I knew more about potatoes than you did, even though I grow apples, they always said they were pretty much the same. But no, in all seriousness, Don, it's been a great pleasure to work with you and to have communications and our talks that we have, it's -- you've been a blessing to the industry, the industry is going to miss you, this building is going to miss your calmness when I would get all wound up and you'd tell me to stay calm and collective. I'm going

to miss that a little bit, I may have to still call you, just don't change your cellphone number, please. But no, thank you for your service, thank you for everything you've done for the farming community in the State of Maine, and we really do appreciate and we're going to miss you, my friend.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. One of the first people who I got to meet when I got down here, I was 22, pretty wet behind the ears still, but had the good fortune of having Don reach out to me as a young legislator in the House at that point in time, and I totally agree with the sentiments that's been shared already. I mean, I think the testament to Don's character and reputation with regard to civility is absolutely accurate and has gone a long way, I think, in this place where there's some issues that though we might elevate the temperature a bit on, thankfully potatoes has, for the most part, been one that we can see eye to eye on and reach across partisan divides and find that common ground. And I think a big part of that is because of Don and his demeanor, his expertise, his trustworthiness and, you know, just the sheer effort that he puts in to making sure that every single person in this building, House and Senate, has the opportunity to come to Aroostook County to see what a potato farm looks like, which a lot of people in the state may have never had the opportunity to do so, including some that are serving or find themselves someday serving in the Legislature. I think that's critically important and has gone a long way. I mean, you heard in the sentiment, the work that's been accomplished during Don's tenure and the strides that the industry has made under his leadership and advocacy of it and for it. And we wouldn't be where we are today without that work and in the position that we're in and, you know, the families that work in these farms and in this industry are better off because of your service here, and certainly our whole region in Northern Maine is better off because of your service here. And I will certainly miss you. You may want to change your phone number, actually, that might be a good piece of advice for some that might be trying to bother you in your retirement. I do hope you enjoy it, I do hope that you get to do what you like with your time and have some fun. You've certainly earned it. And we will miss you. So, best of luck, Don.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Franklin, Senator Black.

Senator **BLACK:** Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I'd like to echo some of the things that have already been said, but as far as the schooling, we know who did the schooling. Right, Don? But all ag has benefited from Don's guidance and advice over the years that he's been here. As Senator Timberlake and I came in at the same time 14 years ago, and we've appreciated your advice 24/7, we've been able to call you on weekends with many different situations and you've always been available. The potato industry is much better today than it would've been without your leadership and guidance. But not just potato industry, ag in general is better from your wisdom and guidance in the State House. We thank you for helping the potato industry weather the storm. I think they've been able to weather the storms better than some of the other ag industries and we appreciate that, and we will surely miss you in the ag

realm here in the State House. Thank you, Don, for all you've done.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to echo all the words that were said about Mr. Flannery. Certainly, someone that any time the State House is open, he was here, probably one of the first ones. It was easy to get ahold of him because you knew all you had to do was show up early and he'd be here. And all the words about the work he's done for all of ag but certainly the potato industry in our area has been really quite astounding, and not coming from that industry, getting an expert's opinion of many of these issues was always helpful, even when we didn't agree, and that's the thing that I was found was great about Don was he was one of the people that could argue vehemently about the issues that were important to him, but then still share a joke or a kind word or anything like that with anyone that maybe disagreed with him. That's a real rare person oftentimes in this building and something that, like I said, you always look forward to getting a chance to talk to. And Don has done, I mean, I just know many constituents that Don has done a lot of work for that was positive. And so, I don't think -- I think he has a great successor, but I don't think he's going to be very far away, in addition, so we look forward to seeing him in the future and certainly thank him for everything he's done in the past. Appreciate it.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Joint Resolutions

On motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, the following Joint Resolution:
S.P. 1008

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 18, 2024 AS WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY

WHEREAS, amateur radio provides a bridge between people, societies and countries by creating friendships and sharing ideas; and

WHEREAS, on April 18, 1925, the International Amateur Radio Union was founded, which illustrates how international cooperation and communication are hallmarks of amateur radio; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 2,500,000 amateur radio operators worldwide, with nearly 780,000 in the United States and approximately 4,500 in the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio provides an excellent opportunity for leadership development, technical innovation and scientific exploration; and

WHEREAS, showing that there is no age barrier in amateur radio, at 9 years of age Simon Golob of Sabattus earned his amateur radio license in 2023 and in the last year has been learning Morse code, has served as a Net Control Station for a public service radio net in the State, participated in a disaster communications exercise and made contacts with amateur radio operators in Europe, Oceania and South America; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio is a licensed service for noncommercial use and, during emergencies or natural disasters, such as the ice storm of 1998, Hurricane Katrina, the Boston Marathon bombing and countless other emergency situations, is often the only dependable way to communicate locally or internationally; and

WHEREAS, many Maine amateur radio operators serve their local and county emergency management agencies by training and holding exercises to prepare for when their skills are needed during times of emergency; and

WHEREAS, during Tropical Storm Lee in September 2023, amateur radio was used to transmit messages from the Emergency Operations Center in Machias to the Maine Emergency Management Agency in Augusta; and

WHEREAS, Maine amateur radio operators routinely volunteer their equipment and time to provide public service communications for such events as the Dempsey Challenge, the Trek Across Maine, the TD Beach to Beacon 10K Road Race, the New England Forest Rally, the Kenduskeag Stream Canoe Race, the Can Am Crown International Sled Dog Race, the Loon Echo Bike Trek, the Mount Desert Island Marathon, BikeMaine, the Sugarloaf Marathon and the Northwoods Gravel Grind; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize and acknowledge the accomplishments and public service provided by amateur radio operators as they celebrate World Amateur Radio Day on the 99th anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the American Radio Relay League and the International Amateur Radio Union.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **TIPPING:** Thank you, Mr. President, and dear Colleagues, thank you for allowing us to celebrate this today. You may notice this day was actually April 18th, we had a few other things on our calendar at that time, this got lost in the mix, but I'm very glad that we're able to celebrate Amateur Radio Day today. One of my core memories as a child was sitting in my dad's black and white Toyota pickup truck as we tracked storm supercells across the cornfields and soybean fields of Illinois and looked for funnels to come and touch down and he would radio in their location with his call sign, WB9RWQ. And Civil Defense Emergency Management, you know, they depended then on a network of amateur radio operators to warn the people in our communities with a tornado touchdown and they would be able to set off the siren, people could get in their basements. And I, you know, that was one of my very first understandings of public

service. It is a hobby, but it is also a service. I remember waking up at 4 a.m. with the Pine State Amateur Radio Club and doing the search and rescue or the stream rescue services at the Kenduskeag Stream canoe race, and as many people in the state know and as this list in the resolution says, you know, that is still a common practice of amateur radio operators. It is a hobby, it's a service, but it's also an education and an inspiration. So, we heard about Simon, and he's here today, he's got his rig on, I think he's broadcasting right now, but amateur radio has sparked an interest for thousands of Mainers, young and old, in technology, in science, in communication, in connection, and in service. So, I'm glad today that we can honor the history of amateur radio and its future. Thank you, Mr. President, and I'd like to say N1YIQ listening.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

Off Record Remarks

RECESSED until the sound of the bell.

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

Off Record Remarks

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

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (4/18/24) matter:

An Act to Improve Women's Health and Economic Security by Funding Family Planning Services
S.P. 598 L.D. 1478
(C "A" S-122)

Tabled - April 18, 2024 by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT** in concurrence

(In Senate, April 18, 2024, taken from the

Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin moved the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

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

ROLL CALL (#795)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSON, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: CARNEY

21 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin to **SUSPEND THE RULES** for **RECONSIDERATION**, **FAILED**.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, Bill and accompanying papers **COMMITTED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication:
S.C. 1117

**STATE OF MAINE
131st LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

April 17, 2024

Honorable Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Grant:

Pursuant to my authority under Senate Rule 201.3, please be advised that I appoint the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Hickman, to serve as President Pro Tem for the Senate session the morning of Thursday, April 18, 2024.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

S/Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:
S.C. 1114

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR**

March 28, 2024

Honorable Members of the Legislative Council, 131st Legislature;

Honorable Janet T. Mills
Governor of the State of Maine

I am pleased to submit the Single Audit of the State of Maine for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The audit was conducted in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the requirements of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our audit complies with 5 MRSA §243 and is also a prerequisite for the receipt of Federal financial assistance. During fiscal year 2023, \$5.7 billion in Federal financial assistance was expended by the State of Maine.

This document contains the following reports and schedules:

- Independent Auditor's Report
- Basic Financial Statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis, Notes to the Financial Statements, and Required Supplementary Information
- Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters based on an Audit of Financial Statements performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*
- Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and on Internal Control over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance
- Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
- Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
- Financial Statement Findings
- Federal Findings Indexes and Federal Award Identification Numbers
- Federal Findings and Questioned Costs
- Corrective Action Plan
- Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings

On behalf of the Office of the State Auditor, I thank employees throughout Maine Government who assisted us during the audit.

Please contact me if you have questions or comments about the 2023 Single Audit of the State of Maine.

Respectfully submitted,

S/Matthew Dunlap, CIA
State Auditor

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

The Following Communication:
S.C. 1115

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

April 26, 2024

The 131st Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 131st Legislature:

By the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing L.D. 373, *An Act to Ensure Employer and Employee Harmony in Clean Energy Development Projects*.

L.D. 373 requires a State entity responsible for granting a lease of state land for the use or construction of a facility to be used in the development of a clean energy development project to require that the lessee, as a condition of the lease, enter into an "employer and employee harmony agreement" with any labor

organization seeking to represent the lessee's employees at the clean energy development project site.

First, the bill contains ambiguous language that does not provide adequate clarity as to what the bill requires, particularly on two fronts: 1) whether an employer and employee harmony agreement would apply to construction of (and not just permanent jobs at) a potential offshore wind port, and; 2) whether an employer and employee harmony agreement would be applicable to renewable energy projects involving state-owned land beyond the port.

On the first question, Section 2 of the bill expressly identifies "construction", raising questions about whether the construction of the port, or any other renewable energy project that crosses state land, and not just the permanent jobs there, would be captured by this bill. My understanding is that the bill is not intended to do that, but the language does not make that clear. Moreover, the bill directs the Department of Labor to conduct routine technical rulemaking to define "temporary basis" related to the work, but the legislation fails to provide clarity around the types of work, financial caps, and duration of the job, for example – important considerations that the Department would need to produce an appropriate rule.

On the second question, the language of the bill – while appearing to be targeted specifically towards an offshore wind port – could apply to the operation of any clean energy project, including biomass, hydroelectric, solar, wind and geothermal, that touches state land, which is far more expansive than the apparent intent of the bill.

Last year I signed into law L.D. 1895, *An Act Regarding the Procurement of Energy from Offshore Wind Resources*. This law requires, through the "Maine emerging industry compensation threshold", that a contractor or subcontractor involved in the construction of an offshore wind project receive compensation equal or greater to the amount established as a result of a mutual agreement between a labor organization and the contractor. The law also established community and workforce enhancement standards, standards that contractors, subcontractors and individuals performing construction work on offshore wind power projects must meet. These requirements were the result of engagement with key stakeholders and represent a fair and reasonable approach. L.D. 373 is not the product of such.

Because this bill is ambiguous, potentially more far-reaching than intended and raises a number of unanswered questions as to its intent and scope, I return L.D. 373 unsigned and vetoed and urge the Legislature to sustain this veto.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The accompanying Bill "An Act to Improve Labor Conditions for Maine Workers"
S.P. 180 L.D. 373

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall this Bill become law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?"

In accordance with Article 4, Part 3, Section 2, of the Constitution, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

A vote of yes was in favor of the Bill.

A vote of no was in favor of sustaining the veto of the Governor.

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

Senator **TIPPING:** Thank you, Mr. President and Colleagues. I won't take long. I believe the writing is on the wall either here or in the Body which will not be named. I'm deeply disappointed in this veto. It is vitally important that we build a clean energy future that includes good paying jobs and stable careers for people in Maine, jobs that can support families, that can allow people to stay here in our state. I'll continue to work towards that goal regardless of the opposition of the Governor or the outcome of this vote, and I thank you, Mr. President.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#796)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERTSON, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: CARNEY

21 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senators being excused, and 21 being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the veto of the Governor be **SUSTAINED**.

