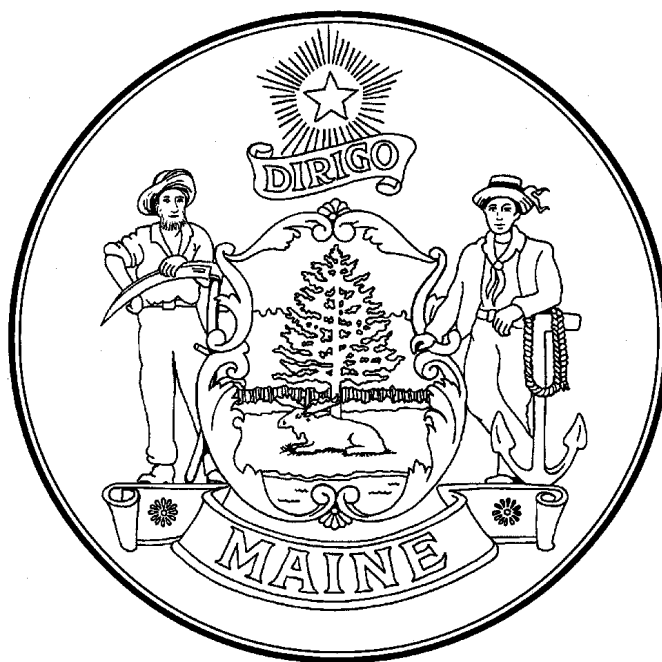


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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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
Tuesday
May 20, 2025

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

Prayer by Jim Przytulski of Central Church in Augusta.

PASTOR JIM PRZYTULSKI: Good morning, everyone. It's a pleasure to be here. I just wanted to let you know that, you know, in the Bible, it tells us in Romans chapter 13 that you all have been appointed by God and that we're to honor you. And so, I hope to honor you with this prayer this morning. We just bow our heads.

Heavenly Father, Lord, we love you, and we know that you love us, Lord. And I just thank you for that love. I want to pray blessings over the Members of this Senate, Lord. I just ask that you would -- that you would bless them, that you would bless their day. Lord, I ask that you would bless them with wisdom and that you would bless them with discernment, Lord. I ask that you would give them a spirit of cooperation as they work together, Lord. I ask that you would give them a sense of ease about their work. I know that it's so very difficult, Father.

I just ask that you would give them peace in their hearts and that you would give them hope for the future, Lord. I ask that you would just shine your light on their families, the people that they love and care about. That you would bless them, that you would keep them safe. Lord, I just ask you all these things in your Son, Jesus' name. Amen.

National Anthem Performed by Moira O'Connor of Hallowell.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Joseph Rafferty of York County.

Reading of the Journal of Wednesday, May 14, 2025.

Medical Provider of the Day, Susan Doughty, MSN, CNS, AGNP, WHNP-BCR, FAANP of Scarborough.

Off Record Remarks

ORDERS

Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Benjamin Descoteaux, of Biddeford, a senior at Biddeford High School, who is a recipient of a 2025 Principal's Award for outstanding academic achievement and citizenship, sponsored by the Maine Principals' Association. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 682

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

The Joint Order **READ**.

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

Senator **INGWERSEN:** Madam President and my Fellow Colleagues of the Senate, I rise today, am very excited and I have great pride and honor to introduce you to an extraordinary young man from my district, Biddeford High School senior Benjamin Descoteaux, who's been selected as a recipient of the 2025 Principal's Award by the Maine Principals' Association.

The Principal's Award is awarded to a single senior from over 100 public and private high schools, honoring students who go above and beyond in their school communities. Ben has achieved academic excellence with an astounding 4.27 grade point average, but his success is not limited to the classroom. Ben is a three-sport athlete, competing in basketball, golf, and baseball. Ben has been awarded five Tiger Pride character awards and has been named to the SMAA all academic team for each sport he's participated in. He's also a member of the National Honor Society and volunteers on the unified basketball team.

One source of Ben's remarkable character and motivation is his brother, who was diagnosed with ASD. Ben shared with me that watching his brother face life's challenges with courage and patience has inspired him to work hard, stay focused, and never take opportunities for granted. That perspective has grounded him to succeed, not just for himself but in honor of those who face barriers with grace every single day.

Biddeford High principal Martha Jacques described Ben as someone whose warmth, thoughtfulness, and ability to navigate complex issues have set him apart. She notes that, quote, Ben doesn't just rush to conclusions but takes the time to gather information and processes it in a way that I have not seen another high school student do. He is able to handle complex issues with confidence and competence and to advocate for those best interests of himself and for others, including those whose voices are not typically heard.

