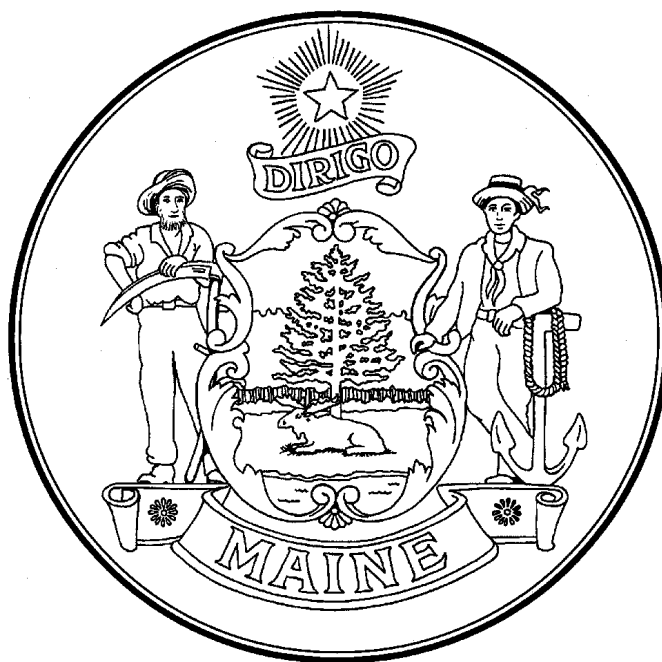


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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
Wednesday
May 14, 2025

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

Prayer by Pastor Rick Stoops of First United Pentecostal Church in Augusta.

PASTOR RICK STOOPS: Father, we thank you for this wonderful, glorious day that you've given to us. It's a beautiful day, we thank you for it. We thank you for each and every one of these Senators that are giving their lives to help us in the State of Maine. We thank you for Carroll Conley and Terri Conley, who have done a tremendous ministry in this building, and we thank God for them.

Lord, today, we ask for wisdom. We ask for guidance. We ask that you would bless us. We ask, O God, that the Holy Ghost would just cover this assembly, that you would help us take good care of us. Touch our families, Lord, our children, our spouses. And we give you the praise for your godly direction. In the mighty name of Jesus we ask, Amen.

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

Reading of the Journal of Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

Medical Provider of the Day, Amy Brown, MS, FNP-C of Brunswick.

Off Record Remarks

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

ORDERS

Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Don and Rachel Booker, of Bradford, on Mr. Booker's retirement as pastor of Bradford Baptist Church after over 45 years of

service. Mr. Booker started attending Bradford Baptist church at the age of 9 when his father, Reverend Clarence Booker, became pastor. In 1978, his father unexpectedly passed away, leaving the church without a pastor. Mr. Booker began filling the pulpit and in 1979 was hired as pastor. Over the years, Mr. Booker has shepherded the church through missions and ministries for teens, seniors, nursing homes and jails. We commend Mr. and Mrs. Booker for their friendship, guidance and support of the Bradford Baptist Church congregation. We extend our appreciation and best wishes;

SLS 652

Sponsored by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DRINKWATER of Milford,
FOSTER of Dexter.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **GUERIN:** Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. It is my pleasure to introduce to you today Don and Rachel Booker. Don, the pastor, and his wife, of Bradford Baptist Church.

My mother started going to Bradford Baptist Church back in the 1920s, and until their family bought a farm in Bangor, that was their family's church. And so, we've always kind of referred to Don as the family pastor, even though all of my mother's siblings have moved on to other churches. They have always been very fond of Don and also Rachel, who has just the most gentle, sweet spirit. She's really added to the community.

Don's story is pretty amazing, that he was a young man studying ministry when his father tragically died suddenly and for a young person to then just assume the role of the head pastor in a church, really, that's pretty amazing that he was able to step up and do that and has continued for 46 years. I know the community is really going to miss their presence at the Bradford Baptist Church, but I'm sure their ministry will continue in the State of Maine until the Lord calls them home. And so, my best congratulations to them both.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, Don and Rachel Booker of Bradford. They are the guests today of the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Guerin. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Senate?

Terri Conley, of Glenburn, on her retirement after over 43 years of devoted service to Christian education and ministry. Her early years at New Testament Christian School in Norton, Massachusetts were filled with purpose as she taught grades K4 through 6 and served as elementary supervisor. In 1992, Mrs. Conley moved to Maine and continued her ministry at Bangor Christian Schools, where she spent the next 22 years contributing in vital ways. Whether managing study halls, organizing school resources or running the front office for the middle and high school divisions, she brought structure, care and a quiet strength

to everything she touched. Her final chapter of service came with the Christian Civic League of Maine, where she has spent the last decade as Assistant Development Director. There, her administrative expertise and heart for ministry played an essential role in supporting the League's mission. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 653

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, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I am so pleased to recognize Terri Conley and her accomplishments in the field of Christian education.

She worked at the school where my son went when I was first elected to the Legislature, and as any of you in the Chamber know that have children, it's a real balancing act taking care of your family while serving. And Terri many times stepped in the gap and was very kind to my son, Jessie, and I will always be very thankful for that. She just had a real heart for understanding that his mother was away much of the time.

Terri was a vital part of the school, a smiling beacon at the front door when you went in. And then moving on to the Christian Civic League, I was so pleased to continue working with Terri in a number of different capacities. I think Maine really won out when this Alabama southern belle married Carroll Conley and agreed to live in the cold state of Maine. So, she's been a blessing to us all.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Carroll Conley, of Glenburn, on his retirement after more than 44 years of dedication to nurturing Christian education and influencing public life with biblical values. His career began at New Testament Christian School in Norton, Massachusetts, where he served as a teacher, coach, athletic director and principal. In 1992, he returned to Maine to become the Headmaster at Bangor Christian Schools, while also leading music ministry and development efforts at Bangor Baptist Ministries, which is now Crosspoint Church. For 18 years, he shaped young lives, mentored fellow educators and advanced Christian education in Maine. In 2010, he stepped into a new arena of ministry as Executive Director of the Christian Civic League of Maine, working to inspire pastors and church leaders to engage with the cultural and political landscape through the Church Ambassador Network. From the classroom to the Capitol, Mr. Conley's legacy is one of faithful stewardship, courage and compassion. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 654

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, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. This is my last sentiment for today, I promise.

I'm pleased to recognize Carroll Conley, my friend and fellow worker in all things of faith. I first heard of Carroll when he was in high school at an adjoining school district where he was a well-known, very athletic person. And I had heard of him then, and then when my older sons went to Bangor Christian for school, he was the headmaster. And I appreciated his approach of kind and loving guidance to the young men and women under his care. And then, when I ran for the House, Carroll contemplated taking over the Christian Civic League director position and came and talked to me about that and we thought we would be good colleagues for many years, and that has certainly proved to be true. He is a statewide leader, he's brought many ideas to the Civic League and to the State House. I think one really admirable thing he has done is brought credibility to the Christian Civic League in the state of Maine. It's a long-held tradition in our state and he brought a sense of character and wellbeing to the organization that was very much needed at the time he took over.

He's also a gifted singer. Perhaps he'll come back and sing the National Anthem for us sometime, but at his church, he is well known for his gift of music, and he will be sorely missed in his position at the Christian Civic League. Thank you.

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

Senator **BRADSTREET:** Thank you, Madam President. I'd like to join the Good Senator from Penobscot in recognizing both Carroll and Terri Conley.

I've known them for some years now, having served on the Board a few years ago with Carroll as executive director, and seen him in the hallways here for the nine years I've been in this - under the dome here. He always has good advice, seeks the opinions of others, wants to know how other people think, what they understand, where they're coming from. Always patient and kind. And I know that Terri, the -- sometimes are not as obvious to the public what goes on, but she really keeps things together, she has for a number of years now. I really appreciate all the work that they've done, I wish them nothing but the best in the future, and Carroll and I will get together sometime and talk about what the Celtics did the other night. So, thank you. Or didn't do.

Thank you, Madam President.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, Terri and Carroll Conley and their parents, Tony and Pauline Leonard. They are joining us from the town of Glenburn, and they are the guests today of the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Guerin. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Senate?

Xavier De La Torre, of Biddeford, who received the Southwestern Maine Activities Association Citizenship Award. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 655

Sponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York.
Cosponsored by Representatives: Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, GERE of Kennebunkport, MALON of Biddeford.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Ingwersen.

Senator **INGWERSEN:** Thank you, Madam President. Madam President and my Fellow Colleagues of the Senate, I rise today to proudly recognize a truly remarkable young man, a senior at Biddeford High School, Xavier De La Torre.

I'm so proud to present this legislative sentiment for being awarded the SMAA Citizenship Award, a recognition that speaks to Xavier's character, leadership, and commitment to his community. The SMAA Citizenship Award is awarded to two student athletes in the senior class of each member school for outstanding contributions to their school and to their community. It is awarded to those who embody the values that make a community strong. It is about being a leader not just in name, but in action. Xavier has done all this and more.

Xavier serves as the president of the National Honor Society and the vice president of the Interact Club, where he serves as both a student mentor and ambassador, helping guide and support his peers. He is passionate about community service and has volunteered for numerous local initiatives including Toys for Tots, Biddeford Middle School's Scholastic Book Fair, Saco Meals' Thanksgiving Dinner, and Wreaths Across America. In addition to this, Xavier is a dedicated student participating in both ice hockey and lacrosse, while also pursuing competitive dance for the past 13 years.

Xavier's exceptional leadership and commitment to public service has earned him recognition beyond his school. He was nominated to the United States Naval and Military Academies and attended the prestigious US Naval Academy Summer Seminar in 2024. After graduation, Xavier plans to attend the US Naval Prep School in Newport, and from there attend the Naval Academy in Annapolis to study political science. He plans on becoming a naval aviator and to pursue a career at a federal agency. And just as an aside, Xavier - I was just speaking to him a while ago - and he spoke to me about his application process to the Naval Academy and Naval Prep School and he was not allowed to get anybody to help him with this - he had a little help editing from a high school English teacher, that was okay, but the rest of it he had to do all himself, exams, applications, references from other politicians, and he -- it just kind of speaks to his character that he went through all this completely independently.

Xavier represents the very best of what our future holds. His kindness, his integrity, and his unwavering pursuit of excellence are qualities that will not only serve him well in the years to come, but will continue to inspire those around him.