The Following Communication:
S.C. 1116

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

April 29, 2024

The 131st Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 131st Legislature:

By the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing L.D. 2086, *An Act to Amend the Law Governing Disposition of Forfeited Firearms*.

L.D. 2086 as originally introduced addressed only the destruction of firearms forfeited after having been used in the commission of a crime. Current law requires the destruction of firearms used to commit an unlawful homicide, and L.D. 2086 would have amended the statute so any firearm required to be forfeited under the Maine Criminal Code would also be destroyed. In the Committee process, the bill was amended to address a very different, and very complex, issue - banning the sale and possession of so-called conversion devices that are used to turn a semi-automatic weapon into something that operates like a machine gun, as well as the weapons themselves.

The most well-known example of these conversion devices is a bump stock, although other devices are now being marketed that work differently but produce similar results to bump stocks. The Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) has adopted a regulation banning bump stocks, and, arguably, certain other conversion devices as well. The future of that regulation is unclear, as the U.S. Supreme Court is currently considering a challenge to its validity.

L.D. 2086, as amended, is apparently designed to act as a backstop in the event the ATF regulation is invalidated, but it also uses much broader language to define the machine guns, modified semi-automatic weapons that operate like machine guns, and conversion devices that would be banned. That language is not only far more expansive than the Federal standard, but it also differs from the statutes enacted in the small number of states that have attempted to address this issue in statute.

In an effort to expansively capture a category of prohibited devices - as opposed to specifically identified devices - the bill relies on broad and ambiguous language that is likely to create uncertainty within both the general public and law enforcement. For example, the bill would prohibit the sale or possession of any semi-automatic weapon that has been "modified in any way that materially increases the rate of fire." There are a variety of minor modifications that would meet this definition, such as adjusting the trigger weight or changing the buffer spring or bolt in order to increase speed. These kinds of alterations are common among those using firearms for sporting purposes. The result is that this

bill may unintentionally ban a significant number of weapons used for hunting or target shooting by responsible gun owners in Maine.

I want to be clear: machine guns have rightly long been prohibited under both Maine and Federal law, and I strongly agree that devices whose sole purpose is to convert a lawful semi-automatic firearm into a weapon that is the functional equivalent of a machine gun should be restricted. But, despite the well-meaning nature of this bill, I am concerned that the novel language this bill contains, the manner in which it was developed, and the short time that was available during its review create the risk for unintended mistakes. Legislation putting those restrictions into law should only be developed in a deliberate, inclusive, and clear manner for both gun safety advocates and those concerned with protecting lawful access to firearms. Particularly when it comes to statutes that carry criminal penalties, the language must be clear and specific, providing fair warning to those who might fall under its provisions.

For these reasons, I return L.D. 2086 unsigned and vetoed, and I urge the Legislature to sustain this veto.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The accompanying Bill "An Act to Amend the Law Governing the Disposition of Forfeited Firearms"
S.P. 879 L.D. 2086

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall this Bill become law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?"

In accordance with Article 4, Part 3, Section 2, of the Constitution, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

A vote of yes was in favor of the Bill.

A vote of no was in favor of sustaining the veto of the Governor.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#797)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, INGWERTSON, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: CARNEY

18 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 16 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senators being excused, and 18 being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the veto of the Governor be **SUSTAINED**.

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

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

Resolution, Proposing An Amendment To The Constitution Of Maine To Protect Reproductive Autonomy
S.P. 339 L.D. 780
(C "A" S-617)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 10, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-617).**)

(In House, **FAILED FINAL PASSAGE.**)

THE PRESIDENT: So moved.

Senator **VITELLI**: I would like to speak in favor of this pending motion and just say that after a lot of discussion, I want to affirm what a vote for this bill really means. This isn't ultimately about what anyone in this room believes reproductive autonomy does or doesn't mean. A vote in favor of this motion will send the matter to voters for their consideration. I firmly believe that every Maine citizen deserves the ability to weigh in on what rights are enshrined in our Constitution, including the right to reproductive autonomy. If this path is not what Mainers want, then surely, they will make that known at the ballot box. I ask my fellow lawmakers to support the pending motion and send this issue to the voters. Thank you, Mr. President.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#798)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSON, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: CARNEY

This being a Constitutional Amendment, in accordance with the provisions of Section 4 of Article X of the Constitution, having received the affirmative vote of 21 Members of the Senate, with 13 Senators having voted in the negative, and 21 being less than two-thirds of the Members present and voting, **FINAL PASSAGE, FAILED, in NON-CONCURRENCE.**

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

EMERGENCY Measure

An Act To Establish A Statewide Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Kit Tracking System And Conduct An Inventory Of Existing Forensic Examination Kits In The Possession Of Law Enforcement
H.P. 1353 L.D. 2129
(C "A" H-904)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 10, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-904)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED.**)

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

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 33 Members of the Senate, with 0 Senators having voted in the negative, and 33 being more than two-thirds of the entire elected Membership of the Senate, was **PASSED TO**

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

Emergency Measure

Resolve, To Direct The Governor's Energy Office To Conduct A Study Regarding The Future Of Electric Transmission Infrastructure In The State
H.P. 1413 L.D. 2205
(C "A" H-909)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 10, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-909)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **FINALLY PASSED.**)

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 27 Members of the Senate, with 6 Senators having voted in the negative, and 27 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.

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Provide Indigenous Peoples Free Access To State Parks
S.P. 17 L.D. 25
(C "A" S-513)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - February 6, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-513)**.)

(In House, **ENACTED.**)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Require Health Insurance Coverage For Specialized Risk Screening For First Responders And Other Public Safety Professionals

S.P. 199 L.D. 444

(H "A" H-959 to C "A" S-636)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 12, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-636) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-959)** thereto, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table.

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Establish The Maine State Flag Commission

H.P. 288 L.D. 471

(C "A" H-872)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 3, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-872)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Oxford, Senator Bennett.

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Mr. President, Fellow Members of the Senate. We've debated this once, so I won't be long. Just to remind the Senate what this bill is -- actually, the original bill, LD 471, was called An Act to Make Necessary Changes to State Law. I will submit that the proposal before us is anything but necessary change to state law. What this would do is it would actually move the date of the vote on whether the people of Maine want a new state flag from this November until November of 2026. And it would establish a commission that the Secretary of State would appoint, cost absorbed, to advise her about what that flag might look like, so that she could put it before the people of Maine. There's nothing stopping the Secretary of State from right now, today, forming such a commission - again, cost absorbed - appoint some people, some good citizens from this state, put together what the flag will look like, and then we can have a vote, as is current law, in November of 2024, this year, where there will be a lot more people voting than they will be in 2026. So, this bill has taken a tortured path from its original purpose, which was a concept draft, of course, an act to make necessary changes to state law to become something which is irrelevant and nongermane to its original title, which is to make a completely unnecessary change to state law. So, I would urge you to vote against enactment. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Brakey.

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. You know, we had an extensive debate I think last year about putting this out to referendum, something I very much support. I have to agree with my colleague, Senator Bennett, that I don't know why we need to have an entire commission to decide what the flag is going to look like when there's already a very popular design for the flag that's everywhere that the Maine people have very thoroughly embraced. I can't use visual aids to demonstrate what that flag would look like, but there was a previous ruling of the chair of this Body that especially large flag pins are not visual aids. Anyway, so, I think you know what this flag will potentially look like, and I really doubt that we need an entire commission to make that determination. So, I will be voting against enactment. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Enactment. A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#799)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, CHIPMAN, DAUGHTRY,
DUSON, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE,
NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY,
ROTUNDO, VITELLI, PRESIDENT
JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT,
BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CURRY,
FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN,
HICKMAN, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD,
MOORE, POULIOT, RENY, STEWART,
TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING

EXCUSED: Senators: CARNEY, HARRINGTON, INGWERSON

12 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 20 Senators
having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused,
PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED, FAILED.

(See action later today.)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the
Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the
following:

An Act To Amend The Pupil Counts Used For Determination Of
School Administrative Unit Operating Costs
H.P. 497 L.D. 808
(C "A" H-860)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 1, 2024, by
Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-860)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the
Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the
following:

An Act To Identify The State's Unidentified Human Remains
H.P. 527 L.D. 838
(C "A" H-807)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 14, 2024, by
Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-807)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the
Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the
following:

Resolve, To Establish A Process To Evaluate The Family Team
Meeting Model
S.P. 354 L.D. 857
(C "A" S-632)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 9, 2024, by
Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-632)**.)

(In House, **FINALLY PASSED**.)

Which was **FINALLY PASSED** and having been signed by the
President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for
approval.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the
Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the
following:

An Act To Require Public Employers To Provide Long-Term
Disability Insurance Coverage
S.P. 479 L.D. 1152
(C "A" S-592)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 28, 2024, by
Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-592)**.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

(See action later today.)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Assess An Impact Fee On Megayachts
H.P. 749 L.D. 1177
(C "A" H-472)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 21, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-472)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act Regarding Sales And Use Tax Exemptions For Durable Medical Equipment, Breast Pumps And Mobility Enhancing Equipment
S.P. 480 L.D. 1184
(C "A" S-593)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 28, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-593)**.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford moved the Senate **RECONSIDER** whereby it **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** the following:

An Act To Require Public Employers To Provide Long-Term Disability Insurance Coverage
S.P. 479 L.D. 1152
(C "A" S-592)

(In House, March 27, 2024, **ENACTED**.)

(In Senate, May 10, 2024, **ENACTED**, in concurrence.)

On further motion by the same Senator, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#800)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSON, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CARNEY, HARRINGTON, PIERCE

20 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 11 Senators having voted in the negative, with 4 Senators being excused, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Increase The Inclusion Of Demographic Data From State Agencies In The Legislative Process
H.P. 928 L.D. 1432
(C "A" H-889)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 10, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-889)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#801)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRENNER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CARNEY, HARRINGTON, INGWERSON, PIERCE

20 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 10 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Expand Health Insurance Options To Child Care Providers
H.P. 938 L.D. 1442
(C "A" H-662)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 22, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-662)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Establish A Pilot Program At A Community-Based Organization To Provide A Transitional Living Program For Individuals Recently Released From Correctional Facilities
H.P. 969 L.D. 1514
(C "A" H-824)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 26, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-824)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#802)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRENNER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, LAWRENCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CARNEY, HARRINGTON, INGWERSON, PIERCE

18 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 12 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Require Health Insurance Coverage For Biomarker Testing
H.P. 1022 L.D. 1577
(C "A" H-915)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 11, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-915)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act Regarding Recommendations For Changing Place Names In The State
H.P. 1065 L.D. 1667
(C "A" H-875)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 3, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-875)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Expand Property Tax Relief For Veterans And Their Survivors
H.P. 1116 L.D. 1737
(C "A" H-897)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 10, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-897)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

Resolve, Directing The Department Of Agriculture, Conservation And Forestry To Convene A Stakeholder Group Tasked With A Comprehensive Overhaul And Modernization Of The State Subdivision Statutes
H.P. 1150 L.D. 1787
(C "A" H-786)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 13, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-786)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **FINALLY PASSED**.)

Which was **FINALLY PASSED** and having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Require Hospitals To Provide Accessible Financial Assistance For Medical Care
H.P. 1257 L.D. 1955
(C "A" H-946)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 12, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-946)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Allow Candidates For District Attorney To Participate In The Maine Clean Election Act
H.P. 1263 L.D. 1966
(C "A" H-753)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - February 28, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-753)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Update The Growth Management Program Laws
H.P. 1267 L.D. 1976
(C "A" H-960)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 15, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-960)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act Regarding The Loring Job Increment Financing Fund
S.P. 810 L.D. 1981
(S "A" S-557 to C "A" S-544)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 21, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-544) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-557)** thereto.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Update The Laws Governing Education In The Unorganized Territory
H.P. 1304 L.D. 2042
(C "A" H-861)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 1, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-861)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Protect Victims Of Domestic Abuse And Violence By Amending The Law Regarding Proximity Restrictions In Final Protection From Abuse Orders
S.P. 896 L.D. 2103
(C "A" S-527)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - February 28, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-527)**.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Establish The Alzheimer's Disease And Other Dementias Advisory Council Within The Department Of Health And Human Services And To Require A State Plan To Address Alzheimer's Disease And Other Dementias
H.P. 1349 L.D. 2125
(C "A" H-782)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 13, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-782)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Correct Outdated References In And Relating To The Maine Human Rights Act
H.P. 1366 L.D. 2142
(C "A" H-765)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 6, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-765)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table.

