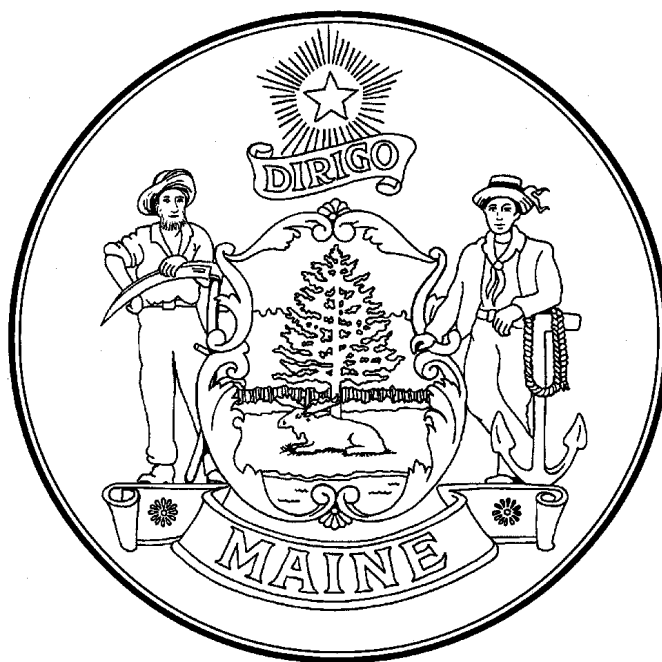


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

In Senate Chamber
Thursday
April 24, 2025

Senate called to order by President Matthea E. Larsen Daughtry of Cumberland County.

Prayer by Rabbi Lisa Vinikoor of Beth Israel Congregation in Bath.

RABBI LISA VINIKOOR: Good morning. Thank you to Senator Tepler for inviting me here this morning and to Senate President Daughtry as well for welcoming me.

Today is Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. A day when Jews across the world pause in grief and remembrance of the tragedy of the Holocaust. And it is also a day when we pause to remember all of the righteous and brave people who stood up, with great courage, to combat bigotry, antisemitism, and hate.

And so, I want to bring you a little teaching and prayer on this theme of courage based on an ancient Jewish teaching that describes how the Israelites passed from slavery into freedom. According to the story, when Pharaoh finally let the Israelites go, the Israelites moved as fast as they could to escape. And yet, as they journeyed out of Egypt, they came upon a great ocean, a great sea call the Sea of Reeds, and they were trapped. Behind them was Pharaoh's army and in front of them, a seemingly impassable body of water. As they stood together at the edge of the sea, there was panic and chaos, anxiety and fear. Some started to complain, asking their leader, Moses, why did you bring us out of slavery only to die? Others were fighting about what to do. Maybe they should turn back or try to swim. But as the story goes, in that moment, with all of the strife and fighting, a simple person named Nachshon decided he had to do something. And so, he took one simple step, carefully into the sea, and he kept on walking forward step by step. And amazingly, as he walked, going deeper and deeper into the water, his fellow Israelites stopped arguing and they followed him. And then, when they were all together, walking forward into the water, then the sea parted, with two walls of water on each side and dry ground in the middle, so that the Israelites could cross through the water safely to freedom on the other side.

We, too, are like Nachshon and the Israelites. We face discontent about the present, deep uncertainty about the future. At times, it can feel like the problems in our communities are intractable. But Nachshon comes to remind us that each of us is capable of quieting the noise around us to make a positive difference if only by taking just one small step forward. On this day and in the days and weeks ahead, may you, the Senators and leaders of our great state, be blessed with the courage of Nachshon. May you be blessed like him to think outside of the box, may you be blessed with the willingness to take a risk, to bring more healing and wholeness to our communities and our state. May God bless you with courage, conviction, understanding, and with peace. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Mark W. Lawrence of York County.

Reading of the Journal of Wednesday, April 23, 2025.

Medical Provider of the Day, Jessica Faraci, MD of Falmouth.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Oversight of Kennels by Changing the Licensing Authority from Municipalities to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry"

S.P. 689 L.D. 1771

Presented by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Senator: INGWERSEN of York,
Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, COOPER of Windham,
DILL of Old Town, HEPLER of Woolwich, ROEDER of Bangor.