Congratulations, Xavier. I have no doubt you will continue to make Biddeford and all of Maine very proud.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, Xavier De La Torre, parents, Stacy and Jose De La Torre, his grandmother, Connie Roy, and her partner, Brian Perry. They are joining us from the town of Biddeford, and they are the guests today of the Senator from York, Senator Ingwersen. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Senate?

The Maranacook Community High School Boys Alpine Ski Team, of Readfield, which won First Place at the 2025 Boys Class B Alpine State Championships. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 656

Sponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative: HASENFUS of Readfield.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **HICKMAN:** Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, Women and Men of the Senate, good morning. I rise with pride to recognize and congratulate the Maranacook Community High School Boys Alpine Ski Team for winning the Class B State Championship this past winter.

These skiers shredded down Saddleback Mountain on a snowy day in late February in two events, the slalom, and the giant slalom. The difference between these, as the boys explained to me this morning, is about speed and turns. Slalom is more technical and features tight turns. Giant slalom, on the other hand is, as it sounds, bigger, with wider and faster turns. I think the gates might be bigger, too.

The championship was the Black Bears' first in five years and their ninth under Coach Ron Gifford's leadership. Over the course of 24 clean runs down the mountain, the Maranacook boys scored 1552 points, beating out Central Aroostook and Cape Elizabeth. Maranacook boasted the giant slalom champion and slalom runner-up, Thatcher Riley. The team placed two more skiers in the top ten, Tristan Riley, fourth, and Adam Ellis tied for eighth. And two others in the top 30, Josh Adam, 15th, and Sam Hayes, 28th. In the giant slalom, Tristan Reilly placed fifth, Adam Ellis finished tenth, and Josh Adam came in 11th.

The team is coached by Ron Gifford, a member of the Maine Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. He is ably assisted by coaches John Whitney, Lindsay Duca, and Andrew Dupuis.

I am glad that the team was able to get out on the slopes and make the most of the coldest and snowiest winter we've had in Maine in a few years, and I wish the seniors we have joining us today all the best in their future endeavors, in snow and sun, school and career. And to those of you who will be returning as Black Bears next year, I hope for the return of a winter wonderland, and for the fastest runs between those gates.

Congratulations on your State Championship. You have made us all very proud.

Thank you, Madam President.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, the Maranacook High School Boys Alpine Ski Team, their parents, and their coaches, Ron Gifford, John Whitney, and Lindsay Duca. They are from the town of Readfield, and they are the guests today of the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Hickman. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate?

Joint Resolutions

Joint Resolutions in Memoriam:

WHEREAS, the Legislature has learned with deep regret of the death of:

Joseph A. Paradis, of South Paris. Mr. Paradis joined the United States Army at the age of 17 and served in the Korean War with the 278th Infantry. While in Korea, he was wounded and POW/MIA for 29 days. After his military service, Mr. Paradis held various jobs in the Lewiston/Auburn area until becoming disabled. He then advocated for all veterans and for local veteran's organizations for many decades. In 2002, he successfully petitioned the City of Lewiston to change the name of Heritage Park to Veterans Memorial Park. He was a parishioner of Holy Family Church. Mr. Paradis will be long remembered and sadly missed by his family, friends and community;

SLS 657

Sponsored by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Senator: BENNETT of Oxford, Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, LAJOIE of Lewiston, LANCE of Paris, MCCABE of Lewiston.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **ROTUNDO:** Thank you, Madam President, Men and Women of the Senate. I rise today to pay tribute to my friend, Joe Paradis.

Joe served his country in the Army during the Korean War, where he was wounded and taken as a prisoner of war. Joe received a Purple Heart for his valiant service, though he never talked about his experiences or the recognition he received as a hero. Joe was a kind and humble man. Years ago, he petitioned the Lewiston City Council to create the Veterans Memorial Park on the Androscoggin River in Lewiston. It took great effort on his part to bring the park into being. The park has become an important gathering place for veterans, their families, and the entire community. The names of hundreds of Maine veterans are enshrined on the park's granite monuments, and people from all over the country come to visit the park.

We remain very grateful to Joe for his service to his country and his service to our community and to the people of Maine. His

kindness and devotion to service to others remain an inspiration to all who knew him. Thank you.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, the son of Joseph Paradis, Paul Paradis, and his wife, Janice. They are from the town of Poland, and they are the guests today of the Senators from Androscoggin, Senator Rotundo and Senator Bickford. Would they please rise and accept the condolences of the Maine Senate?

Off Record Remarks

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Exempt Electronic Smoking Devices or Other Tobacco Products Containing Ingestible Hemp from the Tax Imposed on Tobacco Products"

S.P. 767 L.D. 1960

In Senate, May 7, 2025, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, the Senate **RECEDED** and **CONCURRED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication:

S.C. 303

THE STATE OF MAINE 132nd LEGISLATURE AUGUSTA, MAINE

April 24, 2025

Honorable Janet T. Mills
Governor
1 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Governor Mills,

It is our pleasure to invite you to visit the Legislature on Wednesday, May 14, to attend a Joint Convention to be held in the Hall of the House of Representatives at 11:00 a.m. for the purposes of hearing about the State of the Tribes in Maine.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

S/Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate

S/Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 304

**THE STATE OF MAINE
132nd LEGISLATURE
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

April 24, 2025

Chief Edward Peter-Paul Chief Clarissa Sabattis
Mi'kmaq Nation Houlton Band of Maliseet
Indians

Chief William J. Nicholas, Sr. Chief Pos Bassett
Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahkomikuk Passamaquoddy
Tribe at Sipayik

Chief Kirk Francis
Penobscot Nation

Dear Chiefs,

It is our pleasure to invite you to visit the Legislature on Wednesday, May 14, to attend a Joint Convention to be held in the Hall of the House of Representatives at 11:00 a.m. for the purposes of reporting on the State of the Tribes in Maine.

We look forward to hearing from you and understand that each of you will address the Joint Convention for 10 minutes or less.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your acceptance of this invitation.

Sincerely,

S/Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate

S/Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 375

**THE STATE OF MAINE
132nd LEGISLATURE
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

May 12, 2025

Chief Edward Peter-Paul
Mi'kmaq Nation
Indians

Chief Clarissa Sabattis
Houlton Band of Maliseet

Chief William J. Nicholas, Sr. Chief Pos Bassett
Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahkomikuk Passamaquoddy Tribe at
Sipayik

Chief Kirk E. Francis
Penobscot Nation

Dear Chiefs,

We are reaching out to inform you that the upcoming Joint Convention on Wednesday, May 14, 2025 for the State of the Tribes has been cancelled due to schedule changes that would not have allowed each of the tribes' Chiefs to attend.

We look forward to rescheduling the State of the Tribes in the future.

Sincerely,

S/Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry S/Ryan D. Fecteau
President of the Senate Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 376

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

May 12, 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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has had under consideration the nomination of James Andrews of Farmington, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

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	Guerin, S. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Cluchey, S. of Bowdoinham, Dill, J. of Old Town, Lance, M. of Paris, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Thorne, J. of Carmel, Wood, S. of Greene, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		4	Baldacci, J. of Penobscot, Sen. Carney, A. of Cumberland, Rep. Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Rep. Terry, P. of Gorham

Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of James Andrews of Farmington, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci Senate Chair	S/Rep. Tiffany Danielle Roberts House Chair
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READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** 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 (#149)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

ABSENT Senators: HAGGAN

Senators: STEWART

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator 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 **James Andrews** of Farmington, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council was **CONFIRMED**.

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

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.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 377

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

May 12, 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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has had under consideration the nomination of David Craven of Bucks Harbor, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

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	Baldacci, J. of Penobscot, Guerin, S. of Penobscot
	Representatives	7	Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Dill, J. of Old Town, Lance, M. of Paris, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Thorne, J. of Carmel, Wood, S. of Greene, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro
NAYS	Senators	0	
	Representatives	1	Cluchey, S. of Bowdoinham
ABSENT		3	Sen. Carney, A. of Cumberland, Rep. Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Rep. Terry, P. of Gorham

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 David Craven of Bucks Harbor, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci Senate Chair	S/Rep. Tiffany Danielle Roberts House Chair
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READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Sagadahoc, Senator Tepler.

Senator **TEPLER:** Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, may I pose a question through the Chair?

THE PRESIDENT: The Member may proceed.

Senator **TEPLER:** Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, could someone please explain the objection of the Member from Bowdoinham to this nomination?

THE PRESIDENT: The Member will defer. The Chair would advise the Member that we cannot question the motives of another Member, especially of the Other Body, but the Chair would rephrase the question to inquire if there is any Member in the Body who could inform the Senate of potentially the committee discussion on this matter. The short version is we can't question other peoples' votes on the floor. I'm going to put that in simple English, for anyone listening along.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** 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 (#150)

YEAS: Senators: TEPLER

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

ABSENT Senators: HAGGAN

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

1 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused and 1 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 **David Craven** of Bucks Harbor, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 378

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

May 12, 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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has had under consideration the

nomination of M. Wing Goodale of Rockport, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

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	Baldacci, J. of Penobscot, Guerin, S. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Cluchey, S. of Bowdoinham, Dill, J. of Old Town, Lance, M. of Paris, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Thorne, J. of Carmel, Wood, S. of Greene, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Carney, A. of Cumberland, Rep. Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Rep. Terry, P. of Gorham

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of M. Wing Goodale of Rockport, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Tiffany Danielle Roberts
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** 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 (#151)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

ABSENT Senators: HAGGAN

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator 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 **M. Wing Goodale** of Rockport for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 379

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

May 12, 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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has had under consideration the nomination of Catherine M. Gordon of Bangor, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

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:

LEGISLATIVE RECORD - SENATE, THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2025

YEAS	Senators	2	Baldacci, J. of Penobscot, Guerin, S. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Cluchey, S. of Bowdoinham, Dill, J. of Old Town, Lance, M. of Paris, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Thorne, J. of Carmel, Wood, S. of Greene, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro

YAYS	0
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ABSENT	3	Sen. Carney, A. of Cumberland, Rep. Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Rep. Terry, P. of Gorham
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Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Catherine M. Gordon of Bangor, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council be confirmed.