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

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

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 25, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-575)**.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Require Health Insurance Coverage For Federally Approved Nonprescription Oral Hormonal Contraceptives And Nonprescription Emergency Contraceptives
H.P. 1411 L.D. 2203
(C "A" H-958)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 12, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-958)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Establish A Civil Rights Unit Within The Office Of The Attorney General And Require Enhanced Ongoing Civil Rights Training For Civil Rights Officers
H.P. 1417 L.D. 2210
(C "A" H-877)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 9, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-877)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **KEIM** of Oxford, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#803)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CARNEY, HARRINGTON, INGWERSON, PIERCE

20 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 10 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Amend The Mining Excise Tax Laws
H.P. 1445 L.D. 2251
(C "A" H-969)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 17, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-969)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

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

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Ensure Access For All Caregivers To Diaper Changing Stations In State Buildings Open To The Public
H.P. 61 L.D. 93
(C "A" H-701)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 23, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-701)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-701)**, 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" (H-701).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-733) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-701) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-701) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-733) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-701) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-733) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Require Mainecare Assessments For Children
H.P. 129 L.D. 208
(C "A" H-427)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 13, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-427)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-427)**, 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" (H-427).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-735) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-427) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-427) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-735) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-427) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-735) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act Regarding The Maine Development Foundation
H.P. 167 L.D. 262
(C "A" H-796)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 13, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-796)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-796)**, 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" (H-796).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-736) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-796) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-796) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-736) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-796) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-736) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Provide Funds Necessary For The Production And Delivery Of Election Materials By The Secretary Of State And To Reconvene The Working Group To Study Polling Places At Schools
S.P. 153 L.D. 332
(C "A" S-628)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 9, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-628)**.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-628)**.

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-628).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-737) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-628) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-628) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-737) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-628) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-737) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Make Menstrual Products Available In Certain Schools
H.P. 222 L.D. 348
(C "A" H-449)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 20, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-449)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-449)**.

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

On further motion by the same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby it **ADOPTED** Committee Amendment "A" (H-449) and **INDEFINITELY POSTPONE THE SAME**.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-738) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-738), in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Update Reimbursement Rates For Transportation Of Deceased Persons By Funeral Homes
S.P. 222 L.D. 505
(C "A" S-22)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 27, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-22)**.)

(In House, **ENACTED**.)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-22)**.

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-22).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-739) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-22) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-22) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-739) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-22) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-739) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Provide Funding For Sexual Assault Services
S.P. 237 L.D. 566
(C "A" S-56)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - May 11, 2023, by
Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-56).**)

(In House, **ENACTED.**)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate
RECONSIDERED whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE
ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT
"A" (S-56).**

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

**PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE
AMENDMENT "A" (S-56) and SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-
779), in NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the
Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the
following:

An Act To Support Farmland Conservation
S.P. 247 L.D. 579
(C "A" S-519)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - February 21, 2024, by
Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-519).**)

(In House, **ENACTED.**)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate
RECONSIDERED whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE
ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT
"A" (S-519).**

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-519).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-
740) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-519) **READ** and
ADOPTED.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-519) as Amended by Senate
Amendment "A" (S-740) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-
CONCURRENCE.**

**PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE
AMENDMENT "A" (S-519) AS AMENDED BY SENATE
AMENDMENT "A" (S-740) thereto, in NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the
Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the
following:

An Act To Expand The 1998 Special Retirement Plan To Include
Employees Who Work For The Office Of Chief Medical Examiner
H.P. 387 L.D. 610
(C "A" H-379)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 13, 2023, by
Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY
COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-379), in concurrence.**)

(In House, **ENACTED.**)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate
RECONSIDERED whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE
ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT
"A" (H-379), 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" (H-379).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-
742) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-379) **READ** and
ADOPTED.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-379) as Amended by Senate
Amendment "A" (S-742) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-
CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-379) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-742) thereto, in NON-CONCURRENCE.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Support The Maintenance, Preservation And Promotion Of Historic Sites
S.P. 350 L.D. 791
(C "A" S-26)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - May 2, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-26).**)

(In House, **ENACTED.**)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table.

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-26).**

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-26).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-743) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-26) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-26) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-743) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-26) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-743) thereto, in NON-CONCURRENCE.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Support Individuals With Personality Disorder Or Disorders Associated With Primary Emotional Dysregulation By Requiring Reimbursement Under The Mainecare Program
H.P. 529 L.D. 840
(C "A" H-344)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 12, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-344)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED.**)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table.

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-344)**, 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" (H-344).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-744) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-344) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (H-344) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-744) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-344) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-744) thereto, in NON-CONCURRENCE.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Provide Support For The Maine Discovery Museum's Informal Science, Technology, Engineering And Mathematics Education Programs Throughout The State
S.P. 368 L.D. 871
(C "A" S-172)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 12, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-172).**)

(In House, **ENACTED.**)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-172).**

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-172).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-745) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-172) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-172) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-745) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-172) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-745) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Facilitate Stakeholder Input Regarding Forest Policy In Maine
H.P. 628 L.D. 993
(C "A" H-143)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 6, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-143)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED.**)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-143)**, 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" (H-143), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-746) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-143) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (H-143) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-746) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-143) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-746) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Address Student Hunger And Nutrition Through Expanded Access To Free Milk In Schools
S.P. 465 L.D. 1128
(C "A" S-236)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 14, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-236).**)

(In House, **ENACTED.**)

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-236)**.

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-236).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-747) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-236) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-236) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-747) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-236) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-747) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Improve Ferry Service Reliability By Providing Scholarships At The Maine Maritime Academy
S.P. 466 L.D. 1139
(C "A" S-406)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 22, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-406)**.)

(In House, **ENACTED**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-406)**.

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-406).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-748) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-406) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-406) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-748) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-406) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-748) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Fund Free Health Clinics
H.P. 733 L.D. 1161
(C "A" H-440)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 15, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-440)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-440)**, 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" (H-440), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-749) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-440) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-440) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-749) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-440) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-749) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Create And Sustain Jobs And Affordable Housing Through The Development Of Cooperatives And Employee-Owned Businesses
S.P. 513 L.D. 1276
(C "A" S-370)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 21, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-370).**)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-370).**

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-370).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-750) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-370) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-370) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-750) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-370) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-750) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Exempt Utility Vehicles Purchased For Qualified Commercial Fishing Or Commercial Farming From State Sales Tax
H.P. 828 L.D. 1303
(S "A" S-334 to C "A" H-524)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 20, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-524) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-334)** thereto.)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-524) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-334)** thereto, 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" (H-524).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "B" (S-751) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-524) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (H-524) as Amended by Senate Amendments "A" (S-334) and "B" (S-751) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-524) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-334) AND SENATE AMENDMENT "B" (S-751) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

Resolve, Directing The Department Of Education To Report On School Internet And Student Data Collection Best Practices
H.P. 847 L.D. 1333
(C "A" H-325)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 12, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-325)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **FINALLY PASSED**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-325)**, 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" (H-325).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-780) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-325) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-325) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-780) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-325) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-780) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act Regarding Unobligated Balances From Amounts Appropriated For General Purpose Aid For Local Schools And To Require Annual Reports On School Demographics
H.P. 897 L.D. 1402
(C "A" H-859)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 1, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-859)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-859)**, 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" (H-859), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-752) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-859) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-859) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-752) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-859) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-752) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

Resolve, To Provide Funds To The Maine Indian Education School District
H.P. 917 L.D. 1421
(C "A" H-756)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - February 29, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-756)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **FINALLY PASSED**).

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table.

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-756)**, 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" (H-756), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-753) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-756) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-756) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-753) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-756) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-753) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Fund The Recommendations Of The Mountain Division Rail Use Advisory Council
S.P. 568 L.D. 1450
(C "A" S-289)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 15, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-289)**.)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-289)**.

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-289).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-754) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-289) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-289) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-754) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-289) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-754) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Implement The Recommendations Of The Blue Ribbon Commission To Study Emergency Medical Services In The State
H.P. 970 L.D. 1515
(C "A" H-903)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 15, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-903)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-903)**, 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" (H-903), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-755) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-903) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-903) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-755) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-903) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-755) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Invest In The Health And Wellness Of Older Maine Residents By Expanding Coordinated Community Programming
H.P. 1083 L.D. 1684
(C "A" H-206)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 6, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-206)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-206)**.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-757) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-206) and SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-757), in NON-CONCURRENCE.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Support Outdoor Education By Establishing The Outdoor School For All Maine Students Program
S.P. 732 L.D. 1817
(S "A" S-261 to C "A" S-192)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 14, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-192) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-261)** thereto.)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-192) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-261)** thereto.

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-192).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "B" (S-760) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-192) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-192) as Amended by Senate Amendments "A" (S-261) and "B" (S-760) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-192) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENTS "A" (S-261) AND "B" (S-760) thereto, in NON-CONCURRENCE.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Protect The Right To Food
S.P. 739 L.D. 1823
(C "A" S-673)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 12, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-673)**.)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-673)**.

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-673).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-761) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-673) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-673) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-761) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-673) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-761) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Ensure Equity In Career And Technical Education Staffing Support Ratios Across Varied Regions Of The State
S.P. 791 L.D. 1942
(C "A" S-393)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 22, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-393)**.)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-393)**.

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-393).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-762) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-393) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-393) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-762) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-393) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-762) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Revise The Tax Laws Regarding The Mi'kmaq Nation
H.P. 1260 L.D. 1958
(C "A" H-610)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - June 21, 2023, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-610)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-610)**, 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" (H-610), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-763) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-610) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-610) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-763) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-610) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-763) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

Resolve, To Establish The African American And Wabanaki Studies Advisory Council And Provide Funding To Support African American Studies And Wabanaki Studies
H.P. 1279 L.D. 2001
(C "A" H-763)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 5, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-763)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **FINALLY PASSED**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-763)**, 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" (H-763), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-764) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-763) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-763) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-764) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-763) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-764) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Provide Grants To Schools That Contract For Behavioral And Mental Health Services
H.P. 1280 L.D. 2002
(C "A" H-856)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 2, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-856)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-856)**, 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" (H-856), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-765) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-856) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-856) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-765) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-856) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-765) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act Regarding Public Higher Education Funding In The State
S.P. 885 L.D. 2092
(C "A" S-626)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 9, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-626)**.)

(In House, **ENACTED**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-626)**.

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-626).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-766) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-626) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-626) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-766) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-626) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-766) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Address Food Insecurity By Helping Maine Residents Access Locally Produced Food
S.P. 886 L.D. 2093
(C "A" S-516)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - February 20, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-516)**.)

(In House, **ENACTED**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-516)**.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-767) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-516) and SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-767), in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

Resolve, To Establish A Pilot Project To Alleviate The Staffing Crisis In The Child Protective Services System
S.P. 890 L.D. 2097
(C "A" S-609)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 1, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-609)**.)

(In House, **FINALLY PASSED**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Resolve was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-609)**.