After graduation, Ben will be heading to Clemson University in South Carolina to study business. I have no doubt that wherever life takes Ben, he will continue to lead with empathy, with intellect, and purpose. It is young people like Ben who remind us of the great potential within our own communities, why investing in education, opportunity, and civic values are so important. And of course, when Ben is done with his adventures,

I hope to see him come back home to Maine and continue to do his great work in his community and in our state.

So, congratulations, Benjamin. Your community, your school, and your state are so very proud of you.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, Benjamin Descoteaux, his father, Scott Descoteaux, his mother, Linda Descoteaux, his brother, Jack Descoteaux, and his grandmother, Joanne Descoteaux. They are 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 Maine Senate?

Joint Resolutions

On motion by Senator **RENY** of Lincoln, the following Joint Resolution:

S.P. 777

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 2025 AS CELIAC DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, celiac disease is a serious autoimmune disease caused by a reaction to gluten, resulting in damage to the small intestine; and

WHEREAS, celiac disease affects approximately one percent of people worldwide, with symptoms ranging from mild to severe, and can lead to long-term health complications if not properly managed; and

WHEREAS, awareness about celiac disease can lead to earlier diagnosis, improved understanding and increased support for those living with the condition; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis and adherence to a strict gluten-free diet are crucial for individuals with celiac disease to maintain their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, organizations and individuals have worked tirelessly to raise awareness, provide education and support individuals affected by celiac disease; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize May 2025 as Celiac Disease Awareness Month and to express our gratitude to the organizations and individuals who have dedicated their time and efforts to raising awareness about celiac disease, supporting affected individuals and advancing research to improve the lives of those living with the condition.

READ and ADOPTED.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec (Cosponsored by Representative CHAPMAN of Auburn and Senators: BAILEY of York, BALDACCI of Penobscot, BENNETT of Oxford, BERNARD of Aroostook, BICKFORD of Androscoggin, BRADSTREET of Kennebec, CARNEY of Cumberland, CYRWAY of Kennebec, President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, DUSON of Cumberland, FARRIN of Somerset, GROHOSKI of Hancock, GUERIN of Penobscot, HAGGAN of Penobscot, LIBBY of Cumberland, MARTIN of Oxford, MOORE of Washington, NANGLE of Cumberland, PIERCE of Cumberland, RAFFERTY of York, RENY of Lincoln, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland, TEPLER of Sagadahoc, Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, ARATA of New Gloucester, ARCHER of Saco, ARFORD of Brunswick, BAGSHAW of Windham, BECK of South Portland, BISHOP of Bucksport, BLIER of Buxton, BOYER of Poland, BOYER of Cape Elizabeth, BRIDGE of Augusta, CARUSO of Caratunk, CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, COLLINS of Sidney, CRAFTS of Newcastle, CROCKETT of Portland, DAIGLE of Fort Kent, DEBRITO of Waterville, DILL of Old Town, DODGE of Belfast, DUCHARME of Madison, Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, FOLEY of Wells, FOSTER of Dexter, FRIEDMANN of Bar Harbor, FROST of Belgrade, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, GRIFFIN of Levant, HAGGAN of Hampden, HASENFUS of Readfield, HENDERSON of Rumford, HEPLER of Woolwich, HYMES of Waldo, KUHN of Falmouth, LAJOIE of Lewiston, LANCE of Paris, LEE of Auburn, LYMAN of Livermore Falls, MACIAS of Topsham, MALON of Biddeford, MATHIESON of Kittery, MATLACK of St. George, MCINTYRE of Lowell, MONTELL of Gardiner, MURPHY of Scarborough, O'HALLORAN of Brewer, PLUECKER of Warren, POIRIER of Skowhegan, RIELLY of Westbrook, ROBERTS of South Berwick, ROEDER of Bangor, RUNTE of York, SACHS of Freeport, SALISBURY of Westbrook, SARGENT of York, SAYRE of Kennebunk, SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, SINCLAIR of Bath, SMITH of Palermo, STOVER of Boothbay, STROUT of Harrington, SUPICA of Bangor, SWALLOW of Houlton, TERRY of Gorham, THORNE of Carmel, WADSWORTH of Hiram, WARREN of Scarborough, WHITE of Ellsworth, WOOD of Greene, ZAGER of Portland), the following Joint Resolution:

S.P. 778

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAST UNITED STATES COMBAT MISSION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA AT THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR

WHEREAS, United States involvement in the Vietnam War ended 50 years ago with the Mayaguez Incident at Koh Tang, from May 12-15, 1975, the final United States combat mission in Southeast Asia during this conflict; and