On motion by Senator **TALBOT ROSS** of Cumberland,
REFERRED to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE,**
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Criminalize Certain Offenses Related to Gift Card Thefts"

S.P. 691 L.D. 1773

Presented by Senator HARRINGTON of York.
Cosponsored by Representative PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft and
Senator: CYRWAY of Kennebec, Representatives: CROCKETT
of Portland, NUTTING of Oakland.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **REFERRED** to
the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**
and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Energy Policy of the State"
S.P. 694 L.D. 1792

Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock.

On motion by Senator **LAWRENCE** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

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.

Bill "An Act to Improve Management and Reduce the Volume of Solid Waste"

S.P. 695 L.D. 1793

Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock.

On motion by Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Design a Plan for Sustained Investment in Preventing Disease and Improving the Health of Maine Communities"

S.P. 690 L.D. 1772

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Representative DUCHARME of Madison and Senator: ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, Representative: GRAHAM of North Yarmouth.

On motion by Senator **INGWERSEN** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Provide Protection from Unfair Parking Tickets on Lots Accessible to the Public"

S.P. 696 L.D. 1794

Presented by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland.

On motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect Domestic Workers"

S.P. 692 L.D. 1774

Presented by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor and Senator: TIPPING of Penobscot.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Change the Calculation for Municipal Service Charges for Tax-exempt Organizations"

S.P. 697 L.D. 1795

Presented by Senator MOORE of Washington. (BY REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Representative TUELL of East Machias and Representatives: MINGO of Calais, STROUT of Harrington.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

ORDERS

Joint Orders

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, the following Joint Order:

S.P. 693

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 10:00 in the morning, or until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, respectively.

READ and PASSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Senate considered the following additional papers:

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Senate

Pursuant to Statute

Senator CARNEY for the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services to Clarify the Types of Cases for Which the Commission Is Responsible for Providing Counsel"

S.P. 698 L.D. 1796

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 4, section 1804, subsection 3, paragraph H.

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

Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**

Sent down for concurrence.

The Senate considered the following additional papers

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Increase Revenue Sharing and to Control Property Taxes"

S.P. 699 L.D. 1798

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor and
Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, CYRWAY of Kennebec, MOORE
of Washington, Representatives: GRAMLICH of Old Orchard
Beach, O'HALLORAN of Brewer.

Committee on **TAXATION** suggested and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to
the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

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.

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 had preference in the
Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until
disposed of as provided by Senate Rule 516.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later
Assigned (3/25/25) matter:

JOINT RESOLUTION - RECOGNIZING THE MAINE FOREST
SERVICE FOR ITS 2024 OUT-OF-STATE MOBILIZATIONS
S.P. 514

Tabled - March 25, 2025 by Senator **TALBOT ROSS** of
Cumberland

Pending - **ADOPTION**

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **TALBOT ROSS:** Thank you so very much, Madam
President. Today, it is an honor to recognize the dedicated state
staff from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and
Forestry, Maine Forest Service who have deployed out of state in
2024.

Through regional and national mutual aid agreements, the
Maine Forest Service partners with state and federal agencies to
protect our natural resources through the Northeast Forest Fire
Protection Compact and the National Stafford Act Master
Agreement. We share resources across state lines, providing
and receiving assistance as needed. Our Maine Forest Rangers
and forest service staff receive extensive training in wildfire and
natural disaster response and they continue to build their
expertise through nationwide deployments. The Maine Forest
Service team takes pride in their collaborative approach to
emergency response, providing support locally and nationwide.

While wildfire suppression involves inherent risks, a
successful mission is built on the state's robust infrastructure
which includes aviation programs, a fleet of specialized engines,
modern facilities, wildfire preparedness initiatives, and skilled
response teams including dedicated volunteers throughout Maine.
We thank the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and
Forestry's Commissioner Amanda Beal, and I'd like to just give a
special thanks to Emily Horton who is the Director of Policy and
Community Engagement in the DACF, for all of their work in

making sure that we were able to recognize -- and I will point out to this Body this is the first time that we have been able to recognize the Maine Forest Service, that we recognize them today.

Joining us today is the Chief Forest Ranger, Robby Gross, the Maine Forest Service Director, Patty Cormier, and the brave men and women of the Maine Forest Service. If you would grant me some indulgence here, because I always think it's important in these recognize to not just gloss over the individuals who are actually risking their lives, they're providing really important service to the state and to this country, it's important to hear their names and to be intentional about our recognition. So, with some indulgence, I'd like to just say the names of those individuals and to show the Senate and the State of Maine that these are folks who come from all across our great state. With your indulgence.