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-609).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-782) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-609) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-609) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-782) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-609) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-782) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Strengthen The Historic Property Rehabilitation Tax Credit
S.P. 899 L.D. 2106
(C "A" S-567)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 20, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-567).**)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-567).**

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-567).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-768) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-567) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-567) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-768) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-567) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-768) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Provide Funding To The Maine School Of Science And Mathematics
S.P. 914 L.D. 2118
(C "A" S-608)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 1, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-608).**)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-608).**

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-608).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-769) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-608) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-608) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-769) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-608) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-769) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Enhance Protections For And Better Address Invasive Aquatic Plant Infestations In Inland Waters Of The State
H.P. 1365 L.D. 2141
(C "A" H-773)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 7, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-773)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-773)**, 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" (H-773), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-770) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-773) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-773) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-770) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-773) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-770) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

Resolve, To Add Members To The Maine Semiquincentennial Commission And Set The Compensation Rate For Commission Members
H.P. 1369 L.D. 2145
(C "A" H-864)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 2, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-864)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **FAILED PASSAGE**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Resolve was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-864)**, 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" (H-864), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-771) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-864) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-864) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-771) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-864) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-771) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Develop A Grant Program To Provide Career Exploration Opportunities To Youth In The Community
H.P. 1408 L.D. 2197
(C "A" H-888)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 9, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-888)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-888)**, 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" (H-888), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-772) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-888) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-888) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-772) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-888) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-772) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Ensure Subsidy Reimbursements For Certain Child Care Providers
S.P. 935 L.D. 2199
(C "A" S-666)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 11, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-666).**)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-666).**

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-666).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-773) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-666) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-666) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-773) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-666) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-773) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Strengthen Maine's Agriculture, Food System And Forest Products Infrastructure Investment
H.P. 1419 L.D. 2212
(C "A" H-876)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 3, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-876)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, ENACTED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-876)**, 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" (H-876), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-774) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-876) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (H-876) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-774) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-876) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-774) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

Resolve, To Expedite And Improve Reimbursement To Certain Private Nonmedical Institutions
S.P. 965 L.D. 2243
(C "A" S-631)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 9, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-631).**)

(In House, FINALLY PASSED).

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Resolve was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-631).**

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-631).

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-783) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-631) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-631) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-783) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-631) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-783) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Provide Emergency One-Time Relief From The Wild Blueberry Tax For Growers
H.P. 1447 L.D. 2256
(C "A" H-845)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 28, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-845)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**).

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table.

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

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-845)**, 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" (H-845), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-775) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-845) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-845) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-775) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-845) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-775) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of ANDROSCOGGIN, the Senate removed from the Special Appropriations Table the following:

An Act To Fund Military Sexual Trauma Liaison Positions At Community-Based Organizations
H.P. 1453 L.D. 2263

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - March 28, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**).

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

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

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-776) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-776), in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

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

Senator **MOORE** of Washington requested and received leave of the Senate that members and staff be allowed to remove their jackets for the remainder of this Legislative Day.

Off Record Remarks

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:

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Unfinished Business

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

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (4/18/24) matter:

An Act to Prohibit Certain Training Repayment Agreements by Employers
S.P. 299 L.D. 741
(C "A" S-200)

Tabled - April 18, 2024 by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT** in concurrence

(In Senate, April 18, 2024, taken from the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE**.)

(In House, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "C" (S-200)**, 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 "C" (S-200), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-721) to Committee Amendment "C" (S-200) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "C" (S-200) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-721) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "C" (S-200) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-721) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (4/18/24) matter:

An Act to Allow Employees to Request Flexible Work Schedules
H.P. 516 L.D. 827
(C "A" H-322)

Tabled - April 18, 2024 by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT** in concurrence

(In Senate, April 18, 2024, taken from the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE**.)

(In House, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-322)**, 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" (H-322), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-722) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-322) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-322) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-722) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-322) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-722) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (4/18/24) matter:

An Act to Require Employers to Disclose Pay Ranges and Maintain Records of Employees' Pay History
H.P. 583 L.D. 936
(C "A" H-255)

Tabled - April 18, 2024 by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin
Pending - **ENACTMENT** in concurrence

(In Senate, April 18, 2024, taken from the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE**.)

(In House, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-255)**, 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" (H-255), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-723) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-255) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-255) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-723) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-255) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-723) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (4/18/24) matter:

An Act to Protect Workers from Employer Surveillance
H.P. 596 L.D. 949
(C "A" H-173; H "A" H-575 to C "A" H-173)

Tabled - April 18, 2024 by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin
Pending - **ENACTMENT** in concurrence

(In Senate, April 18, 2024, taken from the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE**.)

(In House, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-173) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-575)**.

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

On further motion by the same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby it **ADOPTED** House Amendment "A" (H-575) and **INDEFINITELY POSTPONE THE SAME**.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-724) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-173) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-724) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-724), thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (4/18/24) matter:

An Act to Require Minimum Pay for Reporting to Work
S.P. 486 L.D. 1190
(C "A" S-377)

Tabled - April 18, 2024 by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin
Pending - **ENACTMENT** in concurrence

(In Senate, April 18, 2024, taken from the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE**.)

(In House, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-377)**, 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-377), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-725) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-377) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-377) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-725) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-255) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-723) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (4/18/24) matter:

An Act to Increase Affordable Housing by Expanding Tax Increment Financing
H.P. 948 L.D. 1493
(C "A" H-646)

Tabled - April 18, 2024 by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT** in concurrence

(In Senate, April 18, 2024, taken from the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE**.)

(In House, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-646)**, 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" (H-646), in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, Senate Amendment "A" (S-726) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-646) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-646) as Amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-726) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-646) AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-726) thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Ordered sent down for concurrence.

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

Off Record Remarks

RECESSED until the sound of the bell.

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:

ORDERS

Joint Order

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, the following Joint Order:
S.P. 1011

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they Adjourn Without Day.

READ and **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

SPECIAL STUDY TABLE

On motion by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland, the Senate removed from the **SPECIAL STUDY TABLE** the following:

Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Improve Tenant-Landlord Relationships and Maximize the Use of Housing Vouchers
H.P. 1099 L.D. 1710
(C "A" H-821)

Tabled - March 20, 2024 by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE** in concurrence

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **BRENNER**, the Senator from Somerset, Senator **FARRIN**, and the Senator from Penobscot, Senator **GUERIN**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

ROLL CALL (#804)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSON, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, CARNEY, FARRIN, GUERIN

20 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 11 Senators having voted in the negative, with 4 Senators being excused, and 20 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.

Emergency Measure

Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Evaluate the Requirements for Licensing of Social Workers
H.P. 1273 L.D. 1990
(C "A" H-822)

Tabled - March 26, 2024 by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE** in concurrence

On motion by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland, the Senate removed from the **SPECIAL STUDY TABLE**.

FINALLY PASSED and having been signed by the President was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

Resolve, to Reestablish the Task Force on Accessibility to Appropriate Communication Methods for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Patients
H.P. 1446 L.D. 2255
(C "A" H-886)

Tabled - April 3, 2024 by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE** in concurrence

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.

Resolve, to Establish the Commission on Predictability of Mandated Overtime for Pulp or Paper Manufacturing Facility Employees
S.P. 719 L.D. 1794
(C "A" S-670)

Tabled - April 12, 2024 by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE** in concurrence

On motion by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland, the Senate removed from the **SPECIAL STUDY TABLE**.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#805)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSON, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, CARNEY, FARRIN, GUERIN

20 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 11 Senators having voted in the negative, with 4 Senators being excused, and 20 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.

Emergency Measure

An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission and to Reestablish the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission
S.P. 990 L.D. 2274
(C "A" S-660)

Tabled - April 12, 2024 by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland

Pending - **ENACTMENT** in concurrence

On motion by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland, the Senate removed from the **SPECIAL STUDY TABLE**.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#806)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSON, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: None

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, CARNEY, FARRIN, GUERIN

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

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Joint Resolutions

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 1484

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS REPORT ON FEDERAL AND STATE SERVICES AND THE MAINE INDIAN

WHEREAS, in December 1974, the Maine Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights published a report entitled "Federal and State Services and the Maine Indian"; and

WHEREAS, in the report, the committee found that Maine Indians were being denied services provided to other Indians by various federal agencies, that Indians in the State were entitled to these services and that their continued denial constituted invidious discrimination against Indians in the State; and

WHEREAS, the committee also found that 1/2 of the Indians in the State were not receiving state services because they lived off-reservation and recommended that the State develop an integrated program of services for members of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, Penobscot Nation, Mi'kmaq Nation and Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians regardless of their residency on-reservation or off-reservation; and

WHEREAS, the committee found that both state and federal services had been withheld from a people whose need for assistance was tragically evident, and that withholding was the result of long-standing assumptions, policies and practices of discrimination against the Indian population of the State; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its investigation of the denial of specific Indian services, the committee reviewed the various state and federal programs for which Maine Indians were generally eligible as citizens and found that Indians had seldom been included in the planning or decision-making processes that affected their lives; and

WHEREAS, the committee expressed the overriding concern that every state and federal entity that may possibly have an impact on Indian people in the State should have Indian representation and structural input in the development and provision of services and that there should be expansion of social services from both state and federal levels to allow Maine Indians to enjoy full and equal citizenship under the Constitution of Maine and the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, among many policy recommendations, the committee recommended that, as a matter of basic principle, both State and Federal Governments reexamine their policies toward Indians in the State and elsewhere and affirm the inherent right of Indian self-determination and tribal sovereignty; and

WHEREAS, the committee pledged to work diligently at the federal, state and local levels to further the recommendations of the report and called upon all citizens of the State to join them; and

WHEREAS, then-Governor of Maine Kenneth Curtis wrote as a foreword to the report that it was the intention of his administration to "continue to work to guarantee that the Indians of Maine have equal access to the quality of life to which all Maine people aspire, but until that access is fully opened and free of obstructions, there is no question that the 'trail of tears' will go on and its specter will haunt us, and Maine and the nation will have failed to fulfill their just obligations to the Indians of this state"; and

WHEREAS, this report joins a legacy of advancement of the sovereignty and self-determination of Wabanaki Indian nations, tribes and bands in the State, who have endured systemic discrimination and racism by this State and other governmental entities, by recognizing present inequities in light of their historical roots and by issuing recommendations to repair these inequities in future policy and legislation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize the accomplishment of the Maine Advisory Committee to the United States Commission on Civil Rights report entitled "Federal and State Services and the Maine Indian," honor the commission's commitment to long-standing principles of equity and justice in the State and recognize that there is still much work to do to accomplish the committee's recommendations and create a fair and just partnership with the Wabanaki Indian nations, tribes and bands who live in the State and have existed in the State since time immemorial.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 1488

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE H. SAWIN MILLETT, JR. FOR HIS PUBLIC SERVICE TO THE STATE

WHEREAS, the Honorable H. Sawin Millett, Jr., who represents House District 81, which includes Norway, Sweden, Waterford, Albany Township, Greenwood, South Oxford, Stoneham, Stow, Mason Township and Locke Mills, is retiring from his service to the Maine State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Representative Millett is currently serving his 9th term in Maine's House of Representatives and has served as the Republican lead on both the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and the Government Oversight Committee and has also served on the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Representative Millett was first elected to the Maine House of Representatives in 1968, serving in the 104th and 105th Legislatures, and went on to serve from the 121st Legislature to the 124th Legislature as well as from the 129th Legislature to the 131st Legislature; and

WHEREAS, his varied career includes service as a teacher, coach, principal, assistant school superintendent, farmer, municipal officer and state commissioner, including service as Commissioner of Education; Associate Commissioner of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services; and Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services. He has served under Governors Longley, Brennan, McKernan, King and LePage; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize the Honorable H. Sawin Millett, Jr. for his decades of public service to the State and extend to him our appreciation for his dedication, expertise and judgment and congratulate him on his retirement from the Maine State Legislature.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication:
H.C. 503

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

May 10, 2024

Honorable Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate
131st Maine Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Grant:

House Paper 330, Legislative Document 525, "An Act to Enact the Agricultural Employees Concerted Activity Protection Act," having been returned by the Governor, together with objections to the same, pursuant to Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, after reconsideration, the House proceeded to vote on the question: "Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?"

53 voted in favor and 67 against, and accordingly it was the vote of the House that the Bill not become a law and the veto was sustained.

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

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

The Following Communication:
H.C. 504

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

May 10, 2024

Honorable Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate
131st Maine Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Grant:

House Paper 1462, Legislative Document 2273, "An Act to Establish a State Minimum Hourly Wage for Agricultural Workers," having been returned by the Governor, together with objections to the same, pursuant to Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, after reconsideration, the House proceeded to vote on the question: "Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?"

54 voted in favor and 69 against, and accordingly it was the vote of the House that the Bill not become a law and the veto was sustained.