WHEREAS, in May 1975 the Cambodian Khmer Rouge navy seized the American cargo ship SS Mayaguez and its crew of 39 in international waters. The Mayaguez was anchored at Koh Tang Island near the Cambodian coast, and military planners believed the crew was on the island. Air Force gunships sank 3 Cambodian patrol boats to prevent their taking the Mayaguez's

crew from Koh Tang to the mainland. Soon after, Marines boarded the Mayaguez and found it abandoned; and

WHEREAS, Marines landed on Koh Tang in Air Force helicopters to rescue the crew, but incomplete intelligence made the operation a near disaster. Expecting only light opposition, the Air Force helicopters instead faced heavy fire from a large force. The Cambodians shot down 4 helicopters, damaged 5 more and killed 14 Americans. More United States troops and aircraft urgently moved to reinforce the 131 Marines and 5 Air Force aircrew trapped on Koh Tang; and

WHEREAS, as the assault unfolded, the Mayaguez crew appeared in a small boat and were rescued unharmed. The operation immediately shifted from an offensive to rescuing the trapped Marines; and

WHEREAS, another 100 Marines moved into Koh Tang to reinforce and extract the trapped Marines. Coordinated Air Force support by attack aircraft, forward air controllers, rescue helicopters and gunships pounded Cambodian targets while the Americans on the ground fought hard to maintain their positions; and

WHEREAS, only 3 Air Force helicopters were left to extract more than 200 troops. They tried time and again, braving fierce, accurate fire, but were repeatedly driven off. Finally, they reached the beach and recovered 129 Marines in multiple trips, landing them quickly on Navy ships and returning to the island for more. On the last trip to the beach, Air Force pararescueman Tech. Sgt. Wayne Fisk left his helicopter to find 2 missing Marines still laying down covering fire. He led them to the helicopter, and the 14-hour rescue ended as the aircraft left under fire; and

WHEREAS, there were 3 Marines who were inadvertently left on the island in the darkness and confusion and were killed and buried there within a few days by the Khmer Rouge. Total United States casualties included 18 dead and 50 wounded. Twenty-three more Air Force personnel died in a support force helicopter crash in Thailand due to mechanical failure; and

WHEREAS, there were 48,000 men and women from the State of Maine who served in Vietnam, while an additional 16,000 Mainers were serving worldwide during the Vietnam War era; and

WHEREAS, the names of 343 Mainers who laid down their lives are etched on the black granite of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., and 11 of our men are still missing in Southeast Asia; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize the 50th anniversary of the last United States combat mission in Southeast Asia at the end of the Vietnam War and to celebrate with the utmost gratitude the service and sacrifice of every Mainer who fought in Vietnam and Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War, especially those who paid the ultimate price and cannot be with us here today.

The Joint Resolution 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 this morning in solemn remembrance of the day just over 50 years ago when the final American combat mission in Southeast Asia ended, bringing the two-decade-long Vietnam War to an end.

Many people cite the official end of the Vietnam War as April 30, 1975, when America's South Vietnamese allies surrendered to the North Vietnamese forces. However, the weeks' long struggle to escape the region and return home to the United States saw an additional skirmish, the Mayaguez incident we memorialize here today.

As we have just heard in the reading of the resolution, this was not a bloodless final victory, it was a hard-fought struggle that demonstrated the grit and determination of the young American men who were sent far away from their homes to fight on planes and on ships, in helicopters and in jungles. From village to village, island to island, exposed to some of the most dangerous chemicals known to humankind.

I shall spare you the additional history, but I would like to state for the record this day that we owe it to this generation of fighters, several of whom we are blessed to have joining us here today in this hallowed capitol, to properly welcome them home each and every day, and that is what we intend to do. Welcome home, those who served our country honorably, those who fought for our freedom, those who were wounded, or those who still grieve for their brethren who died in that war. And so, I say, welcome home.

I would like to extend a special welcome home to some veterans from my beloved hometown of Winthrop's chapter of the American Legion, the Alfred W. Maxwell, Jr., Post 40, an active post with both an auxiliary and a Sons of the American Legion, of which I am a member. They serve as an inspiration for me every single day as I do the work in this building, especially as I chair the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs. Last month, Jack Lynch, Vice Commander of Post 40, invited me to a Vietnam veterans recognition event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the conclusion of the war. While I was unable to join for the ceremony, I caught the end of the event, and when they shared there was one more anniversary remaining, the Mayaguez incident which we memorialized today, I took it upon myself to put this together. It was a perfect opportunity to recognize the service of this generation, right here in the Maine Senate.