Adam Bagley from Parkman, Aliesha Black from Pittston, Benjamin Goodwin, Eddington, Brad Berube from Hampden, Brian Getchell from Roque Bluffs, Caleb Espling from Caribou, Carson Hartman from Mapleton, Daniel Perkins, Old Town, Daniel Welch, Richmond, David Loome, Millinocket, Erik Ahlquist, Gorham, Freling Stiefler, Alton, George Harris, Mechanic Falls, Hayden Daigle, Union, Jeffrey Miller from Bowdoinham, Jenny Stevens, Chester, Jeremiah Burch from Lisbon Falls, Joel Tourtelotte from Newburgh, Josh Noyes from Princeton, Kent Nelson from West Gardiner, Kevin Norris from Old Town, Lisa Byers from Winslow, Malcolm MacDonald, Westbrook, Mark Rousseau, Phillips, Martin Huysman from Frankfort, Matthew Bennett, Kezar Falls, Michelle Warner, West Paris, Mitchel Stapleton from Millinocket, Nicholas Bolduc from Hermon, Patrick Nichols, Embden, Ryan Albert from Frenchville, Ryan Burr, Limestone, Samuel Heffner from Greenville, Scott Maddox, Augusta, Shane Nichols, Embden, Stuart Corlett from Livermore Falls, Thomas Liba from East Millinocket, Thomas Paine from Freeman Township, Timothy Kjellman from Whitefield, Torin Edgell from Oakfield, Wesley Hatch from Argyle Township, William Barnum from Woodland, Zachary Monroe from Lincoln, Forester Mike Richard from Albany Township, and Mike Parisio from Pittston, Dave Ludwig from Orono.

These fine brave men and women from the Maine Forest Service join us today, and it is my honor and privilege to be able to recognize them for their trip to the state and for all of every day, for everything they are doing for our state, we are truly, truly indebted, and we honor you.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would recognize the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Cyrway.

Senator **CYRWAY:** Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I just wanted to speak for a moment.

I was a Deputy Sheriff for 25 years and also I've been on the fire protection -- Firefighters Protection Commission, and work closely with several of these officers and very proud of them. It was interesting because, you know, me as being the DARE juvenile officer for Kennebec County at that time, I actually got to have my little office in the substation at the Benton Forest Service, and I would add my -- so, I got to experience how they work and how they get around and how they get along together and it's really a close-knit family. And they're outdoorsmen, they really enjoy the outdoors, and the women and men alike, they all kind of get along great and they work together well, they are constantly training each other and keeping up with their

equipment. I mean, that's a really important piece. Their pumps, making sure that those are working. I know one time we had a situation where a train was -- the spark arrest was failing on the train and it was lighting fires along the tracks and there was, I think, 11+ fires from Clinton up through to Newport and went up through Bingham. And I went there to help them as well and we really all worked good together.

There were many times I got calls from Lisa Meyers, actually, to go out in the woods with her in situations where it could've been very dangerous, on line disagreements, and also where illegal cuttings were happening, and they were not the safest situations. I know Scott Maddox, he's -- I'm very proud of him, he's gone up the ranks, done very well for himself, and I can remember when he first started, Joe Pelletier used to tease him a lot, and he -- he started wondering about Joe, but then he got along and he's really grown through the years and just proud of all of them. I know they take off and go to other states and they do some jumping out of helicopters and they've got training teams that they go on the ground and fight these fires and it's just amazing.

Also, you know, just the improvements that we've done. One is that they're allowed to carry guns now. I mean, I can't imagine doing their job without having a firearm with them, especially with rabid animals or with some of the characters they come up with and whatever, you know, I think it was the best thing that we could've done for them.

So, I thank you, but the one major thing that I wanted to get across to you is that in law enforcement, we are all a brother, we're all brothers and sisters. And it doesn't matter if they're here, if they're in another state, I -- you know, I was very much involved in national conferences and talking to -- and working with other officers all over the country, and I'll tell you that we have to be all working together. We cannot be apart. When I see bills come across our aisle, saying that we should separate and not do something with a federal agency, that is wrong. When you do that, then guess what? It's like me saying I'm not going to come out and take care of your fire over there and then expect them to come and take care of ours. It doesn't work that way.