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

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

The Following Communication:
H.C. 505

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

May 10, 2024

Honorable Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate
131st Maine Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Grant:

House Paper 1359, Legislative Document 2135, "Resolve, Regarding the Operation and Future Capacity of State-owned Landfills," having been returned by the Governor, together with objections to the same, pursuant to Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, after reconsideration, the House proceeded to vote on the question: "Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?"

51 voted in favor and 72 against, and accordingly it was the vote of the House that the Bill not become a law and the veto was sustained.

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

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

The Following Communication:
H.C. 506

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

May 10, 2024

Honorable Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate
131st Maine Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Grant:

House Paper 779, Legislative Document 1231, "An Act to Bring Fairness in Income Taxes to Maine Families by Adjusting the Tax Brackets," having been returned by the Governor, together with objections to the same, pursuant to Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, after reconsideration, the House proceeded to vote on the question: "Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?"

57 voted in favor and 65 against, and accordingly it was the vote of the House that the Bill not become a law and the veto was sustained.

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

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

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

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MAINE STATE FLAG COMMISSION
H.P. 288 L.D. 471
(C "A" H-872)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 3, 2024, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-872)**, in concurrence.)

(In House, **ENACTED**).

(In Senate, **FAILED ENACTMENT**).

Senator **CURRY** of Waldo moved to **RECONSIDER** whereby this Bill **FAILED ENACTMENT**.

On motion by Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

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

ROLL CALL (#807)

YEAS: Senators: **BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, INGWERSON, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON**

NAYS: Senators: **BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE**

EXCUSED: Senators: **BRENNER, CARNEY, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN**

18 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 12 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo to **RECONSIDER** whereby this Bill **FAILED ENACTMENT, PREVAILED**.

On motion by Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Oxford, Senator Bennett.

Senator **BENNETT**: Thank you, Mr. President, Fellow Senators. It's a sad day when the last act of this State Senate on something substantive is going to be to send the silliest legislation possible out to the voters two years hence rather than do it this year when it will have the most turnout in a presidential year. The people are ready to vote on this. It is a sad -- it would be sad if this is the final act that we decide to put off, procrastinate, and let this consideration of this flag change linger for two unnecessary years. So, I would encourage you to vote against enactment. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **NANGLE**: Thank you, Mr. President. I suspect that every Member of this Chamber is sick of hearing about this flag, but it's the type of issue that raises strong feelings for people, which is exactly why we should be deliberate and thoughtful about its design. The Secretary of State has investigated the design process for new flags with Utah and Minnesota, and she has recommended that the Legislature authorize a commission to conduct public process over the course of a year's time, in 2025, select a new flag design, and vote on it to be held at the following general election. Some have argued that the Secretary could simply appoint a commission this summer and get it done by the deadline for ballot materials, which is 60 days prior to the November election. Let's recognize the Secretary of State's staff is already diligently working to prepare for a June primary and for a presidential election plus any people vetoes that are thrown her way like the one file today. A new state flag is an important decision, it's one that rightfully deserves time and consideration and a commission authorized by the Legislature to review and select. I urge you to follow my light and vote yes on the motion.

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

Senator **CHIPMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President. I would concur with my colleague from Cumberland, Senator Nangle. Having spoken with the Secretary of State, she has been very clear that she needs time to do this properly, that she doesn't want to pick the design herself, she needs a commission, she needs time to put that together, and with everything else going on this year, it would be very difficult to do that properly. So, I think we should respect what she's saying and the fact that she needs time to do it right and support this motion.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Brakey.

Senator **BRAKEY:** You know, part of the beauty of the original Maine flag and the design that's been out there that Maine people have so readily adopted is how simple it is. It's literally a tree and a star, and the design is already everywhere, including on the new license plates that were just approved by the Secretary of State. I don't for the life of me understand why we need two more years and to have an entire commission to decide on a design that is already widely out there in the public space. So, I will be voting against enactment.

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

Senator **CHIPMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President. I just rise to correct my good friend from Androscoggin, Senator Brakey. In the Transportation Committee where we did have the hearing and passed the bill on the license plate, that design is actually a real-looking tree, not the pointed edges, a different star than what you're seeing on the flag. So, what the license plate is going to have for a design is not what you're seeing on flags flown in front of peoples' homes. It's a different star, it's a different tree. We had a lot of discussion about it, but it's not the same design. That's why the commission makes sense to do this right, get a group of people together as opposed to the Secretary of State herself choosing the design.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Reconsideration whereby this Bill Failed Enactment. A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#808)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, INGWERSON, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BRENNER, CARNEY, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN

18 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 12 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** 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.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Today Assigned matter:

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 1488

Tabled – May 10, 2024, by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook.

(Pending – **ADOPTION**)

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Oxford, Senator Bennett.

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. It gives me great pleasure today to rise and to speak about one of my constituents. And obviously, our colleague from the other Chamber, Sawin Millett. Sawin, as we've heard, has dedicated his life to serving his community and his state, and Maine is much better off as a result of his service. As we've heard, Sawin began his career in the Legislature by getting elected to the House in the 1960s. It was over 50 years ago. He served for two terms and then returned home to serve the position of principal and assistant superintendent in his home school district. He then became the first Executive Director of the Maine School Management Association. An incredible analytical mind, Sawin has worked for and with people from all ideological and political backgrounds. In 1975, he was appointed by Governor Jim Longley to be Maine's Commissioner of Education. As we've heard, Governor McKernan placed Sawin in charge of school finances, and then the Commissioner of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services. He served as DAFS commissioner for two terms and then served Governor Angus King as Legislative Director and then as finance director for the mental health department. In 2002, during Governor Baldacci's regime, he returned to the Legislature and served a full four terms. He then also served as DAFS Commissioner for Governor LePage's first term. And when he left that job, he joined the staff of Senate President Mike Thibodeau and Senate Republicans to help them tackle the budget. He came back to the Legislature after winning

election in 2018 and has been here, thankfully, with us, ever since. His experience in education and his many years working in and around budgets have made him the perfect teacher to lawmakers serving for their first time on the Appropriations Committee. Half of his legislative career has been spent in Room 228. He is the expert on the State of Maine's budgetary affairs. I have to say I've learned so much from Sawin across many years. He may be frightened to know that he's been a mentor to me, as he has been for many of you, I know, and he's been this largely through this very powerful example he's set. In fact, I also have to disclose that Sawin was a mentor to my father. But I'll also say that my father is older than Sawin. But my father was actually hired by Sawin to do a work for the Department of Education, unique work, back in the late 1970s, and he's been a tremendous family friend ever since that time. As we all know, Sawin has an incredibly calm demeanor. He explains things slowly and methodically, in a way that even legislators can understand. But he's carefully considered all the incredibly complex budgetary matters, it's a marvel, really, watching his mind work. Mr. President, I want to express my deep gratitude to Sawin Millett for his many decades of service to our state. His guidance and experience are truly irreplaceable. As he has been for many years, he has been this past legislative session one of the few shining lights in the Appropriations Committee, which I have been pleased to serve with him on. We will all miss him terribly next year. But I also have to disclose that despite his leaving us in the Legislature, he of course is not done with his career in public service, and I have to say, even that exhaustive list missed a few things. Because he served as an interim town manager in the Town of Paris, a challenging position which he brought the same kind of magnificence he does to all of his assignments and got people working together there. He has worked not only in state government in both the legislative and executive branches, as you've heard, he worked for Senator Collins in the federal government, and now, he's tackling a new challenge. He's running for Oxford County Commissioner. And so, while we're sad to see him go from the State House, the people of Oxford County are lucky and remain lucky to have such a man working for them and fighting for them in new ways. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Rotundo.

Senator **ROTUNDO:** Thank you, Mr. President, Men and Women of the Senate. Sawin Millett is an exemplary public servant, as is highlighted in this resolution. What I've always appreciated about Sawin is that he wants government to work, he wants government to work for the people of Maine. He's a problem solver, and in Appropriations when we needed a problem solved, we always wanted to make sure that Sawin was in the room, because we could depend upon him to help us solve whatever problem we were facing. He was always the first to the table when we were trying hard to do bipartisan work, and he stayed at the table, which I always appreciated. He has a work ethic that's second to none, and I always appreciated that in public testimony, no matter how long it went on, Sawin never left his chair. We could be there for six hours, Sawin never left his chair. He was there to listen in the most respectful way to the testimony that was brought to us. He has been a wonderful mentor and a wonderful teacher, and we are going to miss him greatly, but his example will continue to inspire us always. Thank you.

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

Senator **PIERCE:** Thank you, Mr. President. I rise today to also share my thoughts and sadness that Sawin will be leaving the halls here. When I ended up on Appropriations and ended up being the chair of the House and he was the lead, I'm sure the first time we sat down across from each other, he was like who is this woman who is sitting here with me. But I soon learned that he is a man of great knowledge, great integrity, great timing, and great humor, and I learned more than I can share here tonight from him. He has a tremendous understanding, as everyone said, about the facets of state government, wants it to work well. He taught me about all of that, and more, also how to stay at the table and keep working. We spent a lot of time together, a lot of hours on Saturdays. And then, in the end, we might need to agree to disagree, but we would move something forward, and I have great respect for that. Funny story, we were finishing up the budget, hadn't quite landed on how we were going to go forward with the Imagination Library, Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, so we're in Chairs and Leads, I think it's a Saturday, and I lean over, like, what do you think, what do you think about the Imagination Library, and he looks up, he's got a little smile, a twinkle in his eye, he's like oh, we like the Dolly Parton Library. That went in, and here we are. So, I'll leave it with a thank you for helping me be a better legislator, and I'll also leave it whenever we finish from some of our negotiations and we're leaving for the night, we'd say goodnight and he'd look up and he'd say, it's been real. And I said, it's been real. And so, it's been real, Sawin, and I wish you all the best as you go on to your future endeavors, and we'll certainly miss you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Lawrence.

Senator **LAWRENCE:** Thank you, Mr. President, Men and Women of the Senate. As the elder Senator here, it would -- I would be remiss if I didn't say a few remarks about another elder legislator. I've known Sawin almost from the day I began in serving in the Legislature. And you've talked a lot about the things he's done, the positions he's served, but what always impressed me the most about knowing Sawin and seeing how he worked in the State House was the level of trust people had in him, from all parties. Speakers, Presidents, Governors, Chiefs of the Judiciary, everyone trusted Sawin in what he would say and listened to him very carefully about the appropriations process, about how state government functions, about how you get government to work. And that's a very unique thing for people to accomplish, that level of trust. And I look at the length of his career, you know, in the 200+ years of people walking through this building, walking through various aspects of state government, serving in state government. Sawin is probably unique in having served this tremendous amount of time and maintained that respect and trust of his colleagues. So, he will be sorely missed, I will miss him, and I know you all will miss him, too. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Oxford, Senator Keim.

Senator **KEIM**: Thank you. As the Senior Senator from Oxford, of course I need to stand and recognize what should be my constituent if we didn't change our district lines just so recently. My first term in office, Sawin Millett was hired as an advisor to the Senate Republicans. And I was so fortunate to have this man take me under his wing. I remember there was a bit of a kerfuffle about the budget that year - maybe there is every year, right - and I went to him, and I said -- I went into his office, and I shut the door, and I said Sawin, you're my constituent, do I vote for this budget or don't I? I need to be a true Conservative here. And just everybody trusts Sawin, as was said, because he's such a man of integrity. And when I was running for office my second term, someone asked me, some news reporter said who do you most admire that's a politician? And I said well, he's not a politician, but without hesitation, I said, I admire Sawin Millett. He is a true statesman. He embodies what it means to be selfless in his service, to his community, and to his state. As you've heard, it's a laundry list. I'm so fortunate, the entire time I've been in office, I thought I want to work with Sawin in some capacity, I want to be in a committee with him, and it never happened. And so, I'm simply running for county commissioner just so I can be with him, finally. I just want to thank Sawin for his dedication, for the legacy that he leaves that we can all aspire to, to be someone that everyone on both -- no matter their rank, no matter their party, that they trust him. It has been an incredible honor to serve with you, and I thank him for his dedication and his service.