Signed,

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

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** 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 (#152)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

ABSENT Senators: HAGGAN

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator 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 **Catherine M. Gordon** of Bangor for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 380

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

May 12, 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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has had under consideration the nomination of Scott Ireland of Vassalboro, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

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	Baldacci, J. of Penobscot, Guerin, S. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Cluchey, S. of Bowdoinham, Dill, J. of Old Town, Lance, M. of Paris, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Thorne, J. of Carmel, Wood, S. of Greene, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Carney, A. of Cumberland, Rep. Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Rep. Terry, P. of Gorham

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Scott Ireland of Vassalboro, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Tiffany Danielle Roberts
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** 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 (#153)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

ABSENT Senators: HAGGAN

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator 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 **Scott Ireland** of Vassalboro for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 381

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

May 12, 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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has had under consideration the nomination of Joseph Powers of Mapleton, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

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	Baldacci, J. of Penobscot, Guerin, S. of Penobscot
	Representatives	7	Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Dill, J. of Old Town, Lance, M. of Paris, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Thorne, J. of Carmel, Wood, S. of Greene, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro

NAYS	Senators	0	
	Representatives	1	Cluchey, S. of Bowdoinham

ABSENT	3	Sen. Carney, A. of Cumberland, Rep. Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Rep. Terry, P. of Gorham
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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 Joseph Powers of Mapleton, for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Tiffany Danielle Roberts
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** 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 (#154)

YEAS: Senators: TEPLER

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

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

1 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused and 1 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 **Joseph Powers** of Mapleton for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 382

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

May 12, 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

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has had under consideration the nomination of Michael Gawtry of Yarmouth, for reappointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

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	Baldacci, J. of Penobscot, Guerin, S. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Cluchey, S. of Bowdoinham, Dill, J. of Old Town, Lance, M. of Paris, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Thorne, J. of Carmel, Wood, S. of Greene, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Carney, A. of Cumberland, Rep. Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Rep. Terry, P. of Gorham

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Michael Gawtry of Yarmouth, for reappointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Tiffany Danielle Roberts
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** 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 (#155)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 34 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator 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 **Michael Gawtry** of Yarmouth for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council was **CONFIRMED**.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 383

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

May 12, 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 Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has had under consideration the nomination of Anthony Liguori of Kennebunk, for reappointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

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	Baldacci, J. of Penobscot, Guerin, S. of Penobscot
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Representatives	8	Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Cluchey, S. of Bowdoinham, Dill, J. of Old Town, Lance, M. of Paris, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Thorne, J. of Carmel, Wood, S. of Greene, Woodsome, D. of Waterboro
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NAYS	0
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ABSENT	3	Sen. Carney, A. of Cumberland, Rep. Bridgeo, W. of Augusta, Rep. Terry, P. of Gorham
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Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Anthony Liguori of Kennebunk, for reappointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council be confirmed.

Signed,

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

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** 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 (#156)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

ABSENT: Senators: TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 33 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator 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 **Anthony Liguori** of Kennebunk for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council was **CONFIRMED**.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 384

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

May 12, 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 Education and Cultural Affairs has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| L.D. 168 | An Act to Improve Safety in Public Schools by Requiring Silent Electronic Notification Systems in Classrooms |
| L.D. 808 | An Act to Require School Boards and Governing Bodies of Approved Private Schools to Implement Wearable Panic Alert Systems |
| L.D. 1071 | Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Conduct a Review of the Implementation of Public Law 2021, Chapter 295 and Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Consult with School Administrators Regarding Developing a Plan for Community-based Crisis Receiving Centers |
| L.D. 1203 | An Act to Provide Grants to Schools That Contract for Behavioral and Mental Health Services |
| L.D. 1579 | An Act to Abolish School Budget Referenda |

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph E. Rafferty, Jr. S/Rep. Kelly Maureen Noonan
Senate Chair Murphy
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 385

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

May 12, 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 Health and Human Services has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| L.D. 279 | An Act to Address the Shortage of Direct Care Workers for Children with Disabilities in Maine (EMERGENCY) |
| L.D. 563 | Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Apply for a Waiver from the Federal Government for the Medicaid Limitation on Payment to a Facility with More than 16 Inpatient Beds for Psychiatric Treatment |
| L.D. 791 | An Act Regarding Children with Behavioral Health Needs Awaiting Placement in Residential Care Facilities (EMERGENCY) |
| L.D. 1239 | An Act to Require Data Collection on and Reporting of Psychiatric Hospital Resources and Transparency in Denials of Emergency Involuntary Admissions to Psychiatric Hospitals |

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Michele Meyer
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 386

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

May 12, 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 Health and Human Services has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| L.D. 1570 | An Act to Prohibit Fluoridation of the Public Water Supply |
| L.D. 1631 | Resolve, to Implement the Recommendations of the Stakeholder Group to Address Child Stay Times in Hospital Emergency Departments |
| L.D. 1711 | Resolve, to Allow Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits to Be Used to Purchase Ready-to-cook Meals |
| L.D. 1758 | An Act to Expedite Provider Enrollment in MaineCare |

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Michele Meyer
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 388

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

May 6, 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. 1565 | An Act to Allow the Use of Certain All-terrain Vehicles on Snowmobile Trails |
|-----------|--|

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Tiffany Danielle Roberts
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 387

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

May 9, 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 Veterans and Legal Affairs has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| L.D. 175 | RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Ensure That Only Citizens of the United States May Participate in Elections |
| L.D. 397 | An Act to Require a Voter to Show Photographic Identification |
| L.D. 1149 | An Act to Require an Individual to Present Photographic Identification for the Purpose of Voting |

- L.D. 1320 An Act to Prevent Illicit Cultivation and Trafficking Within Maine's Regulated Cannabis Industry
- L.D. 1422 An Act Regarding Open Primary Elections and Ranked-choice Voting
- L.D. 1446 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Lower the Voting Age to 16 Years of Age
- L.D. 1455 An Act to Prevent Illegal Cannabis Growing Operations in the State
- L.D. 1608 An Act to Counter Unlawful Cannabis Cultivation

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Craig V. Hickman
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Laura Supica
House Chair

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Emergency Medical Services' Board and the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State"
S.P. 776 L.D. 1981

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senator: CURRY of Waldo.
Submitted by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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.

ORDERS

Joint Orders

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

S.P. 774

Ordered, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, May 20, 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.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass

The Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Clarify, Align and Amend Provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A"

H.P. 1121 L.D. 1686

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

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

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

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

The Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Extend the Time Frame for a Chiropractic Intern License"

H.P. 985 L.D. 1501

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

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

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

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

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act to Require Forest Landowners to Report the Registration or Sale of Their Forest Carbon Credits" H.P. 3 L.D. 39

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-125)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-125)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-125) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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, Requiring the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands in the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Modify the Deed That Conveyed Montpelier, the General Henry Knox Museum in Thomaston, to the Friends of Montpelier

H.P. 839 L.D. 1264

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-110)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-110)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-110) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Require Elementary School Students to Learn Cursive Writing"

H.P. 42 L.D. 78

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-113)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-113)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-113) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Estate Recovery and Planning for Long-term Care"

H.P. 102 L.D. 169

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-129)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-129)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-129) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 850: Health Plan Accountability, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Bureau of Insurance (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 173 L.D. 270

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-123)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-123)**.

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-123) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Scope of Practice for Expanded Function Dental Assistants"
H.P. 513 L.D. 806

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-119)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-119)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-119) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Provide Relief to Federal or State Employees Affected by a Federal Government or State Government Shutdown"
H.P. 560 L.D. 874

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-121)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-121)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-121) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Align Intrastate Commercial Motor Vehicle Insurance Requirements with Federal Standards"
H.P. 851 L.D. 1276

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-122)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-122)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-122) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** on Bill "An Act to Standardize the Muzzle-loading Season Statewide"
H.P. 502 L.D. 777

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-109)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-109)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-109) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Remove the Term 'Alleged' When Referring to Victims of Sexual Assault in the Maine Revised Statutes"
H.P. 1092 L.D. 1651

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-142)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-142)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-142) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **LABOR** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Law Governing the Accrual of Earned Paid Leave"

H.P. 19 L.D. 55

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-137)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-137)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-137) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **LABOR** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Workers' Compensation Laws by Extending Indefinitely the Presumption Applying to Law Enforcement Officers, Corrections Officers, E-9-1-1 Dispatchers, Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Persons Diagnosed with Post-traumatic Stress Disorder"

H.P. 46 L.D. 82

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-134)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-134)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-134) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Allow County Commissioners Greater Flexibility When Establishing a Payment Schedule for Municipalities to Pay County Tax Bills"

H.P. 186 L.D. 286

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-112)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-112)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-112) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Expand Property Tax Relief for Veterans and Survivors of Veterans"

H.P. 574 L.D. 888

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-143)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-143)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-143) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act Regarding the Use of Military Protective Orders in Protection from Abuse and Protection from Harassment Proceedings"

H.P. 433 L.D. 665

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-130)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-130)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-130) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act Regarding the Confidentiality of Certain Records Belonging to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Related to the Bureau of Forestry"

H.P. 271 L.D. 417

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

Signed:

Senators:

TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland
BLACK of Franklin
INGWERSEN of York

Representatives:

PLUECKER of Warren
BUNKER of Farmington
COOPER of Windham
CRAY of Palmyra
DILL of Old Town
GUERRETTE of Caribou
HEPLER of Woolwich
JACKSON of Oxford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-114)**.

Signed:

Representative:

FROST of Belgrade

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

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **TALBOT ROSS** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Eliminate Barriers to Reentry into the Community After Incarceration by Repealing Certain Driver's License Suspension Provisions"

H.P. 275 L.D. 421

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

Signed:

Representatives:

HASENFUS of Readfield
ABDI of Lewiston
ARDELL of Monticello
LAJOIE of Lewiston
MCINTYRE of Lowell
NUTTING of Oakland
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass**.

Signed:

Senators:

BEEBE-CENTER of Knox
CURRY of Waldo

Representatives:

LOOKNER of Portland
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

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

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox moved the Senate **ACCEPT** Minority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

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

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

Senator **CYRWAY:** Thank you, Madam President. Just what I -- just protocol, should I speak now about the bill or after the Roll Call?

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would advise the Member now would be the appropriate time.

Senator **CYRWAY:** Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I rise today in opposition to the motion to accept the Minority Report.