So, I just wanted to make sure that everybody understands in the law enforcement world, we are a brotherhood, and we take care of each other. And so, that's the important piece here, and thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator **BLACK:** Thank you, Madam President, Men and Women of the Senate. I rise today to recognize extraordinary dedication of the Maine Forest Service and their partners, who not only served with distinction throughout the 2024 mobilization season, but have already been called into action this year.

In 2024, our Forest Rangers and the short-haul teams responded to 25 emergencies across the country. They deployed 30 times to places like California, New Mexico, Georgia, North Carolina after Hurricane Helene, and many other places. They brought their skills, their courage, and their compassion to the communities in crisis. That included 41 Rangers, one Forester, one entomologist, staff from the Land Use Planning Commission, and 24 call-when-needed firefighters. They just didn't go, they made a difference, and they came home safe. Their work also strengthened Maine's ability to respond to emergencies right here at home.

Just a few months ago in 2025, they only -- within a few months of 2025, they've already been mobilized again to California, where they helped battle the devastating fires, once again they were called, answered the call without hesitation. And I can't imagine putting on all the protective gear they have and I was talking to a couple of them this morning, and, you know, they were fighting fires when it was over 100 degrees, and with that protective gear and long days and say nothing about the danger that they were in all the time, wind changed and all kinds of things that put their lives in jeopardy. And they went to work without hesitation.

Their service is a reminder of how strong mutual aid networks can be. When disaster strikes, we give help, and we also receive it. That's the kind of cooperation that's essential. It saves lives. So, today, let us express our deepest thanks to those men and women for their service, their sacrifice, and the pride that they bring to the State of Maine. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Hickman.

Senator **HICKMAN:** Thank you, Madam President, Women and Men of the Senate. I thank the Good Senator from Cumberland, the Senate Chair of the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee, Senator Talbot Ross, for reading the names of the men and women that we are here recognizing today. I'll add a few more to the list.

Recently retired Chief Forest Ranger pilot John Crowley and Jeff Currier became two of my best friends through their relentless advocacy to ensure their Forest Rangers had all the tools they needed to do their jobs and ensure they could come home safely to their families at the end of a workday. And as the Other Good Senator from Kennebec mentioned, that meant that the Legislature had to do the right thing and pass the bill to allow them to carry firearms. And so, I stand and I honor the work of the whole Maine Forest Service team, but especially the Forest Rangers, those certified law enforcement officers and the work they perform on behalf of the people of the great state of Maine. It often goes unheralded. Unsung heroes, to be sure, their dedication and commitment to protecting life and property remains unparalleled. Whether it be fighting fires as we've heard about already, enforcing the laws against timber theft, and rescuing people from precarious situations through their short-haul rescue efforts, and much more, they are truly inspiring.

And so I am honored to be here today in the Maine Senate. It's serendipitous, I suppose, to recognize these brave souls for the first time in our official proceedings. I want to thank the leadership of the Department and thank all of the men and women who do this work, putting your lives on the line every day for us. It does not go unnoticed. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, members of the Maine Forest Service team and all of the accompanying staff as well as the Commissioner. And I, too, would like to add my note of gratitude and deep appreciation for all of your work. Would you all please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate?

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication:

S.C. 292

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

April 22, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate of Maine
132nd Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Madam President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of the Honorable Roger J. Katz, Esquire of Brunswick, for reappointment to the University of Maine System, Board of Trustees.

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

YEAS	Senators	1	Rafferty, J. of York
	Representatives	8	Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Brennan, M. of Portland, Carlow, N. of Buxton, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Haggan, K. of Hampden, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Mitchell, C. of Cumberland, Sargent, H. of York
NAYS	Senators	0	
	Representatives	1	Bagshaw, B. of Windham
ABSENT		3	Sen. Libby, J. of Cumberland, Sen. Pierce, T. of Cumberland, Rep. Crockett, E. of Portland

Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and one in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of the Honorable Roger J. Katz, Esquire of Brunswick, for reappointment to the University of Maine System, Board of Trustees be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Kelly Maureen Noonan Murphy
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158 and with Joint Rule 506 of the 132nd Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

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

ROLL CALL (#126)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BERNARD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, BRENNER, CURRY, CYRWAY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, CARNEY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of the **Honorable Roger J. Katz, Esquire** of Brunswick, for reappointment to the University of Maine System, Board of Trustees was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 293

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

April 22, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate of Maine
132nd Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Madam President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation has had under consideration the nomination of Emily N. Becker of Poland, for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority, Board of Directors.