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

Senator **TIMBERLAKE**: Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. First of all, Sawin, I want to say thank you. I've been here for 14 years, and you were the calm in some of my storms - not that I ever would lose my cool or anything - but you were always the calm. I want to know how many papers you've got stuck in this pocket, because no matter what you did, to anybody who doesn't know, if you come up to Sawin and say I got a question on this, he'd say well, just a second, and he'd pull his coat and he'd reach in his pocket and pull out papers. And I don't care what it's about, but he would always have it in his pocket and be able to tell you the answer. I don't know how he did it, but he did it. And you are a statesman by every stretch of the imagination. You are a friend, most of all, and I thank you for your service, you're going to be dearly missed by the State of Maine. I thank you, my friend.

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

Senator **STEWART**: Thank you, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. As a junior Member of this Body, it's funny, the 129th Legislature, I really had no - some might recall, House and Senate Republicans were a little bit at odds with one another in the previous Legislature - and I didn't know Sawin really at all in that capacity and came into the 129th Legislature together. And we were the two bookends down there. I was the youngest Member; he was the oldest Member. But to this day, and I will challenge any single person in this room, I guarantee you, he still has the firmest handshake of anybody here or anybody serving there. And if you don't believe me, go up and give his hand a squeeze. I always enjoyed getting updates about how the cows are doing, that was always a nice reprieve from

whatever chaos was happening in this building, and just the opportunity, I feel very blessed to have been able to serve with you both in the Other Chamber and continuing that service down here. Truly blessed for that opportunity. And I just want to say thank you for that and for all the lessons that you've taught me in my experience thus far in the State of Maine and to say you will be missed is the understatement, probably, of the year here. There will be a gaping hole that I think it's going to take very big shoes to fill, and probably never will happen, but I am encouraged to hear that you're going to continue that service in Oxford County, I wish you all the best, and I know you'll find a way or two to make your way back into the State House, probably, in that capacity, so I look forward to the next time that that happens and the next time that I can shake that cow-tending grip of a handshake and get an update on what's going on at the farm. So, best of luck, Sawin.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Hickman.

Senator **HICKMAN**: Thank you, Mr. President, Women and Men of the Senate. When Sawin Millett walks into a room, any room, his wisdom precedes him. I have observed you, Sawin, not from too far, when you speak, I listen, because you always have just the right thing to say at exactly the right time and in exactly the right tone of voice. I will never be that. But I will say that Sawin, you have in some ways cemented my legacy because I will always get to say, no matter what, that I chaired a committee on which the great statesman, Sawin Millett, served. Thank you for helping me be a better leader, and I wish you all the best in your endeavors.

THE PRESIDENT: Seeing no other speakers, I'm going to take the privilege of ending the Good Representative -- I, too, want to give my real, real thanks for a long, long time of service to the people of the State of Maine. It says here that Sawin came in in 1968. That's when I was born. He's leaving in 2024, which is when I'm leaving. So, in some effect, you can say that we came in together and we're leaving together. But my first elections, I was in the House, and watching Sawin from the other side of the Chamber was quite impressive, you know, to try and understand who he was and, you know, how he had all that knowledge and why everyone had such reverence for him regardless of party affiliation. You know, after some time, it was clear why that was is because he did understand the legislative process very well, understood the budget process very well, which, you know, at times still escapes, you know, me, but he has always such a firm grasp on that and it's something that he's willing to share, which, too, is -- I mean, that knowledge is power, and he has it and is willing to give it. I also remember times whenever things were not easy, and I think I've talked about this before, I think Senator Keim brought it up when she came in, that budget was very hard. Extremely hard. I mean, probably the worst, until this year, I don't know which one was worse, but I remember Sawin being in the office I have the privilege of sharing now and being -- having discussion as the minority leader and, you know, which sometimes I get maybe too emotional, Sawin's sitting alongside of me and, you know, just putting his hand on my hand, you know, that I don't even know if he said anything, just that it was going to be all right, you know, regardless how things fell, things would be all right and, you know, not getting too emotional or upset about something was really not worth it, and I'm sure he's had a long

time of feeling that way, too, being the minority at times, and things like that. And I really, really appreciate that. Honestly, like today would be a day that I would've liked to have had your hand on my hand again, you know, but that you don't always get that from people that, you know, maybe aren't your family or anything, but I always had great respect for you, Sawin, and I certainly will always consider you part of my extended family, and I really do appreciate all you've done for the people of the State of Maine. It has not gone unnoticed by me, and seriously, thank you for your work and thank you for being who you are.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Senator **DAUGHTRY:** Thank you, Mr. President, Men and Women of the Senate. I rise tonight to address a few final things. In this building, it's very easy to lose sight of the bigger picture. Amongst marathon session days, months and months of committee meetings, commuting back and forth for some of our members it's a little further than for others, sometimes with heated floor debates and, let's be honest, sometimes with heated caucus debates, and so many, many long nights. It can be very hard to be present and recognize not only the weight of the work that we do here, but the privilege of sitting in these seats. Often in the rush to meet deadlines or get out the door and get back home or make it to adjournment, we miss the present. Momentous days can slip by in the blink of an eye with no recognition in the hustle and bustle. But today, I would like to ask us all to pause and reflect on one particular day in the past and what it means for this Chamber today: December 7, 2016. On December 7, 2016, the 128th Maine Legislature was sworn into office and Senator Troy Dale Jackson, Senator Ben Chipman, and Senator Lisa Keim, and Senator Eloise Vitelli embarked, or reembarked, on their Senate adventure. I really do wonder if they know what they were getting into. Fast forward today and almost eight years later, these Members are now nearing the end of their legislative chapter. The Legislature has many moments of pomp and circumstance, standing and clapping, and many of our actions are governed by tradition. But for termed up members, there is no such big moment or flourish. So, I rise today to create our own tradition and pay tribute to our members who will be leaving our Senate family. And with that, I'd like to share a few quick reflections on our Members. Senator Ben Chipman, who always reminds me that he hales originally from my neck of the woods in Brunswick, he's concluding 14 years of legislative service. He's kept Transportation on the tracks, although sometimes flipping the train with a 12-1 report. We have a shared passion for animals, especially for dogs. I know we all witnessed him with his beloved dog, Ziggy, and I know that Ziggy is with him today. He's been a tireless advocate for his community and for Portland, and he's left a great legacy. Senator Lisa Keim, concluding eight years. When I think of Lisa, I think of fortitude, grace, and compassion. She's been a key voice on Judiciary, and I do not have the words or time to express the gratitude our state owes you for your work to fix MCILS. On a personal note, I'm sure you know, Lisa and I do not always agree and are very often on different sides of the issue. But what I really appreciate about her is her ability to set all of that aside. To take the work

seriously but not take ourselves too seriously. And our commitment to leave the institution and this building a better place than we found it. We set aside political differences and charge forward together to find the best possible outcome, not only for our caucuses but also for our state. And I have enjoyed greatly being a part of the majority female leadership team in this building. Senator Troy Jackson, where do I even begin? Over 20 years of service. This tenacious and passionate man wears his heart on his sleeve. We always carry our homes with us, and I think that's part of what makes a citizens' legislature so magical. For me, I think Troy carries the Allagash with him, and that river runs through him through and through and through. And the County should be proud to call you their own. He's led our Chamber for historic three terms and leaves a legacy that has impacted our entire state, from Wallagrass to Kittery. Students in Maine will not go hungry because of the work that you have done in this building. You've ensured that working families are able to work by getting increased access to childcare and making sure that they have a place to get that childcare. When talking about with your family about some of your proudest achievements, they all came back to the Caribou Vets Home and what you've done to ensure that veterans in your area have a place to be. He's a tireless advocate for working families, and he stands with them in solidarity. He's changed the narrative of how we discuss labor in this building, and he's built many conversations from the ground up. You've been a mentor to so many of us, and I can't even imagine what this building will be without you. Senator Eloise Vitelli, my partner in crime and carpool buddy and has the poor misfortune of having the last name on the alphabetical list. From Ag to EUT, she has championed numerous bills that will have legacies long after she has left this hallway. I get charged up thinking about the work she has done for energy storage. She has defended our lobster industry, creating our innovation fund in face of looming federal regulations making it more difficult for this heritage industry to move forward with their work. She's pushed for universal pre-K, and I love the work we've done on affordable housing in our region and changing the narrative and de-siloing and de-coupling what that means. And it is only fitting that I mention her prize bill, retirement savings, on the eve of her retirement from legislative service. All Mainers, regardless of their job or zip code, will now be able to save for the future, and I hope maybe we can find a way for legislators to get increased retirement options as well. But I particularly want to highlight her pioneering work supporting women and children, and women in the workplace. From her bills and work in the Legislature to her career at New Ventures Maine, she has broken glass ceilings and pulled all of us women along with her. She has mentored and encouraged so, so, so, so many women. Eloise, you have been a friend, a mentor, a surrogate mother, and so much more to me. I am going to miss having you sitting next to me more than I can possibly express. I know that you will stay involved, and when I ask her if she'd consider coming back or what's next, she has quipped a few times that the only title she is interested in right now is master gardener. The House has a tradition of a ceremony of the lights for members who are termed out, and I want to build off of Eloise's master gardening work and recognize our termed-out members who are part of our family and our garden of the Legislature with flowers, and I have flowers here today. Being a Senator is the honor of a lifetime, but it comes with many sacrifices; away from our families, away from our jobs, away from food, away from so much. I hope these flowers and these brief sentiments are just one way to honor your

commitment to our state, to this institution, and everything that you've done here. These anecdotes and highlights just scratch the surface of the impact of these Members and what they've had on our Senate, our State and, frankly, on me. And before we end, and I apologize I do not have flowers for these two, while they are not termed out, I do want to recognize two Senators who are not running for reelection. Senator Eric Brakey has been in and out of the Maine Senate, but he is leaving this Body for a golden opportunity in New Hampshire. What I really -- sorry, I have been saving that one for a very long time. I don't know if it's going to be a taxing gold and silver opportunity. And what I really want to know is what he has planned for the flag of New Hampshire. Kidding aside, Senator Brakey is finishing his third nonconsecutive term and has given over six years of his life to public office, including taking on the risk and running for higher office outside of his home building. I speak for all of us when I give you our best wishes and can't wait to see what you do next. And second, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the Good Senator from Kennebec, Senator Matt Pouliot, or as some used to say in the Education Committee when he'd stand up to testify, Senator Poolio. For those of you who do not know, Matt and I have served together since we came into this building at the young whip smart age of 25, thinking we knew absolutely everything, while knowing absolutely nothing. For those of you who have not heard us talk about this, we are profiled in the Portland Press Herald with A Tale of Two Matts, and oh what a tale it has been. Through constant bickering, fighting, building each other up, working on bills together, we have done so much, from student debt to education to arguing about healthcare, and so much more. And especially getting in trouble with Representative Cornfield. I'm sad for this tale to end, but I'm so, so excited to see the next adventure that you and Heather are about to embark on. I want to thank all of you for giving me the time to recognize these Members, and I would ask that we take a moment of applause and recognition of the service that these six Members have given the State of Maine. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: We're waiting for a couple joint resolutions to come down that would obviously be important to be able to give to different people that, you know, I think we had a chance to recognize this morning. I think while we're waiting, I'm just going to take a little bit of time. I certainly want to thank the Good Senator from Cumberland, Senator Daughtry, for that very nice discussion and speech about the Members that are leaving the Chamber. I certainly appreciate the kind words and support of myself, and feelings are definitely mutual. And, you know, as you -- for me, as I look around the Chamber, I mean, this is like an unbelievable place to look out. I get a different view from all of you, you know, certainly Senator Lawrence and Senator Bennett have seen this before and it's a real privilege to serve in a Chamber with, you know, people that have been in this role before. I have no -- I don't know, I just never -- never, ever thought that, you know, I would ever be in a position to stand here in front of a chamber like this with such great people and work with people like this. It really is a privilege, something that is really, really hard to explain. I, you know, look across all of you, people like the Senate Secretary, his staff, the staff that I have, the staff that the Senate Republicans have, the Senate Democrats, you know, people that work day in and day out to do things for all of us and oftentimes I wonder, you know, why people even are willing to do that, work so hard for other people. I also look at all of you and every one of you, I can remember a time