If your child drew on the wall with a crayon, would you let him or her keep using it? If we accept the Minority Report, we essentially answer yes to this question, but with many more dangerous repercussions. Strongly, both the Maine Sheriff's Association and the Maine Chiefs of Police Association oppose this bill. In testimony to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, Chief Jason Moen, President of the Maine Chiefs Association, noted drug traffickers may use their vehicles to transport drugs to other states or within a community. The sale of the illegal drugs many times occurs in the vehicle used by the trafficker. Traffickers depend on their vehicles and their ability to drive them to conduct illegal activities.

Madam President, we should ensure judges to have the tools they need to combat these dangerous behaviors. One important

way of holding - my fingers are a little - traffickers accountable in the suspension of a driver's license. A driver's license is not a right, it's a privilege. While proponents of repealing the ability for a judge to suspend a drug trafficker's driver's license might argue that it inhibits them from getting a job, they forget that the judge has access to the facts of the case and would be able to understand how the penalty of the driver's license suspension would impact the defendant. If LD 421 were to pass, then the court system would lose the ability to hear a case, ascertain the public safety could be at risk if the defendant was allowed to drive and be unable to invoke a license suspension.

We cannot enact justice and help traffickers change their behavior for the better if we do not hold them accountable for their actions and take away the means they use to traffic drugs. Just like your child might continue coloring on the walls right after you say don't, if you never remove the crayon from his or her hand. So, ask if your neighbor was using his or her car to traffic drugs, should he or she still have a driver's license?

I urge you all to reject the motion and move on to accept the bipartisan majority Ought Not to Pass Report.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair defers and recognizes the Senator from Waldo, Senator Curry.

Senator **CURRY:** Thank you, Madam President. I did not plan to speak on this today, so I will do this from memory and from a position of passion.

I support the motion before us because it is of critical state interest for people who have served their sentence to be able to rejoin society and find a path that is different than the one before. Being without a vehicle prevents anyone from reentry and it traps people into all sorts of horrible situations in this state. We simply do not have the public transportation available for people to engage in society, to return to society. There must be pathways back for people to join community again. And this is -- while this is a rarely used -- currently, it's a rarely used tactic from -- strategy from some judges, you know, we don't know what might change. And certainly, having judges decide that we're going to indefinitely prevent people from rejoining society, I have a great, great concern with. I think the metaphor is not the crayon that's being taken away, but food. If a child is throwing food, you don't prevent them from having food in the future.

We have a system where the penalty is vetted out and people have served their sentence; they've served their sentence. It is now time to support them. It is in all of our interests to support people to rejoin society in productive ways, and this only hampers that and more likely increases the revolving door of our justice system and more likely throws lives away and more likely costs society. And for that reason, I am passionately in support of the pending motion.

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

Senator **CYRWAY:** Thank you, Madam President. I just wanted to remind the Body that they have not served their sentence if -- and because this is part of the sentence. The license suspension provision is part of the sentence. So, they have not served their sentence until that is taken care of.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass report. 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 (#157)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

19 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 15 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox to **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Bill READ ONCE.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Enhance Public Safety in Maine by Defining the Relationship Between Local and Federal Law Enforcement"

H.P. 834 L.D. 1259

Reported that the same be **Referred To Another Committee**.

Signed:

Senators:
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox
CURRY of Waldo

Representatives:
HASENFUS of Readfield
ABDI of Lewiston
BUNKER of Farmington
LAJOIE of Lewiston
LOOKNER of Portland
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

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

Signed:

Senator:
CYRWAY of Kennebec

Representatives:
ARDELL of Monticello
MCINTYRE of Lowell
NUTTING of Oakland
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

Comes from the House with the Majority **REFER TO ANOTHER COMMITTEE** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, the Majority **REFER TO COMMITTEE** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence, and the Bill **COMMITTED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, in concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Fund the Maine Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program"

H.P. 419 L.D. 651

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-141)**.

Signed:

Senators:
RAFFERTY of York
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:
MURPHY of Scarborough
BRENNAN of Portland
CROCKETT of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
MITCHELL of Cumberland
SARGENT of York

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

Signed:

Senator:
LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:
BAGSHAW of Windham
CARLOW of Buxton
HAGGAN of Hampden
LYMAN of Livermore Falls

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-141)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-141)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **RAFFERTY** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

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

Senator **LIBBY:** Thank you, Madam President. Just a few words of why we oppose this bill.

Good idea bringing physicians/physician's assistants in here, tracking them by helping to subsidize their education, absolutely a good idea. You know what happens around here, though? What happens around here is we'll have a whole bunch of people from the community come in and support the bill. The bill was not to make a change in the program, the bill was to add funding. Then, after they're all done and all of the testimony is in the system, you know, we have a work session, we decide well, we're going to change the bill, we're going to make it more inclusive of different kinds of providers. Whether or not those people who supported it before support it now doesn't matter, and we're not going to increase the funding, but we're going to expand the population that are eligible.

There's some carryover funding in it. That doesn't make sense to me, so we opposed it. I just want to make sure that you are all aware of exactly why there is opposition to a bill that yes, we want to bring physicians, physician's assistants, other providers in, we want that, but that is what we do; strike, replace, strike, replace. Let's make sure that the people that come in and support these things know when we're striking and replacing the bills that we're working on.

Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Rafferty.

Senator **RAFFERTY:** Thank you, Madam President. I rise just to make some clarifications.

Yes, this is a healthcare provider loan repayment. It is one that assists people that are currently practicing in our state. So, these folks have gone through school, they have bills to pay, they have loans to pay, and these are people that are -- work in Maine, they're licensed in Maine, and they must be a full-time healthcare provider with educational loan debt that's existing debt. So, this is just a program that would allow them a maximum of \$25,000, potentially the most that they could -- that could go for three years towards paying their -- again, they're -- medical schools are so expensive, and this does put a dent in that loan. It's not going to eliminate that loan but, again, we are getting folks -- these are

Maine residents that are practicing in our state and there is particularly in terms of mental healthcare as well as dental care.

I urge you to follow my light and Ought to Pass as Amended. Thank you.

Subsequently, on motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-141) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Fund an Administrative Structure of an Emergency Medical Services Education Program in the Community College System"

H.P. 461 L.D. 722

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-140)**.

Signed:

Senators:

RAFFERTY of York
LIBBY of Cumberland
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

MURPHY of Scarborough
BRENNAN of Portland
CARLOW of Buxton
CROCKETT of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
MITCHELL of Cumberland
SARGENT of York

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

Signed:

Representatives:

BAGSHAW of Windham
HAGGAN of Hampden
LYMAN of Livermore Falls

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-140)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-140)**.

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-140) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Advance Long-duration Energy Storage Within the State"

H.P. 749 L.D. 1130

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-135)**.

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York
GROHOSKI of Hancock

Representatives:

SACHS of Freeport
GEIGER of Rockland
KESSLER of South Portland
RUNTE of York
WARREN of Scarborough
WEBB of Durham

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

Signed:

Senator:

HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:

FOSTER of Dexter
MCINTYRE of Lowell
PAUL of Winterport
WADSWORTH of Hiram

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-135)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-135)**.

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-135) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Resolve, to Reduce the Cost of Energy in Maine and Further Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions Through Energy Contracts

H.P. 826 L.D. 1251

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

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York
GROHOSKI of Hancock

Representatives:

SACHS of Freeport
GEIGER of Rockland
KESSLER of South Portland
RUNTE of York
WARREN of Scarborough
WEBB of Durham

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:

HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:

FOSTER of Dexter
MCINTYRE of Lowell
PAUL of Winterport
WADSWORTH of Hiram

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

Reports **READ**.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act Regarding the Management of the Waste Components of a Solar Energy Development upon Decommissioning" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 57 L.D. 92

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

Signed:

Senators:

TEPLER of Sagadahoc
BRENNER of Cumberland

Representatives:

DOUDERA of Camden
ANKELES of Brunswick
BELL of Yarmouth
BRIDGEO of Augusta
OSHER of Orono
RIELLY of Westbrook

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-133)**.

Signed:

Senator:

MARTIN of Oxford

Representatives:

CAMPBELL of Orrington
SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico
SOBOLESKI of Phillips
WOODSOME of Waterboro

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

Reports **READ**.

Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

On motion by Senator **HARRINGTON** of York, 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 (#158)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

20 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 14 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Use of Aqueous Film-forming Foam at the Former Brunswick Naval Air Station"

H.P. 261 L.D. 407

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-132)**.

Signed:

Senators:

TEPLER of Sagadahoc
BRENNER of Cumberland
MARTIN of Oxford

Representatives:

DOUDERA of Camden
ANKELES of Brunswick
BELL of Yarmouth
BRIDGEO of Augusta
OSHER of Orono
RIELLY of Westbrook
WOODSOME of Waterboro

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

Signed:

Representatives:

CAMPBELL of Orrington
SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico
SOBOLESKI of Phillips

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-132)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-132)**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-132) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Clarify Performance Standards for Quarries"

H.P. 443 L.D. 704

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-131)**.

Signed:

Senators:

TEPLER of Sagadahoc
BRENNER of Cumberland

Representatives:

DOUDERA of Camden
ANKELES of Brunswick
BELL of Yarmouth
BRIDGEO of Augusta
OSHER of Orono
RIELLY of Westbrook
WOODSOME of Waterboro

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

Signed:

Senator:

MARTIN of Oxford

Representatives:

CAMPBELL of Orrington
SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico
SOBOLESKI of Phillips

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-131)** Report

READ and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-131)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

On motion by Senator **HARRINGTON** of York, 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 (#159)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

21 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-131) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Create the Building Opportunity Through Out-of-school Time Program"
H.P. 911 L.D. 1389

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-128)**.

Signed:

Senators:

INGWERSEN of York
MOORE of Washington
NANGLE of Cumberland

Representatives:

MEYER of Eliot
DAIGLE of Fort Kent
DEBRITO of Waterville
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth
MCCABE of Lewiston
SHAGOURY of Hallowell
ZAGER of Portland

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

Signed:

Representatives:

GRIFFIN of Levant
JAVNER of Chester
LEMELIN of Chelsea

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-128)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-128)**.

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-128) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Require Health Insurance Coverage for Federally Approved Nonprescription Oral Hormonal Contraceptives and Nonprescription Emergency Contraceptives"
H.P. 96 L.D. 163

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

Signed:

Senator:

HAGGAN of Penobscot

Representatives:

CIMINO of Bridgton
FLYNN of Albion
FOLEY of Wells
MASTRACCIO of Sanford
MORRIS of Turner
OLSEN of Raymond

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-120)**.