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

YEAS	Senators	2	Nangle, T. of Cumberland, Farrin, B. of Somerset
	Representatives	9	Crafts, L. of Newcastle, Albert, R. of Madawaska, Ankeles, D. of Brunswick, Bishop, S. of Bucksport, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Montell, K. of Gardiner, Parry, W. of Arundel, Ray, M. of Lincolntonville, White, J. of Guilford
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		2	Sen. Pierce, T. of Cumberland, Rep. Eaton, H. of Deer Isle

Eleven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Emily N. Becker of Poland, for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority, Board of Directors be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Tim Nangle
Senate Chair

S/Lydia Crafts
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158 and with Joint Rule 506 of the 132nd Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#127)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BERNARD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, BRENNER, CURRY, CYRWAY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, CARNEY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Emily N. Becker** of Poland, for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority, Board of Directors was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 296

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES**

April 17, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| L.D. 75 | An Act to Update Funding for the Board of Environmental Protection |
| L.D. 212 | An Act to Require the Valuation of Energy Produced by Hydropower Dams and Exploration of Alternative Ownership Options Before They Are Removed |
| L.D. 430 | An Act to Impose Moratoria on Hydropower Dam Removal and on Water Release from Nonhydropower Dams and to Make Other Changes to the Laws Regulating Such Dams |
| L.D. 920 | Resolve, to Review Efficiencies in the Licensing of Solid Waste Disposal Facilities by the Department of Environmental Protection |
| L.D. 1165 | An Act to Create a Fund for Safe Disposal of Hazardous Fluids from Salvage Yards |

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Denise A. Tepler
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Victoria W. Doudera
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 294

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

April 22, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1403 An Act to Expand the Hunter Safety Course
Exemption for Certain Individuals with Firearm
Training

The Following Communication:

S.C. 298

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci S/Rep. Tiffany Danielle Roberts
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 297

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

April 18, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the
Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1484 An Act Related to Public Access of Records of
Certain Disciplinary Actions of Public
Employees

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Carney S/Rep. Amy D. Kuhn
Senate Chair House Chair

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

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

April 22, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the
Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 136 An Act to Transfer the Responsibility for Tax
Expenditure Review from the Government
Oversight Committee to the Joint Standing
Committee on Taxation

L.D. 247 An Act Regarding Recommendations for
Changing Place Names in the State

L.D. 1155 An Act to Ensure Appropriate County
Government Operations Relating to the
Position of Dedimus Justice

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci S/Rep. Suzanne M. Salisbury
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 295

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

April 22, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

- L.D. 1144 An Act to Reinstate the Property Tax Stabilization Program
- L.D. 1168 An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Current Use Valuation of Certain Working Waterfront Land with Respect to Commercial Boat Yards

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kristen Sarah Cloutier
House Chair

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Resolve, Authorizing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Convey and Release the State's Interest in Certain Real Property Located in the Town of Richmond

H.P. 320 L.D. 491

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-66)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-66)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-66) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

The Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Resolve, to Study Barriers to Financial Assistance Programs for Farmers and Food Producers
H.P. 374 L.D. 606

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-65)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-65)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-65) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

The Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** on Bill "An Act Regarding Disclosure by Sellers of Residential Real Property of Notices of Shoreland Zoning Ordinance Violations"

H.P. 267 L.D. 413

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-67)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-67)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-67) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Senate

Change of Committee

Senator BAILEY for the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Gender-affirming Health Care Services"

S.P. 145 L.D. 380

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator TEPLER for the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Clarify Processes of the Board of Environmental Protection"

S.P. 58 L.D. 36

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-25)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-25) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator TEPLER for the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Update Waste Discharge License Fees"

S.P. 200 L.D. 465

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-24)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-24) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

ENACTORS

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

Constitutional Amendment

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Establish That All Maine Residents Have Equal Rights Under the Law

H.P. 163 L.D. 260
(C "A" H-40)

Comes From the House, **FAILED FINAL PASSAGE**.