Here with us today from the Winthrop Legion Post 40, we have Charles McGillicuddy, who served in the United States Army from 1967 to 69, Post 40 Commander Robert Dawson, who served in the United States Marine Corps from 1962 to 1966, Teco Brown, who served in the U.S. Army from 1967 to 1969, Scott Ainsworth, who served in the U.S. Army from 1990 to 1996, Jack Lynch, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1975 to 1979, and Doug Thomas, who served in the United States Army from 1978 to 1982.

I will close by welcoming a few other special guests who have graciously joined us in the Senate Chamber this morning to celebrate our veterans on this momentous anniversary. Brigadier General Diane Dunn, the Adjutant General of the Maine National Guard, and the Commissioner of the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management, David Richmond, the

Director of Maine Bureau of Veteran Services, both of whom are veterans themselves, and Ryan Lorrain, the Director of Communications for the Maine Bureau of Veterans Services.

Madam President, I will never forget as a youngster, seven and a half years old, seeing service members from Vietnam returning home on the television screen being spat on and called all kinds of names that grown people ought to have known better to call them. And so, I say again, we owe it to recognize the honorable and distinguished service of these men to our great nation. I'm so proud we are able to do this here today and in the House probably later on, and I say one final time, welcome home.

Thank you, Madam President.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize a number of our guests who are joining us here today. Charles McGillicuddy, Robert Dawson, Teco Brown, Scott Ainsworth, Jack Lynch, and Doug Thomas, who are members of the American Legion Post 40. They are from the town of Winthrop. Would they please rise? We are going to hold off on applause until everyone is standing, if that's okay. We also have Jim Singer and Phil Chapman from Southport. We also have Angus Macaulay of Kennebunk. I apologize. Angus Macaulay, thank you. And then David P. Dillon, a Vietnam veteran from the U.S. Air Force, serving 1969 through 1973, from the town of Greenbush, as well as Brigadier General Diane Dunn of Rome, as well as David A. Richmond of Jefferson and Ryan Lorrain of Norway. Would they all please stand and accept the heartfelt greetings of the Maine Senate?

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook (Cosponsored by Representative BABIN of Fort Fairfield and Senator: BERNARD of Aroostook, Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, ARDELL of Monticello, DAIGLE of Fort Kent, GUERRETTE of Caribou, SWALLOW of Houlton, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle), the following Joint Resolution:

S.P. 779

**JOINT RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING MAY 2025 AS
MAINE TREATMENT AND RECOVERY COURT MONTH**

WHEREAS, treatment and recovery courts nationwide are the cornerstone of justice reform and are recognized as the most successful justice system intervention in our Nation's history; and

WHEREAS, Maine's treatment and recovery courts have been restoring lives and families and increasing public health and safety for almost 3 decades; and

WHEREAS, Maine now has 14 treatment and recovery courts, including 8 adult drug treatment and recovery courts, 2 veterans treatment courts, 3 family recovery courts and one co-occurring disorder court; and

WHEREAS, Maine's treatment and recovery courts have served more than 2,800 individuals, indirectly impacting thousands of Maine families, employers and communities; and

WHEREAS, the most recent statewide assessment has shown that Maine's treatment and recovery courts have substantially lowered the conviction recidivism rate of graduates to 6% compared to 41% of people with comparable characteristics and criminal histories who did not participate in a treatment and recovery court program; and

WHEREAS, according to All Rise, treatment and recovery courts significantly improve substance use disorder treatment outcomes and substantially reduce addiction and related crime and do so at less expense than any other criminal justice strategy in Maine's history; and

WHEREAS, according to the statewide assessment, Maine's treatment and recovery courts save an average of \$16,232 in incarceration and community corrections costs for every individual served, permitting Maine to boast savings significantly more than the national average of \$6,000 per individual; and

WHEREAS, Maine's treatment and recovery courts improve education, employment, housing and financial stability; promote family reunification; reduce foster care placements; and increase the rate of mothers delivering babies who are fully drug-free; and

WHEREAS, Maine's treatment and recovery courts facilitate community-wide partnerships, bridging public safety and public health; and

WHEREAS, the success of Maine's treatment and recovery courts is the result of dedicated, collaborative efforts and partnerships with many state departments and organizations, including the Maine Judicial Branch, the Office of the Attorney General, the Governor's office of opioid response, Maine Prosecutors' Association, Maine Commission on Public Defense Services, the Department of Corrections, county sheriff's offices, the Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Health, Aroostook Mental Health Center, Wellspring, the Community Caring Collaborative, the Co-Occurring Collaborative Serving Maine, Maine Pretrial Services and the Maine Reentry Network, as well as a multitude of recovery centers and residences, independent treatment providers and physicians and recovery support organizations; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to designate May 2025 as Maine Treatment and Recovery Court Month in recognition of the efforts of all professionals and participants who make our treatment and recovery courts work and of the significant contribution our treatment and recovery courts have made and continue to make in the fight against substance use disorder, by helping our citizens in their recovery and in restoring hope.