Signed:

Senators:

BAILEY of York
BALDACCI of Penobscot

Representatives:

MATHIESON of Kittery
ARFORD of Brunswick
BOYER of Cape Elizabeth
CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham

Comes from the House with the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-120)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-120)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BAILEY** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

On motion by Senator **HARRINGTON** of York, 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 (#160)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

21 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-120)** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-120) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Allow a Qualifying Religious Organization to Self-insure for Automobile Insurance"

H.P. 583 L.D. 918

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

Signed:

Senators:

BAILEY of York
BALDACCI of Penobscot

Representatives:

MATHIESON of Kittery
ARFORD of Brunswick
BOYER of Cape Elizabeth
CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham
MASTRACCIO of Sanford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-124)**.

Signed:

Senator:

HAGGAN of Penobscot

Representatives:

CIMINO of Bridgton
FLYNN of Albion
FOLEY of Wells
MORRIS of Turner
OLSEN of Raymond

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

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BAILEY** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

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

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

Senator **GUERIN:** Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. Currently, the law requires all vehicle owners to carry insurance as proof that they can cover any costs in the event of an accident. That's good, I like that, I'm sure you do, too. However, for some religious organizations, traditional insurance goes against their beliefs. This bill offers a way for them to meet the law's requirements while respecting their faith. This bill provides a clear process for religious organizations to prove they can responsibly self-insure. The organizations would need to show they are financially stable and that they've been meeting their obligations for the past two years. This ensures that only groups with the ability to handle self-insurance would be able to take part.

The bill also makes sure that these organizations will still have the financial means to cover any possible costs, with the requirement of a letter of credit or a deposit to back them up. This gives everyone confidence that the financial responsibility is still there, just like traditional insurance.

For many smaller religious groups, this option would be more affordable and a simpler way to comply with the law without going through the complicated and expensive process of buying commercial insurance. This flexibility is important for organizations that may not fit into the standard insurance model but still need to make sure they're following the rules. While this bill gives religious organizations the ability to self-insure, it also ensures that public safety isn't compromised. If an organization stops meeting the financial requirements, the State can step in and revoke their self-insurance certificate. This will keep things in check to make sure everyone on the road is covered. And this option has been used by several other states.

I encourage you to support this bill as it strikes an acceptable balance between constitutionally protected religious freedom and ensuring the safety of all drivers. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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

Senator **BAILEY:** Thank you, Madam President. As the Good Senator from Penobscot indicated, this bill is an attempt to address the dilemma of Mainers who have religious objections to the purchase of insurance but who are still subject to the State's financial responsibility insurance laws.

All drivers and vehicle owners in the state of Maine are subject to these financial responsibility laws in Title 29, and then we all meet these requirements by purchasing and maintaining car insurance. Although LD 918 does not amend the insurance code, it does allow organizations to conduct insurance-like activities without insurance regulations. Similar bills have been introduced in the last two sessions and a stakeholder group met after the last session, including the Bureau of Insurance and the Secretary of State. Unfortunately, there was no solution reached that was acceptable to all parties. The conclusion was that a person sustaining personal injury or property damages in an

accident where someone covered by this type of exemption would have significantly fewer protections as compared to the same accident with a person covered by traditional insurance.

Under this bill, there are no formal claims processing, no adjuster to assess damages and work with medical providers and body shops to arrange payment, and no dispute resolution process except to file a lawsuit. Unlike insurers, these organizations would not be subject to the rigorous solvency requirements and the amount required to be deposited with the State Treasurer as an assurance that claims will be paid is \$250,000 for up to ten vehicles. That is very low by -- as by law, an insurance policy must cover at least \$125,000 in liability for just one vehicle in an accident.

Ultimately, the Secretary of State testified they have neither the resources nor the ability to evaluate financial fitness and no administrative confidence in insurance. They testified that through the stakeholder group, they thoughtfully and thoroughly studied the feasibility of allowing such an exemption and concluded that the detriment to the public at large was unacceptable. I would also note that it's my understanding that the organization that brought this forward and has brought this forward is exploring other avenues, including setting up some sort of corporation that could purchase the insurance for them. So, I think that they are going to be able to find a solution.

So, I ask you to follow my light and vote along with the majority of the committee. Thank you.

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

Senator **NANGLE:** Thank you, Madam President. I'd also like to point out that according to the fiscal note, this would require six positions within one of the departments, which has a fiscal note of \$1.8 million. The religious organization wouldn't need to spend \$1.8 million, so why should the State spend \$1.8 million? Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought Not to Pass report. 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 (#161)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

20 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 14 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **LABOR** on Bill "An Act to Require Employers to Disclose Pay Ranges and Maintain Records of Employees' Pay Histories"

H.P. 18 L.D. 54

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-136)**.

Signed:

Senators:

TIPPING of Penobscot
RAFFERTY of York

Representatives:

ROEDER of Bangor
ARCHER of Saco
BECK of South Portland
GEIGER of Rockland
MACIAS of Topsham
SKOLD of Portland

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

Signed:

Senator:

BRADSTREET of Kennebec

Representatives:

COLLINS of Sidney
DRINKWATER of Milford
LIBBY of Auburn
SOBOLESKI of Phillips

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-136)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-136)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

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

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

Senator **BRADSTREET:** Thank you, Madam President. I'm going to be voting against this motion, and I hope others will join me as well.

This bill is an overreach by us, the State, on hiring practices, and it's especially tough on small employers who don't have the human resources departments that larger companies do have. Moreover, it considers only pay ranges that may be available, but there's much more to pay that factor in the hiring decisions. Such things as education, experience, availability and flexibility - they're also vital, especially in today's workforce environment that is dynamic as -- than it's ever been in the past, much more dynamic. Flexibility on the parts of the employer and the employee are absolutely necessary in determining the compatibility of the eventual work relationship. This one size fits all proposal will impede that, to the detriment of both the employer and the employee, so I urge you to vote no on this bill -- motion. Thank you.

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

Senator **BICKFORD:** Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, in my time managing businesses throughout central and southern Maine, I had anywhere from 20 to over 100 employees. I had some that were superstars. They would come in no matter what time of day or night, I would call, need somebody to come in, they would come in. Those people, I would pay much more than I would pay the ones that could never come in when I called them, would call out occasionally and weren't dependable, didn't do their job as well as the others. Whose business is it what I pay my employees? Nobody's. I have a confidentiality agreement with my employees. That is what I pay you is nobody's business, and if you do tell someone, you could lose your job. Because of the condition that happens when people know what each other makes. Now, I had a brother that worked at BIW 40+ years. You know what? They all made the same amount of money. It didn't matter if you were a superstar or not. That's not a good way to manage a business. You want your superstars to be paid.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator **TIPPING:** Thank you, Madam President. I would like to clarify a couple of items here.

First of all, this bill exempts small employers. It also simply requires that pay ranges be included in job ads, and that's a very broad definition of what that can be, it can be any applicable pay scale, a previously determined range of wages for the position, the actual range of wages for those currently holding equivalent positions or the budgeted amount for the position. And this is important for a couple of reasons. First of all, there have been some pay discrimination cases that this information could've helped with and prevented, and also this is important for our workforce, where people can choose the careers and the jobs that best fit them and best fit the needs of our state. So, I believe putting this information out there is very important.

I would also note that a confidentiality agreement that

prohibits employees from speaking with each other about their wages would be against federal law. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended report. 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 (#162)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

21 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-136) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **LABOR** on Bill "An Act to Allow Minors Under 16 Years of Age to Work Until 9 p.m. During the School Year and Until 10 p.m. During Summer Vacation"
H.P. 386 L.D. 618

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

Signed:

Senators:
TIPPING of Penobscot
RAFFERTY of York

Representatives:

ROEDER of Bangor
ARCHER of Saco
BECK of South Portland
GEIGER of Rockland
MACIAS of Topsham
SKOLD of Portland

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:
BRADSTREET of Kennebec

Representatives:

COLLINS of Sidney
DRINKWATER of Milford
SOBOLESKI of Phillips

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

Reports **READ**.

Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

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

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

Senator **BRADSTREET:** Thank you, Madam President. I think we need to be more aware of today's real-life working environment. We've had bills that seek to make it a little bit easier for younger people to go to work a little bit earlier, maybe work a few hours, nothing really too extreme, just something that are pretty modest and moderate. Young people that need to experience and learn the benefits of actually having a job, which this bill helps to enhance. Punctuality, responsibility, how to get along with co-workers and the public, dependability - in short, part of the maturing process. My own granddaughter, 15 years old, recently got a job and already she's -- I'm seeing a lot more of these benefits and characteristics in her. She's growing up and having a job has been a huge part of her life already. She's actually learned the value of a dollar, which I'm very thankful for.

This bill is good for many other young Mainers as well. Earlier this -- the earlier they learn these lessons, the better. There's another bill coming up, and I'm going to speak on the other one. I'll speak briefly about something that might relate to that, with your permission.

THE PRESIDENT: The Member may proceed.

Senator **BRADSTREET:** I had a young man who worked with me when I owned a company, I was able to hire him at a fairly young age. He was a good worker. He eventually went to the Air Force Academy, had a career in the Air Force, and his final job in the Air

Force was being the pilot for Air Force 2. Helping -- starting to work early really enhanced his life and his career. I think we need to start realizing that.

Thank you, Madam Speaker -- President.

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

Senator **TIPPING:** Thank you, Madam President. I respect and appreciate the Honorable Member's comments about learning on the job. I believe that can be done without relaxing significantly our state's child labor laws. This bill would allow 14-year-olds to work until nine or ten at night and start at 7 a.m. again the next morning. I believe rolling those back would be a bad idea. Thank you.

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

Senator **GUERIN:** Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I would just like you to ponder for a minute, those of you who have children or grandchildren or perhaps you, yourself, for our younger members, who played sports. My sons, they worked part-time and they also played sports. And they were under the severe restrictions for their jobs for the time they had to be home, but many nights the basketball bus wouldn't get back to school till 11:30, sometimes 12 a.m., and there was no restriction on that. And I think you just need to allow people to set their own personal priorities. If someone is interested in wanting to work, just like being interested in basketball and wanting to play, then they should be able to make their own decisions about the timeframe. Thank you.