that we worked together on a bill or on the same side of an issue, you know, we're trying to make something better. I also know I think probably every one of us in this Chamber that maybe I was on a different side of an issue and, you know, argued with somebody or disagreed with somebody, but then still, you know, come back the next day or the day after and put that aside and work together. And I've set out in this Chamber and fought side by side with people, it's really, really quite incredible how people can come here and do what they think is best for the people of the State of Maine and it's been a privilege. It's been an unbelievable honor and something that I could never, ever, ever forget. I also think, you know, of the times that, you know, really great legislation that, you know, we've worked on together, you know, Senator Daughtry was talking about pieces of legislation, and I pointed over to Senator Pouliot, you know, things like, you know, giving universal school meals across the State of Maine to people. I do think that's a big deal. I think that's something that I'm severely proud of and, you know, something that I didn't know if we had a shot to pass to where it actually came to fruition where I think it was unanimous when we did, because people came together and understood how important it was. You know, childcare last session, I mean, there's so many things that, you know, I really, really strongly feel that, you know, we worked on together as the 131st Legislature and did do for, you know, people across the state that it's a big deal, I mean, certainly, we've disagreed on things, we've had battles, I've lost, you've lost, and, you know, still, we picked the mantle up and went forward for something else the next day and that, too, is really quite -- quite a thing. You know, today is a hard one. There's no doubt about it. I mean, I know very well that all of you come to this building wanting to do the best for people, put forward legislation, and that's why we stay until 9:00 in the morning, that's why we stay till 5:00 in the morning, that's why people do get upset at times, because it means a lot. I mean, we're not -- we all know we're not here for the money; we're here for the policy and doing what we think is best for people. And I've seen that from every one of you. Every one of you, I've seen that. Without a doubt. And I know it deep in my heart, you know, but like I said, today, as I sit here, you know, there was bills like, you know, 1761 that was a bill to help people over at Riverview that are way understaffed, way underfunded, and doing really, really hard work that -- work that I couldn't do. You know, we picked up a study this afternoon or just this -- tonight, 2274, a bill for Gagetown, harmful chemical study. A bill that has waited for 40 years to have somebody care enough to push forward to try and give relief to mostly men that served but honestly, the families, the wives that had to deal with people that had severe health consequences because they served their country. You know, those are things that really mean a lot, you know, to me, and, you know, now that legislation won't go forward for people that counted on me, us, to do that. I mean, you know, sexual assault services, there's so many things, you know, in this document today that, you know, I could tick off, that we did pass - some of them unanimously, some of them not. But, you know, we passed them, most of us, believing that it was good policy, almost all with us believing it was good policy, and unfortunately, we're not going to see those come to fruition because some people would choose to let them go aside, even though we fought throughout the session and throughout the day today to make that happen. And I do find that very disheartening in a night that, you know, we will be leaving, and I will not be in this role, at least in this rostrum, anymore. And to be honest, I don't know how some of these bills, I look people

in the face and say that, you know, we did everything we could to make it happen, you know, make your lives better, and in the end, it didn't happen for reasons I still don't really understand. You know, that's -- that's going to be hard for me, and that's going to be a challenge. I mean, and I think it will be for you, too, because again, we came to this wanting to do good policy for people, and we did, but yet, we don't have the results to show for it. Yes, we have other things, and that will be something to celebrate, but any time you leave people behind, that's a -- that's something that bothers me greatly because that's what I really, really felt that I was called for to this place was to fight for those that needed a voice, needed someone to care about them, and I know that's what you felt, too. And so, the challenge of tonight, of seeing bills that we passed, enacted, had sent down to the second floor not once, but twice, and be rejected, is something that I never thought I'd see happen here, never thought I'd see anyone be willing to totally overturn the Legislature's decision to pass any bill. So, it is bittersweet. But I am going to say to end, while that is the most bittersweet thing that I've dealt with in my entire time here in the Legislature, I am going to miss every one of you greatly. As I've said with Representative Millett, I can't help but, you know, people have become part of your family here, and I see you almost as much, if not more, than my own family, and it means something, it's significant to me, and, you know, standing here, like I said, has been an honor and a privilege and I'm going to miss doing that, but more than anything, I'm going to miss the really, really great view that I get seeing all of you out there. And again, I want to thank you for that honor because I don't know how I could ever top this. So, thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Pouliot.

Senator **POULIOT:** Thank you, Mr. President. You know, I've been giving a lot of thought to what I would say, and I thought maybe I would write something all these past couple weeks and, you know, I guess I've procrastinated on that and never really wrote anything at all. Some things, you never shake. But, you know, I was sitting here tonight, and I was listening to the remarks that were made about Representative Millett and, you know, I'm glad that I didn't write anything down because, you know, you listen to the things that were said about this man from people from both sides of the aisle who have been around here, you know, some of them longer than I've been alive, some of them longer than you've been alive, maybe, Mr. President, and, you know, you hear a common theme. It's a theme that was mentioned by Senator Lawrence, and it's a theme of trust, Mr. President. And, you know, I will say that through my time in this Legislature, there's been kind of an evolution, I guess, of the way that we do business. And I think a lot of that was broken down during COVID, when we had to do our work on computers and talk to each other via Zoom instead of being in person and seeing each other face to face, Mr. President. And, you know, it wasn't until tonight when Senator Keim mentioned about that bill, Mr. President, that we got passed to feed kids that it really hit me, you know, the gravity of the work that we do in this building and how important it is that we find ways to work together and build that trust. That trust that has so severely been eroded. It's trust that was eroded that led me as a legislator to become so jaded to think that there was no point in serving in this Body anymore, Mr. President. And I hope - I hope and pray that moving forward, that the Maine State Legislature can find ways to restore trust and

build stronger relationships so that we can get work done, not through the will of the majority, but as a result of a collaborative process. When Representative -- well, I say Representative, now Senator Daughtry, and I started down in the House, we had this little fun thing that we did. It was a radio show down in Brunswick on AM - there was no chance of ever putting us on FM - and we also, you know, had the -- well, it was called the kiddies caucus, but it was actually the youth caucus. It was made fun of as the kiddies caucus, kid caucus, right? But we really built a strong working relationship with each and with other legislators who participated in that caucus early on, way back in the 126th Legislature. And a lot of those relationships I found through my 12 years of legislative service, for those members who stuck around, we got some really good things done, Mr. President. And, you know, I hope that as we go on, this institution will stay here, and I'm fortunate to live right in the backdrop of this Capitol and I often hike in mornings when there's fog covering the valley and this building is the only thing sticking up through the clouds. And when you sit there and look at that place from that vantagepoint, when there's no craziness going on, no fighting, no bickering, you realize how important it is what we do here. But that work can only get done well if we build those relationships and we build and -- and build back trust. So, I'm not interested in build it back better, I'm interested in build back trust, Mr. President. And I hope that this legislative body, for those who are coming back in the 132nd, that that can happen, and that we can have a more collaborative approach to the way that work gets done here, and I know that it can happen, Mr. President. So, I just want to say to all the members who are here, it's been an honor to serve with all of you. I've learned many things from having an opportunity to serve in the Maine State Legislature, but I think the one thing that I've learned the most is that this state is full of so many incredible people, from so many diverse backgrounds, and everybody has something to bring to the table and everybody's voice matters. So, thank you, Mr. President, for all that you've done. I appreciate you. And to those Members who are terming out, thank you for your service, and to those who are coming back, we are rooting for you. Thank you.

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

Senator **CHIPMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President, Men and Women of the Senate. So, I -- when I drove up this morning, it's kind of a bittersweet moment for me, I realized it was my last day to be serving here in the Senate, and I -- sort of a moment of reflection, you know, thinking back of, you know, when I first ran in 2010, in a Democratic district where everybody told me I had to be a Democrat to win and I ran as an Independent, and won by 176 votes. And, you know, I didn't know what to expect. I came up here, Republicans had taken over the House and Senate and the Governorship - I think to a lot of people's surprise on both sides - and, you know, I was the only Independent in the House. But, you know, it was -- it was amazing. You know, my mom and dad, who got divorced when I was five and never see each other and never talk, both came here to see me get sworn in. And I just didn't know what to expect from it. I, you know, went into it with a positive attitude, working with everybody, making relationships with people, forming relationships with people, and during the time I've been here, I think I've served on five or six committees, I've had the privilege of serving as chair of two different committees. But it's really been, you know, the experience of

getting to know people, especially here in the Senate where it's a smaller Body and you can really get to know people really well and the friendships that we've built, the things that we've accomplished, the lives that we've improved, the lives we've saved with the bills that we've passed, you know, the challenges we've overcome through COVID and meeting at the Civic Center and all the stuff that we never saw coming that we were able to get through and now we're back in person again and, you know, we've overcome so many challenges together and we've done a lot of great work together, you know, and it's just -- I've learned over the years that, you know, you win some, you lose some, you know, one day someone's your friend - it doesn't matter what party they're in - the next day, they're working against you on something, you know, and the next day you're back on the same page, you know, and you just never know what to expect here, whether you're in the House or the Senate, it's very unpredictable. But at the end of the day, we've found a way to get a lot of work done. And there's always stuff that doesn't get done, there's always more work to be left to the next Legislature, and we can never do enough, but we've done a lot - not this session, but over the last several terms, over the seven terms I've been here. I'm not going to go into a list of accomplishments and bills and things we've done together, but there's been so much that I feel like we've done together that's really improved the quality of lives for everybody in our state and, you know, I'm going to miss everybody, I consider each and every one of you to be a true friend, and if there's anything I can do to be of help, you know, please let me know, I'll come back and visit, and I'll look forward to seeing you in the near future. Thanks.

At this point, a message was received from the House of Representatives, borne by Representative **TERRY** of Gorham, informing the Senate that the House had transacted all business before it and was ready to Adjourn Without Day.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Brakey.

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. It being the end of a long day and a long session, I'm sure the last thing this Chamber wants is another 20-minute speech from me. So, I'll keep my remarks brief. I do appreciate the good words that have been said, and just -- I want to share a few reflections from these last couple of years. I remember, you know, as I hear Senator Pouliot talk about the trust that was lost during the COVID era, and certainly the breakdown of our legislative processes and the balance of powers within our state government, I remember when I came into the Senate Chamber back after a four-year hiatus at the very beginning and the very first thing that came up was half a billion dollars in spending that many of us felt like wasn't going through the appropriate processes of a separate branch of government. And I just remember feeling angry and feeling like here we go again. And I was worried that the importance of this institution, the legislative branch of government as a coequal branch of government -- not even coequal, the most powerful branch of government in our state had been really diminished and I was worried we might not get that back. But I will say despite many disagreements and policy outcomes that have taken place