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

Acts

An Act to Expand the Use of the Veterans' Homelessness Prevention Partnership Fund

S.P. 54 L.D. 126
(C "A" S-15)

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

An Act to Improve Women's Health and Economic Security by Funding Family Planning Services

S.P. 79 L.D. 143
(C "A" S-12)

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

An Act to Require the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands to Maintain the Weld to Byron Road in Township 6 North of Weld

S.P. 228 L.D. 510
(C "A" S-14)

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

An Act to Support the Northern New England Poison Center
S.P. 306 L.D. 689
(C "A" S-17)

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

An Act to Modernize the State Supplement to Supplemental Security Income by Removing Marriage Disincentives
S.P. 373 L.D. 840
(C "A" S-18)

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

The Senate considered the following from the Special Appropriations Table:

ITEMS TO BE REMOVED AND ENACTED

Emergency Resolve

RESOLVE, REGARDING LEGISLATIVE REVIEW OF CHAPTER 12: FEES FOR KICKBOXING CONTESTS AND AUTHORIZED PARTICIPANTS, A MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE RULE OF THE COMBAT SPORTS AUTHORITY OF MAINE
H.P. 174 L.D. 271
(C "A" H-38)

Placed on Special Appropriations Table - April 17, 2025, by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin

Pending - **FINAL PASSAGE**

(In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-38)**, in concurrence.)

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

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

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.

On further motion by the same Senator, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **FINAL PASSAGE** (Roll Call Ordered).

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

The Senate considered the following additional papers:

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Make the Possession of Under 2 Grams of Certain Schedule W Drugs a Class D Crime"
H.P. 1190 L.D. 1779

Bill "An Act to Require Police Departments to Publish and Make Accessible Their Policies and Procedures and Require Training of Officers"
H.P. 1195 L.D. 1784

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Clarify Tariff Rates for Nonresidential Customers Participating in Net Energy Billing with a Distributed Generation Resource"
H.P. 1188 L.D. 1777

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **LAWRENCE** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Planning and the Juniper Ridge Landfill in the City of Old Town" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 1193 L.D. 1782

Bill "An Act to Require the Department of Environmental Protection to Provide Certain Information Regarding Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances to the Public and Private Drinking Water Well Owners"

H.P. 1197 L.D. 1786

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Encourage Competition by Requiring Independent Health Care Provider Cost-of-living Adjustments in Health Insurance Contracts"

H.P. 1196 L.D. 1785

Bill "An Act to Amend the Education and Experience Requirements and Add Reciprocity Privileges in the Certified Public Accountancy Licensure Laws"

H.P. 1200 L.D. 1789

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Secure Under Authority of a Subpoena Pretrial Statements from a Witness Other than the Defendant in a Criminal Proceeding"

H.P. 1191 L.D. 1780

Bill "An Act to Strengthen the Freedom of Access Act by Categorizing Commercial Requesters"

H.P. 1199 L.D. 1788

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Resolve, to Direct State Agencies to Implement the Social Security Fairness Act (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 1202 L.D. 1791

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR** and ordered printed.

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

Bill "An Act Regarding Lobster Measurement"

H.P. 1201 L.D. 1790

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Establish the Interdisciplinary Advisory Board for the State House Complex"

H.P. 1187 L.D. 1776

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Exempt from the Gasoline Tax Act Ethanol-free Gasoline Used by Vehicles Off-road"

H.P. 1192 L.D. 1781

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Strengthen the Maine Clean Election Act"

H.P. 1198 L.D. 1787

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

The Senate considered the following additional papers:

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Issuance of a Revenue Bond to Upgrade County Jails to Meet the Corrections Needs of Maine's Counties"

H.P. 1186 L.D. 1775

Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**.

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Clarify Municipal Affordable Housing Tax Increment Financing"

H.P. 1194 L.D. 1783

Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION**.

On motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Update Provisions of the Maine Administrative Procedure Act"

H.P. 1189 L.D. 1778

Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

On motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

The Senate considered the following additional papers:

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Review the Progressive Treatment Program and Processes by Which a Person May Be Involuntarily Admitted to a Psychiatric Hospital or Receive Court-ordered Community Treatment
H.P. 1204 L.D. 1799

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **INGWERSEN** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Health Care Entities Providing Dental Plans from Requiring Dentists to Charge Fees for Uncovered Services"

H.P. 1205 L.D. 1800

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

The Senate considered the following additional papers:

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Pursuant to Statute

The Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Right to Know Advisory Committee Concerning Denials of Public Records Requests"
H.P. 1203 L.D. 1797

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 411, subsection 6, paragraph G.

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

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

Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, in concurrence.

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

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **ADJOURNED**, pursuant to the Joint Order, until Tuesday, April 29, 2025 at 10:00 in the morning.