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

Senator **CYRWAY:** Thank you, Madam President. I, you know, listening to this about 7:00 in the morning and 9-10 at night, you know, I grew up on a farm and got up at 3:00 every morning before I went to school, and then we still went to school, we got -- I was the most active kid in the class of 200 -- over 200 students after school. So, you know, I can tell you that it doesn't hurt an individual if they want to do a little work and become what they want to be. Lots of times, they -- it's a start to get into the profession of what they like, or at least it gives them a chance to feel what they may want to go into in college. So, we're taking sometimes that little spirit away just by legislation, and sometimes let the kids be what they want to be, I guess, and that's what I'm asking, Madam President.

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

Senator **BRENNER:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise this afternoon to pose a question through the Chair.

THE PRESIDENT: The Member may proceed.

Senator **BRENNER:** Thank you, Madam President. I'm curious if anyone could help me understand whether or not children under the age of 16 are allowed to work past nine or ten on a farm.

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

Senator **TIPPING:** Thank you, Madam President. It's my understanding that if children under that age work on a farm owned by their family, they require no work permit, there's no minimum age, hourly restrictions, or prohibited occupations.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought Not to Pass report. 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 (#163)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCIO, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT, ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

20 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 14 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **LABOR** on Bill "An Act to Expand Employment Opportunities for Minor Students by Eliminating Certain Work Limitations"

H.P. 412 L.D. 644

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

Signed:

Senators:
TIPPING of Penobscot
RAFFERTY of York

Representatives:

ROEDER of Bangor
ARCHER of Saco
BECK of South Portland
GEIGER of Rockland
MACIAS of Topsham
SKOLD of Portland

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:

BRADSTREET of Kennebec

Representatives:

COLLINS of Sidney
DRINKWATER of Milford
SOBOLESKI of Phillips

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

Reports **READ**.

Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

On motion the same Senator, 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 (#164)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, BENNETT, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

21 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Require the State to Obtain Municipal Approval Before Placing Noncitizens in the Municipality"

H.P. 276 L.D. 422

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

Signed:

Senators:

BALDACCI of Penobscot
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox

Representatives:

SALISBURY of Westbrook
COPELAND of Saco
FARRIN of Jefferson
MATLACK of St. George
ROLLINS of Augusta

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-139)**.

Signed:

Senator:

MARTIN of Oxford

Representatives:

ADAMS of Lebanon
GREENWOOD of Wales
POMERLEAU of Standish
TUELL of East Machias
UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle

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

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

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

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

Senator **BALDACCI:** Thank you, Madam President. I speak and ask the Senate to join me in voting Ought Not to Pass.

First of all, it is probably unconstitutional, what this bill requires, but more importantly, I would ask you to think or remember that every single immigrant who comes to America is a noncitizen when they are here. They have to go through a naturalization process. So, basically, what you're saying in this bill would apply to all immigrants, whatever stripe they may be. That is not what this country was founded on. Having people relegated to certain areas of the state is offensive when there's

nothing -- when they're only abiding by the existing law.

So, I would remind my fellow colleagues that every single immigrant, legal or whatever stripe, is a noncitizen here. So, you're basically having this law apply to legal immigrants who come to Maine, or anyplace in the United States. And I think that that would be a sad day in this country.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought Not to Pass report. 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 (#165)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, TIMBERLAKE, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, MARTIN, MOORE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

27 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 7 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Resolve, to Create the Commission to Study a Legislative Internship Program

H.P. 392 L.D. 624

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-111)**.

Signed:

Senators:

BALDACCI of Penobscot
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox
MARTIN of Oxford

Representatives:

SALISBURY of Westbrook
ADAMS of Lebanon
COPELAND of Saco
FARRIN of Jefferson
GREENWOOD of Wales

MATLACK of St. George
POMERLEAU of Standish
ROLLINS of Augusta
TUELL of East Machias

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

Signed:

Representative:

UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-111)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-111)**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-111) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Designate January 6th as A Day to Remember and to Preserve the Accounts of Witnesses to the Events of January 6, 2021"

H.P. 441 L.D. 702

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-138)**.

Signed:

Senators:

BALDACCI of Penobscot
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox

Representatives:

SALISBURY of Westbrook
COPELAND of Saco
FARRIN of Jefferson
MATLACK of St. George
ROLLINS of Augusta

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

Signed:

Senator:

MARTIN of Oxford

Representatives:

ADAMS of Lebanon
GREENWOOD of Wales
POMERLEAU of Standish
TUELL of East Machias
UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-138)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-138)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

On motion by Senator **HARRINGTON** of York, 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 (#166)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT, ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

20 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 14 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-138) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Repeal Certain Motor Vehicle Inspection Requirements"

H.P. 220 L.D. 320

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

Signed:

Senators:

NANGLE of Cumberland
FARRIN of Somerset
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

CRAFTS of Newcastle
ALBERT of Madawaska
ANKELES of Brunswick
BISHOP of Bucksport
EATON of Deer Isle
MASON of Lisbon
MONTELL of Gardiner
PARRY of Arundel
RAY of Lincolnville

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-118)**.

Signed:

Representative:

WHITE of Guilford

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

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Incentivize the Construction of Solar Carport Canopies and Solar Chargers at Highway Picnic Areas"

H.P. 817 L.D. 1242

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

Signed:

Senators:

NANGLE of Cumberland
FARRIN of Somerset
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:

CRAFTS of Newcastle
ALBERT of Madawaska
ANKELES of Brunswick
BISHOP of Bucksport
EATON of Deer Isle
MASON of Lisbon
PARRY of Arundel
WHITE of Guilford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-116)**.

Signed:

Representatives:

MONTELL of Gardiner
RAY of Lincolnville

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

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Divided Report

Six Members of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act Regarding Municipal Property Tax Levy Limits"

H.P. 361 L.D. 542

Reported in Report "A" that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-115)**

Signed:

Senators:

BALDACCI of Penobscot
MARTIN of Oxford

Representatives:

ADAMS of Lebanon
GREENWOOD of Wales
POMERLEAU of Standish
UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle

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

Signed:

Representatives:

SALISBURY of Westbrook
COPELAND of Saco
FARRIN of Jefferson
MATLACK of St. George
ROLLINS of Augusta
TUELL of East Machias

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

Reports **READ**.

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

Senate

Pursuant to Resolve

Senator BEEBE-CENTER for the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Stakeholder Group to Examine and Improve the Recruitment, Retention and Wellness of Law Enforcement Officers"

S.P. 775 L.D. 1980

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**, pursuant to Resolve 2023, chapter 165, section 3.

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

Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Sent down for concurrence.

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator RAFFERTY for the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Require the University of Maine School of Law to Provide an Online Degree Program"
S.P. 170 L.D. 375

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-78)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-78) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator CARNEY for the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Improve Family Court Procedure"

S.P. 222 L.D. 504

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-79)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-79) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator CARNEY for the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for Essential Services for Victims of Crimes" (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 470 L.D. 1139

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-80)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-80) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator HICKMAN for the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Expand the Number of On-premises Retail Liquor Licenses a Liquor Manufacturer May Be Issued"

S.P. 597 L.D. 1456

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-77)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-77) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Establish Separate Prosecutorial Districts in Downeast Maine"
S.P. 63 L.D. 16

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

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland
TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland

Representatives:

KUHN of Falmouth
HENDERSON of Rumford
LEE of Auburn
O'HALLORAN of Brewer
PUGH of Portland
SATO of Gorham
SINCLAIR of Bath

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-81)**.

Signed:

Senator:

HAGGAN of Penobscot

Representatives:

BABIN of Fort Fairfield
CARUSO of Caratunk
POIRIER of Skowhegan

(Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Minority **Ought To Pass as Amended** Report.)

Reports **READ**.

Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report.

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

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you very much, Madam President. I rise to speak to provide a little information about this bill, because it's something that the Judiciary Committee spent a lot of time and thoughtful energy on. We had a public hearing, of course, and

then we held two work sessions, and we did that so that we could do a deep dive into the data. We wanted to know what does the representation of prosecutors to population look like based on the population in each prosecutorial district, and we also wanted to know if there were other similarly situated prosecutorial districts and counties that might want to separate into multiple districts just like the request that was made in this legislation with regard to prosecutorial district seven, which includes Hancock and Washington Counties.

So, currently, the prosecutorial districts, the judicial districts, and our newly formed public defender districts all mirror each other. So, a change to one could lead both to changes in other districts and then to changes that would impact the Judicial Branch and the public defender offices. Our concern was both short- and long-term operational and fiscal impacts of allowing this one prosecutorial district to split into additional smaller districts.

We understood the concerns that were raised by Washington County and believe that they are very important concerns to ensure that the prosecutor elected in any district really reflects and represents the needs of the district as a whole. But when we looked at the numbers, this is what we found. So, there are eight prosecutorial districts. We found that the district eight, which is Aroostook County, has actually the greatest representation, one prosecutor for every approximately 9,500 residents. District two, which is Cumberland County, had the least representation, one prosecutor for approximately every 16,000 residents. District seven, the one that is related to this legislation, Hancock and Washington Counties, is kind of in the middle of the pack with one prosecutor for every approximately 12,000 residents. And the other district that seemed kind of comparable to district seven, which is district three, including Oxford, Franklin, and Androscoggin County, was also right in that middle position with about one prosecutor for every 13,000 residents. And district three was similar in that there were predominantly rural counties and predominantly urban - or more urban, let's say - areas such as in district seven. And so, we really struggled with the long-term implications of allowing district seven to split into two separate districts and the impact it would have on, for example, district three, that seemed similar in a lot of ways, and then what does it say for districts that are either over or under-represented with prosecutors.

The other thing we took into account was that by law, a district attorney is entitled to appoint a deputy district attorney in any district. And so, while there wouldn't be numerically, maybe, an addition of another attorney in the newly created district attorney's office, there would be an elevated position of the district attorney plus an elevated position of a deputy district attorney, both of which would have fiscal impacts.

We struggled with this. We definitely understand the concerns brought by the bill's sponsor and the concerns of folks in Washington County and in Hancock County who spoke in support of the legislation, but we thought that the long-term operational and fiscal consequences were too concerning to move forward. Thank you.

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

Senator **HAGGAN:** Thank you very much, Madam President - I almost said Chair or whatever -- what have you - and Honorable Members of the Senate. Data is important, and common sense

plus data is more important.