over these last two years, I have been somewhat encouraged. I've been encouraged that after a bizarre several years with the Executive Branch basically absorbing the lawmaking power of the state, I do think that the Legislative Branch has reasserted itself. And I appreciate seeing that no matter how I may fall on particular issues, even in a time when there's single-party control of the Executive Branch and the Legislative Branch in Augusta, there still is -- there's no rubberstamp going on around here, there's a lot of -- a lot of debate, a lot of back and forth. And I think that's encouraging that the Legislative Branch of Government in the State of Maine is strong again. The processes along the way, I'm sure we've heard many critiques along the way about processes not working out exactly how we think they should, I certainly could give a list of complaints, and I'm not going to, other than to say I'm looking forward to when the Rules Committee meets, and we can hammer some of those things out for next year. But of course, I will not be returning next year, as was noted, as I announced last December after six years in this Body, 12 years in Maine politics overall, I will be departing. I came in at the age of 26 years old. At the time, I was the youngest State Senator in America, though not the youngest ever, I remember Garrett Mason came in at 25 and had me beat there. But in my time here, I've really tried to - I don't know necessarily how it looks on the outside, maybe it just looks like some windbag who talks a lot - but I've really tried to follow my principles and my convictions and not just tote some party line. So, Mr. President, I do want to say I do appreciate the efforts that you've put in to restore some normal order in this Chamber. I want to say I really do appreciate that. I think that every Member of this Body, there hasn't been a single individual, I think, over the course of these last two years where there hasn't been a Member of just huh, and surprise, and finding a newfound respect for each individual Member of this Chamber. Perhaps it was a side remark we had, an opportunity to find some common ground on a bill. Sometimes it frustrates me how I can respect every single individual of this Body so much, and yet still come out so puzzled sometimes with the collective policy decisions we make, but -- well, but that's just the posture I'm often in. I do want to say I really did appreciate, you know, serving on the Health Coverage Insurance and Financial Services Committee and the Judiciary Committee and getting to know both committee chairs fairly well - Senator Bailey and Senator Carney, who I thought ran very fair processes, and sometimes over very contentious matters. And having served previously as a committee chair, I often thought there were a lot of criticisms thrown around that I thought, you know, when you serve as a committee chair, you know how difficult it can be to kind of maintain order. And so, I really appreciate that. So, I just -- I'll say I am off to take a job in the free state of New Hampshire. Yes, there are no taxes on gold and silver there. And also, I will say, when I go over there and visit with people in my new job and people see my flag pin, they ask me wow, is that the flag of the New Hampshire Pine Tree Riots? I didn't actually know the history there, apparently it's a thing. As much as we in Maine can take pride in the battle of Machias and our revolutionary fight against the British to defend our pine trees in the first naval battle of the American Revolution, in New Hampshire, they have the Pine Tree Riots, and they're very proud of the pine tree symbol. So, I would just say, if you guys want to change the flag, you better move quick because New Hampshire might snap it up before you realize it. And I just want to say thank you to my constituents in Auburn, New Gloucester, Poland, and Durham, and also my previous constituents who I represented in my first

two terms in Minot and Mechanic Falls, who must've been a little crazy when they voted to send some 26-year-old kid to the State Senate who was a Ron Paul Libertarian rabblouser, and it's been a blessing and one of the greatest privileges of my life. And I'll just close with a paraphrase of a quote from Davy Crockett. It's a friendlier paraphrase than maybe the spirit in which he once said it a long time ago. You all may go to the hell of election season, and I shall go to New Hampshire. Thank you.

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

ORDERS

Senate Order

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Senate Order:
S.O. 27

ORDERED, that a message be sent to Governor Janet T. Mills informing her that the Senate is ready to Adjourn Without Day.

READ and PASSED.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Sagadahoc, Senator **VITELLI** to deliver the message to the Governor. The Senator was escorted to the Governor's Office.

Subsequently, the Senator from Sagadahoc, Senator **VITELLI** reported that she had delivered the message with which she was charged.

On motion by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland, the following Senate Order:
S.O. 28

ORDERED, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives informing that Body that the Senate is ready to Adjourn Without Day.

READ and PASSED.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DAUGHTRY**, to deliver the message to the House of Representatives. The Senator was escorted to the House of Representatives.

Subsequently, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DAUGHTRY**, reported that she had delivered the message with which she was charged.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Joint Resolutions

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 1483

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 6 TO MAY 12, 2024
AS NATIONAL NURSES WEEK**

WHEREAS, the nearly 5,200,000 registered nurses in the United States constitute our nation's largest health care profession; and

WHEREAS, the depth and breadth of the registered nursing profession meet the different and emerging health care needs of our nation's population in a wide range of settings; and

WHEREAS, the American Nurses Association, as the voice for the registered nurses of our nation, is working to chart a new course for a healthy nation that relies on increasing delivery of primary and preventive health care; and

WHEREAS, a renewed emphasis on primary and preventive health care will require better utilization of all of our nation's registered nursing resources; and

WHEREAS, professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component of the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients; and

WHEREAS, the demand for registered nursing services will be greater than ever as our nation continues to grapple with the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, an aging population, the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technologies and the explosive growth of home health care services; and

WHEREAS, more qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers in the State; and

WHEREAS, the cost-effective, safe and high-quality health care services provided by registered nurses will be an increasingly important component of the national health care delivery system in the future; and

WHEREAS, along with the American Nurses Association, the American Nurses Association – Maine has declared May 6 to May 12, 2024 as National Nurses Week, with the theme "Nurses Make the Difference" to honor the variety of roles that nurses play in the lives of their patients. Registered nurses make a difference as trusted advocates to ensure that patients, their families and their communities receive safe and high-quality care; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, recognize May 6 to May 12, 2024 as National Nurses

Week to celebrate registered nurses' accomplishments and efforts to improve our health care system and show our appreciation for the nation's registered nurses not just during this week but at every opportunity throughout the year and ask that all residents of this State join in honoring the registered nurses who care for all of us.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 1485

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 17, 2024
AS JAMES WELDON JOHNSON DAY**

WHEREAS, James Weldon Johnson was a novelist and poet, songwriter, educator, attorney, journalist, diplomat and civil rights leader; and

WHEREAS, Johnson began his career as an educator in rural Georgia, where he taught the descendants of former slaves and eventually became principal of Stanton, a school for African American students, where he was paid half of what white colleagues were paid; and

WHEREAS, while working as a teacher, he studied law, becoming the first African American to be admitted to the Florida Bar since Reconstruction; and

WHEREAS, Johnson's gifts in poetry and music led him to join his younger brother's popular music trio in New York City in 1901, where he helped to write many of their songs; and

WHEREAS, Johnson entered the United States Consular Service in 1906 and served for 7 years as a diplomat, beginning in Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, and then in 1909 taking a post in Corinto, Nicaragua, where he successfully navigated an attempt to overthrow the Nicaraguan government through skilled negotiation; and

WHEREAS, Johnson became the first African American professor to be hired at New York University in 1934, and he later served as a professor of creative literature and writing at Fisk University, a historically Black university; and

WHEREAS, Johnson was involved with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, from 1916 through the end of his life, serving as field secretary, executive secretary and as a vice president, helping to lead the fight against racial discrimination, segregation, violence and lynching; and

WHEREAS, Johnson became a key artistic figure in the Harlem Renaissance in the 1920s, continuing to publish notable collections of poems and spirituals, and is known in particular for writing the lyrics to "Lift Every Voice and Sing," which he wrote to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation

and which became known as the Black National Anthem due to its enormous importance to African Americans; and

WHEREAS, in 1938, Johnson's life was cut short when he and his wife, Grace Nail Johnson, were returning from visiting a friend on Islesboro to their home in Florida and their car was struck by a train in Wiscasset, killing him and grievously injuring his wife; and

WHEREAS, following his death, his wife donated her husband's papers to the Yale University Library and helped to establish the James Weldon Johnson Memorial Collection of African American Arts and Letters in the Yale Collection of American Literature, which joins other national commemorative landmarks and institutes; and

WHEREAS, in the 130th Legislature, June 17th was designated as James Weldon Johnson Day, a result of a joint effort of those in his home state of Florida and the State of Maine; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize June 17, 2024 as James Weldon Johnson Day and to honor his remarkable achievements and his ongoing commitment to racial equity and progress.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 1486

**JOINT RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE OBSERVANCE
OF JUNETEENTH ON JUNE 19, 2024**

WHEREAS, for 157 years, Juneteenth National Freedom Day, also known as Emancipation Day, Emancipation Celebration, Freedom Day, Juneteenth Independence Day and Juneteenth, has been one of the most recognized African-American holiday observances in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates the day freedom was proclaimed to all slaves in the South by Union General Gordon Granger, on June 19, 1865 in Galveston, Texas, more than 2 1/2 years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates the determination of the first people from Africa, approximately 11,500,000 of whom survived the awful voyages across the Atlantic and who were brought to this country and enslaved in chattel slavery and whose descendants served as slaves for 200 years before the horrific institution of chattel slavery was abolished; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the end of chattel slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, over 130 years after the Emancipation Proclamation and after years of informal annual celebration, Juneteenth was declared a federal holiday in 2021 by the President of the United States and the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, “Until All are Free, None are Free” is an oft-repeated maxim that can be used to highlight the significance of the end of the era of chattel slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth became an official state holiday in Maine in 2022; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the historical significance of Juneteenth in order to advance racial equity, human dignity and justice; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, recognize the observance of Juneteenth on June 19, 2024, and encourage people in our State to participate in Juneteenth observances.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 1489

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 2024
AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, the mental health and well-being of all children, youth, adults and families in the State are of fundamental importance to the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, since 1999, the national suicide rate has increased more than 36%, with more than 13.2 million individuals experiencing suicidal thoughts and 1.6 million individuals attempting suicide annually in the United States; and

WHEREAS, over 49,000 people died by suicide in 2022, which is about one death every 11 minutes; and

WHEREAS, suicide, opioid misuse and addiction and children’s mental health issues are areas of concern in the State; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 61,000 adults in the State who are living with a serious mental illness, including, but not limited to, bipolar disorder, severe depression and schizophrenia, and 14,000 children 12 to 17 years of age in the State have depression; and

WHEREAS, over 260,000 people in the State live in a community that does not have enough mental health professionals; and

WHEREAS, the effective treatment of mental health conditions is critical to reducing the number of individuals and families who find themselves in mental health crises, to breaking individual and generational cycles of mental illness and to promoting healing; and

WHEREAS, recovery from a mental illness requires access to professional services and involves families and caregivers as allies in recovery and as critical members of the care delivery team; and

WHEREAS, maintaining an open dialogue regarding mental health conditions encourages individuals struggling with mental illness to seek help and is an essential component to fighting the stigma associated with mental illness; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize May 2024 as Mental Health Awareness Month in order to raise awareness of mental health conditions and services and to break the stigma surrounding mental illness in the State.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 1490

**JOINT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MAY 2024
AS AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS AWARENESS
MONTH**

WHEREAS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as ALS, is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord; and

WHEREAS, the life expectancy for an individual with ALS is between 2 and 5 years after the date on which the individual receives an ALS diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, ALS occurs throughout the world with no racial, ethnic, gender or socioeconomic boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the 2 different types of ALS are sporadic ALS and familial ALS; and

WHEREAS, sporadic ALS is the most common form of motor neuron disease in the United States, accounts for between 90% and 95% of all cases of ALS in the United States and may affect any individual in any location; and

WHEREAS, familial ALS, also known as FALS, is inherited and accounts for between 5% and 10% of all cases of ALS in the United States; and

WHEREAS, there is a 50% chance that each of the offspring of an individual with familial ALS will inherit the gene mutation for familial ALS and develop the disease; and

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

WHEREAS, the onset of ALS often involves muscle weakness or stiffness, and the progression of ALS results in the further weakening, wasting and paralysis of the muscles of the limbs and trunk and the muscles that control vital functions, including speech, swallowing and breathing; and

Off Record Remarks

WHEREAS, on average, the period between the date on which an individual first experiences symptoms of ALS and the date on which the individual is diagnosed with ALS is about one year; and

On motion by Senator **LYFORD** of Penobscot, the Honorable **TROY D. JACKSON**, President of the Senate, declared the Second Regular Session of the 131th Legislature **ADJOURNED SINE DIE** at 10:01 in the evening.

WHEREAS, ALS can strike individuals of any age but predominantly strikes adults, and it is estimated that tens of thousands of individuals in the United States have ALS at any given time; and

WHEREAS, based on studies of the population of the United States, slightly more than 5,600 individuals in the United States are diagnosed with ALS each year, and 15 individuals in the United States are diagnosed with ALS each day; and

WHEREAS, the majority of individuals with ALS die of respiratory failure; and

WHEREAS, a military veteran is approximately twice as likely to be diagnosed with ALS as is a member of the general public in the United States; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of introduction of this resolution, there is no cure for ALS; and

WHEREAS, the spouses, children and other family members of individuals living with ALS provide support to those individuals with love, day-to-day care and more; and

WHEREAS, an individual with ALS, and the caregivers of such an individual, can be required to bear significant costs for medical care, equipment and home health care services for the individual as the disease progresses; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize May 2024 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month. We affirm the dedication of the Legislature to helping to work toward securing cures and better treatments for ALS, recognize the challenges that individuals with ALS face on a daily basis and commend the dedication of the family members, friends, organizations, volunteers, researchers and caregivers across the United States who are working to improve the quality and length of life of persons with ALS.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.