Other districts like district three and whatnot have financial resources that go way beyond Washington County. So, this would create a separate -- would separate Washington County from prosecutorial district seven and create a new prosecutorial district number nine for Washington County effective 2027. The amendment requires an election of the district attorney, of course, and they can do an ADA, as you all know. The amendment, I believe, is extremely important for the people of this area because they have disadvantages in the state of Maine that other counties don't have. They've got incredible poverty compared to the southern counties, they have disadvantages in all of the ways that I think you know that I'm just not going to say right here. It's very reasonable to enact this. It's not a whole lot of money, the fiscal note would be 27,000 for the year '27. Travel is huge. It's a big county, it's half the size of Aroostook County, way over 3,000 square miles. Distance from Eastport to Ellsworth court is -- is a lot, and with the high gas prices and the economic stifling of a lot of the people that live there, this is just a terrifying inconvenience to have to drive all that way to have to get your case adjudicated in court.

So, for me, it is just fair, it's common sense. Give them their own district attorney and allow them to elect a person from there to help adjudicate their cases. That's time immemorial with the way we do our judicial stuff, as it were.

We've spent a lot of money in this building. We've spent a tremendous amount of money. Something like this is critical and important. It's a worthy spending of money to help the people in one of the more disadvantaged areas of the state that we know and love.

So, for me, this is not a difficult issue, it's easy, very easy, and I think we should all make this happen. Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Washington, Senator Moore.

Senator **MOORE:** Thank you, Madam President. I stand in opposition to the motion on the floor, and I do appreciate Senator Carney's detailed analysis and all of the thoughtfulness that went into consideration of my bill.

By statute, there are currently eight prosecutorial districts. Since the creation of the districts in 1987, the law has not been changed to reflect population and demographic shifts, unlike the redistricting we see as legislators every ten years, coinciding with the official census.

Washington County covers 3,258 square miles, with a population of 31,379 during the 2020 census, and is currently part of district seven with Hancock County, as mentioned before. In comparison, Hancock County is 2,345 square miles, with a population of 54,987. Washington County's footprint is spread out very similar to Aroostook County, so travel from one end of Washington County to the other could take five hours, let alone traveling from Calais or Danford to the courthouse in Ellsworth, especially in bad weather.

Creating prosecutorial district number nine for Washington County will give the public, counsel, and those involved in court proceedings greater access to justice, without delays and with the full support of all law enforcement personnel in their communities. Someone who lives and works in Washington County is going to better represent their community, putting the needs of their friends and neighbors first, just as we do here in the Legislature.

Cost wise, each county currently pays for buildings and support staff. This would not change under this bill, nor would it stop each county from collaborating with others or even sharing resources with one another. Historically, the Washington County delegation has been asking for our own district attorney since the 129th Legislature, and again in the 130th. Each time, the version of the bill was passed unanimously out of committee. The last version in the 130th was actually adopted by the House and the Senate but was not funded out of the Appropriations Committee.

While the number of pending cases may not be as high as Aroostook County, the citizens of Washington County deserve to have their own district attorney.

Thank you, Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Lawrence.

Senator **LAWRENCE:** Thank you, Madam President, Men and Women of the Senate. I understand the purpose behind this bill, but I cannot support it. All prosecutorial districts face the same challenges. If you look at Penobscot and Piscataquis County, which I believe are in a prosecutorial district together, they are very different. If you look at Androscoggin County and the two counties associated with that, they are very different. And each prosecutor who is elected by the public has to figure out how to meet the needs of those districts.

The prosecutorial districts were created back in 1986. The Senator from -- the prior speaker was correct in when they were created, and they were created through a process that changed the judiciary and the prosecutorial districts at the same time. So, they were both reformed at the same time. And the reason was was to decrease the overhead and the expenses of both the judiciary and the prosecutors in that case and when they did it. To try to undo it in a specific case would be extremely difficult, complicated for the judiciary, complicated for the prosecutors, and is really going in reverse because we used to have county prosecutorial system and that was abandoned in this state and decided on prosecutorial districts. And we really have to stick with that.

The other thing that's going to happen is that because the prosecutors are state employees, they are paid by the State, they are agents of the State. They don't answer to the Attorney General, they don't answer to the Governor; they answer to no one but their voters. But their support staff under this statute must be supplied to be adequate by the county -- by the counties they're involved with. Under this change, Washington County would be exclusively responsible for its support staff now. Here, under the current prosecutorial district, it's shared between Hancock and Washington County based upon what the DA decides. So, a wealthier county like Hancock - no offense to the representative from -- the Senator from Hancock, Senator Grohoski - the wealthier county Hancock subsidizes the court expense, the expert witnesses, everything for Washington County. That would not occur if you split these districts apart.

Going back to that system is not the correct resolution. It needs to be resolved within the prosecutorial district, by the prosecutor, by the DA, who maybe should assign the chief deputy to handle Washington County and the DA handle Hancock County and address the separate needs that way. Thank you.

The President requested the Sergeant-At-Arms escort the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **PIERCE**, to the rostrum where she assumed the duties as President Pro Tem.

The President retired from the Chamber.

The Senate was called to order by President Pro Tem **TERESA PIERCE** of Cumberland County.

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Hancock County, Senator Grohoski.

Senator **GROHOSKI:** Thank you, Madam President. As a senator that represents folks who would be impacted by this legislation, I think it would be appropriate for me to just weigh in.

I am pleased to co-sponsor this legislation, I was thrilled to offer a perspective from Hancock County at the public hearing, and I still do support the legislation. I don't think that unless you are really a neighboring county in the way Hancock and Washington County are you can understand the importance of this legislation. And so, from my perspective, representing Hancock County and having grown up there, I feel a deep obligation to the people of Washington County to set them up with a legal structure that best supports their unique needs. And that might sound obscure, but specifically, there is a significant amount of evidence that firstly, opioid manufacturers targeted doctors despite knowing how addictive opioids were. That's the first fact. Secondly, opioid overprescription in the late 1990s was linked to one doctor in particular in Washington County. And I sent this information to the Judiciary Committee because it is so concerning and horrifying what happened to people in that county that make a living by working hard, you know, on the water, tipping for wreaths, etcetera, these are people that's bodies are beat up by the work they do and they are seeking pain treatment and, unfortunately, they found it in a way that was destructive to the community fabric. And as I said, the crisis took hold and has affected and continues to affect Washington County to this day in a way that I do not believe it is affecting any other county in the state.

So, I just want to share a statement that Representative Nina Milliken of Blue Hill and I sent to the committee after the public hearing on this bill, and it said; We do not think that prosecution is the best way to address substance use disorder, which is a medical diagnosis. We are aware of prosecution models in Maine that have successfully moved folks into treatment and back into community without a criminal record. To our knowledge, the current DA and previous DAs have not taken such an approach, possibly because of limited bandwidth and the incredible backlog of cases in our district. A prosecutor dedicated to Washington County might be more able and interested in focusing on alternative prosecution models in response to the region's unique needs.

So, I just wanted to share that statement and my opinion as a person, like I said, who grew up in Hancock County, whose mother is a school nurse and really has shared a lot with me about those disturbing trends and what they mean for our neighbors farther Downeast. And so, that's why I'm still a strong supporter of this. I appreciate the data. Because this does not add any full-time equivalent type employees, I don't see that it's relevant to look at the ratios county by county. This is really

about how do we set up Washington County to recover from this crisis which was, I believe, foisted upon them by the pharmaceutical industry. Thank you.

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, Madam President. I just rise briefly to provide some clarifying information.

I think that there's a confusion about district seven only having one courthouse. That's something that people should not assume. In fact, there's one courthouse for Hancock County, which is in Ellsworth, and then there are two courthouses in Washington County. There's one in Machias and one in Calais.

THE PRESIDENT PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Lawrence.

Senator **LAWRENCE:** Thank you, Madam President. And I apologize for rising to speak again, but I do want to clarify something that was just raised.

Drug prosecution is not the responsibility of the DA's office. The DAs for years have had an agreement with the Attorney General's Office that the Attorney General's Office will do murders, they will do crimes in which the State is a victim, and they will do the drug prosecution through the AG's office. It's done through a federal grant, they work out of the AG's office, and they are supervised by the AG's office. So, I believe there are six, there may be more now, drug prosecutors around the state. So, if there's a problem in Washington County over drug prosecution, it's a problem with the AG's office, not with the DA's office. And therefore, this split of the DA's district will not address that problem, it will in fact create more difficulties in addressing prosecutorial issues. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought Not to Pass report. 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 (#167)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT PRO TEM PIERCE

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

19 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 15 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

The President Pro Tem requested the Sergeant-At-Arms escort the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DAUGHTRY**, to the rostrum where she resumed her duties as President.

The Sergeant-At-Arms escorted the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **PIERCE**, to her seat on the Floor.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

SECOND READERS

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

Senate As Amended

Bill "An Act to Increase the Total Amount of Credits Authorized Under the Maine Seed Capital Tax Credit Program"
S.P. 52 L.D. 125
(C "A" S-75)

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:

Emergency Measure

An Act Regarding the Establishment of Fees and Fee Caps for Dental Provider Licensing and Permits
H.P. 302 L.D. 448
(C "A" H-82)

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 34 Members of the Senate, with 0 Senators having voted in the negative, and 34 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.

Emergency Resolve

Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study Unmanaged Storm Water Pollution

H.P. 414 L.D. 646
(C "A" H-98)

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

On motion by Senator **DUSON** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL STUDY TABLE**, pending **FINAL PASSAGE**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Emergency Resolve

Resolve, to Establish the Committee to Study the Use of Sunflower Crops to Produce Biofuels and Other Products

S.P. 527 L.D. 1297
(C "A" S-42)

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

On motion by Senator **DUSON** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL STUDY TABLE**, pending **FINAL PASSAGE**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Acts

An Act Regarding School Enrollment for Military-connected Students

S.P. 48 L.D. 31
(C "A" S-36)

An Act to Require Reporting on the Expenditure of Opioid Settlement Funds by Certain Municipalities and County Governments

H.P. 75 L.D. 110
(C "A" H-93)

An Act to Expand the Definition of "Terrorism" in the Laws Governing the Maine Emergency Management Agency

H.P. 147 L.D. 224
(C "A" H-97)

An Act Regarding Confidential Information Gathered for Forest Fire Emergency Response and Planning

S.P. 138 L.D. 379

An Act Regarding the Confidentiality of Certain Lottery Winner Identities

H.P. 258 L.D. 404
(C "A" H-89)

An Act to Support Municipal Public Health

H.P. 418 L.D. 650
(C "A" H-92)

An Act to Support the Department of the Secretary of State, Bureau of Corporations, Elections and Commissions

S.P. 310 L.D. 693
(C "A" S-39)

An Act to Establish a Waiver Process from the Permit Requirements for the Use of Explosives in Recreational or Hobby Mining Activities

S.P. 360 L.D. 795
(C "A" S-38)

An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws

H.P. 536 L.D. 850
(C "A" H-85)

An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Powers and Responsibilities of the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

H.P. 610 L.D. 945
(C "A" H-83)

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

An Act to Employ Mental Health Personnel Within the Maine State Police

H.P. 198 L.D. 298
(C "A" H-94)

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

An Act to Continue Support for the Maine Multicultural Center

S.P. 341 L.D. 783
(C "A" S-34)

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

An Act to Reinvigorate Maine's Workforce and Ensure Student Job Readiness by Providing Funds for the Career Exploration Program

H.P. 627 L.D. 967
(C "A" H-84)

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

An Act to Authorize the Display of an Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal Decal on a Special Veterans License Plate and Authorize Certain Other Service Members to Receive Special Commemorative Decals

S.P. 545 L.D. 1315
(C "A" S-43)

On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland, placed on the **SPECIAL HIGHWAY TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

Resolve

Resolve, to Create a Working Group to Study the Safety and Use of Nonconforming Vehicles on Maine's Roads and Highways

S.P. 498 L.D. 1209
(C "A" S-41)

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.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

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 (4/8/25) matter:

SENATE REPORTS - from the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Include Possession of Compounds, Mixtures or Substances Containing a Detectable Amount of Certain Scheduled Drugs to Prove the Offense of Unlawful Trafficking of Scheduled Drugs"

S.P. 329 L.D. 771

Majority - Ought to Pass (7 members)

Minority - Ought Not to Pass (5 members)

Tabled - April 8, 2025 by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland

Pending - **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT**

Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report.

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

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

Senator **BALDACCI:** Thank you, Madam President. I just want to briefly discuss this bill, and I understand that there are strong feelings both ways. But this bill -- Maine's statutes already include the provisions that are in this bill as to all other drugs - cocaine, fentanyl, heroin. The bill is to address the gap as it relates to amphetamines and meth. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, meth taken along with fentanyl is the second leading contributor to the opioid crisis in America. Research from the U.S. Centers of Disease Control and Prevention show that meth is the second most commonly found drug in people who fatally overdose after synthetic lab-made opioids.

People on meth alone or from a combination of it with other drugs and typically in this situation, this is to, frankly, allow prosecutions to go forward on a strengthened basis. I communicated with the assistant attorney general who's in charge of drug -- or the drug taskforce in our state. He indicated that this bill would be helpful to prosecutors, particularly on the meth issue. He felt that the amphetamine thing might -- would not make any difference to them. But on the meth issue, which is contributing to the overall opioid crisis, it would help prosecutors.

Let me just tell you, I come from a community that has three opioid clinics -- opioid treatment clinics. Okay? More than my community wanted or by itself needed. But we have had not only over a thousand people in treatment in Bangor, but we've also had the effects of this opioid crisis in the homeless community, on the streets, in the jails. So, I understand -- and I have been a long proponent as an attorney, as a member of the bar, of alternative sentencing, participated really in some of the first programs that we had in this state for drug courts, for juvenile drug courts, and I believe in those processes, but there has to be balance and there has to be effectiveness and there has to be a strategy that deals with all sides of this problem.

So, I ask you to oppose the pending motion. Thank you.

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

Senator **CYRWAY:** Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I rise today to urge this Body to recognize that common sense tells us a drug is a drug. This bill not only recognizes something common sense tells us to be true, but it also brings the law governing amphetamines and methamphetamines into consistency with the definitions of the law governing drugs for fentanyl, cocaine, and heroin. For example, the definition of heroin states that heroin means any compound, mixture, or preparation containing heroin and the -- I guess another word for it is diacetylmorphine in any quantities. In any quantity. The definitions proposed in this bill are amphetamine means any compound, mixture, or a preparation containing amphetamine in any quantity. And methamphetamine

means any compound, mixtures, or preparation containing methamphetamine in any quantity.

As you now are aware, Madam President, the current law uses the same definition for other drugs as the definition we are proposing for amphetamine and methamphetamines, and these definitions are not new. They recognize the fact that these substances are being mixed for use, not for storage or not to go in the garbage. The committee voted in bipartisan manner Ought to Pass on this bill in part due to the fact that all these bills does is make the law consistent.

Please join me and the bipartisan group of legislators who voted Ought to Pass by voting in support of LD 771. Thank you, Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Waldo, Senator Curry.

Senator **CURRY:** Thank you, Madam President. I am supporting the pending motion. I support the pending motion because specifically in the text it's like any trace amount of methamphetamine to a mixture, to a combination, changes that entire quantity to methamphetamine. And so, what we're doing here is -- what we're doing here is lowering the standard for what does it mean to be a trafficker. What does it mean to be a trafficker? This Body, I think the principle with -- the principles behind our response has been in the last few years around drug enforcement has been to focus on trafficking and not to focus on those who really have the illness of substance use disorder. We're trying to target our law enforcement towards trafficking and not towards use and those who are experiencing substance use disorder. And this lowers the standard. It lowers the standard because it is quite common for people to cut drugs with other substances that are not - you know, sugars or other things - that are not active to -- to make it go further. And in doing so, we can easily -- we can easily get into criminalizing this trafficking that which is simple possession and possession of those who are most at risk at the -- are most taken over by the -- by the substance use disorder.

And so, I have real concerns about that. I also have a -- just a basic concern to say, you know, to say, you know, if I have, you know, a few grams of meth and I put it into a pound of sugar, I now have a pound and a few grams of meth. That just seems ridiculous and, logically, I have a hard time placing that in statute. And based on that, I think we should continue to be focused on what is the active ingredient that we are seeking to address and pay a lot of attention to that and the amount. And I can -- I can believe the argument if you've got a certain amount of that active ingredient then that should be building a case towards trafficking, but I just can't include it with all the other fillers and say suddenly we're redefining all this other stuff as just being meth.

And so, for that, I will be supporting the pending motion.

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

Senator **BALDACC:** Thank you, Madam President. I just want to respectfully disagree because we're not lowering any standard, we're making the standard the same that we currently have in state law for heroin, cocaine, fentanyl. We're not lowering any standard. Second, when somebody mixes it with sugar or whatever compound, that is evidence that it's -- that they're trying to traffic. Because why -- it's not like they just dumped it in

spaghetti sauce and oh, unfortunately got it in my spaghetti sauce. No. It's part of an effort to conceal it, that is the purpose of doing that. So, I think -- I just wanted to take issue with those points and thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought Not to Pass report. 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 (#168)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BALDACC, BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CARNEY, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, NANGLE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

16 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 18 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused the motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox to **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **FAILED**.

The Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (5/6/25) matter:

Bill "An Act to Automatically Seal Criminal History Record Information for Certain Crimes"

S.P. 752 L.D. 1911

Tabled - May 6, 2025 by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland

Pending - **REFERENCE**

(Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested and ordered printed.)

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

Sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (5/6/25) matter:

Bill "An Act to Support Workforce Development for Families That Were Involved in Child Protective Activities by Requiring the Sealing of Certain Records" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 1283 L.D. 1922

Tabled - May 6, 2025 by Senator **INGWERSEN** of York

Pending - **REFERENCE**

(Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** suggested and ordered printed.)

(In 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.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (5/7/25) matter:

HOUSE REPORT - on Bill "An Act to Automatically Seal Criminal History Record Information for Class D and Class E Crimes Relating to Marijuana Possession and Cultivation"
H.P. 1277 L.D. 1916

Report -that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on JUDICIARY pursuant to Resolve 2023, chapter 103, section 8

Tabled - May 7, 2025 by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland

Pending - **CONSIDERATION**

(In House, Report **READ** and **REJECTED** and Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**.)

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

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (5/7/25) matter:

HOUSE REPORT - on Bill "An Act to Allow the Sealing of Criminal History Record Information Related to Convictions for Conduct That Is No Longer a Crime in the State"
H.P. 1278 L.D. 1917

Report -that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on JUDICIARY pursuant to Resolve 2023, chapter 103, section 8

Tabled - May 7, 2025 by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland

Pending - **CONSIDERATION**

(In House, Report **READ** and **REJECTED** and Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**.)

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

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (5/7/25) matter:

HOUSE REPORT - on Bill "An Act to Clarify the Criminal History Record Information Act with Respect to Criminal Charges Dismissed as the Result of a Plea Agreement"
H.P. 1279 L.D. 1918

Report -that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on JUDICIARY pursuant to Resolve 2023, chapter 103, section 8

Tabled - May 7, 2025 by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland

Pending - **CONSIDERATION**

(In House, Report **READ** and **REJECTED** and Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**.)

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

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (5/7/25) matter:

HOUSE REPORT - on Bill "An Act to Expand the Types of Convictions Eligible for Sealing Through a Post-judgment Motion to Seal Criminal History Record Information"
H.P. 1280 L.D. 1919

Report -that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on JUDICIARY pursuant to Resolve 2023, chapter 103, section 8

Tabled - May 7, 2025 by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland

Pending - **CONSIDERATION**

(In House, Report **READ** and **REJECTED** and Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**.)

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

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (5/7/25) matter:

An Act to Require Positions Taken by the Public Advocate to Be Consistent with the Cost-effective Implementation of the State's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions Obligations
S.P. 370 L.D. 837

Tabled - May 7, 2025 by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland

Pending - **ENACTMENT**

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

On motion by Senator **HARRINGTON** of York, 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 (#169)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: STEWART

20 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 14 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused this Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and having been signed by the President was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

The Senate considered the following additional papers:

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Change of Committee

The Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Address Climate Change"
H.P. 964 L.D. 1472

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**, in concurrence.

The Senate considered the following additional papers:

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Modify Taxes Applying to Adult Use Cannabis, Hemp and Hemp Products"
H.P. 1301 L.D. 1942

In Senate, May 13, 2025, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Comes from the House, that Body having **INSISTED** on its former action whereby the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, the Senate **RECEDED** and **CONCURRED**.

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

Off Record Remarks

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **ADJOURNED**, pursuant to the Joint Order, until Tuesday, May 20, 2025, at 10:00 in the morning.