READ and ADOPTED.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **TALBOT ROSS** of Cumberland (Cosponsored by Senator: STEWART of Aroostook), the following Joint Resolution:

S.P. 780

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

WHEREAS, the United States and the Republic of China (Taiwan) share a robust bilateral relationship marked by a mutually beneficial partnership and supported by our common values of freedom, democracy, rule of law and a free market economy, and our countries now enjoy the strongest relations ever; and

WHEREAS, May 20, 2025 marks the 2nd year of the Honorables Dr. Lai Ching-te as President and Bi-khim Hsiao as Vice President of Taiwan, thereby demonstrating the vibrancy of Taiwan's democracy; and

WHEREAS, the United States ranks as Taiwan's 2nd-largest trading partner, and Taiwan is the 7th-largest trading partner of the United States in 2024, with United States trade in goods with Taiwan totaling an estimated \$157.8 billion, a 34.79% increase over 2023; and

WHEREAS, the government of Taiwan has expressed a desire to reach an Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement with the United States, which will increase Maine exports to Taiwan, bilateral investment and jobs in Maine; and

WHEREAS, Maine and Taiwan have enjoyed a long history of vibrant bilateral relations, including trade, as evidenced by Maine-Taiwan bilateral trade amounting to \$45.47 million in 2024 and Maine exports to Taiwan of \$27.95 million, making Taiwan Maine's 8th-largest export market in Asia; and

WHEREAS, a reciprocal driver's license agreement between Maine and Taiwan would greatly benefit drivers from both sides, including Maine-Taiwan exchange students and business people living and working in our respective jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, Maine's Department of Education and the Ministry of Education of the Republic of China (Taiwan) have entered into a memorandum of understanding to strengthen and enhance kindergarten to grade 12 educational exchange and cooperation and now seek to enter into a similar memorandum of understanding for higher education; and

WHEREAS, the United States government actively encourages engagement between the people of the United States and

Taiwan, especially at the state level, in terms of trade, investment, commerce, education and cultural exchanges and supports Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations, and United States policy toward Taiwan is guided by the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 and not United Nations Resolution 2758 (1971), which neither mentions Taiwan nor prevents Taiwan's international participation; and

WHEREAS, Taiwan is a reliable partner and trustworthy democratic ally, making its inclusion in international organizations such as the World Health Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization imperative for the best interests and safety of the international community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, support a stronger United States-Taiwan relationship under the Trump administration, including the signing of an Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreement with the United States, a driver's license reciprocity agreement and a memorandum of understanding on higher education with Taiwan in the near future, and support pursuing ways to further increase trade and people-to-people exchanges; and be it further

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

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

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **TALBOT ROSS:** Thank you again, Madam President. I just wanted to stand and express my sincere thanks to our guests for joining us here today and to reaffirm how important the friendship between Maine and Taiwan is, as evidenced by the data that we just heard about. But to also talk about our strong working relationship that we now have with the cultural center of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston. This office helps to manage ties with five New England states - Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts - and we sincerely hope to increase opportunities for meaningful cooperation across the New England states by establishing a sister city relationship hopefully within this next year, and also exploring how the New England states can work on regional trade opportunities.

So, I just wanted to stand and say thank you again to our honorable guest. I also wanted to just say how grateful I think the state of Maine is for this relationship with Taiwan through Taipei, particularly, and hope that our ties just get stronger and stronger moving forward.

So, thank you very much, Madam President.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, Michael Huang as well as Charles Liao of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston. They are the guests today of the Senators from Cumberland, Senator Talbot Ross, the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Rotundo, as well as the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Stewart. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate?

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

Off Record Remarks

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Require the Cooperation of Original Manufacturers of Electronic Devices to Facilitate the Repair of Those Devices by Device Owners and Independent Repair Providers"
S.P. 749 L.D. 1908

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

In Senate, May 6, 2025, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

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

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Allow Chiropractors to Be Designated as School Health Advisors"

S.P. 352 L.D. 828
(C "A" S-74)

In Senate, May 13, 2025, the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-74)**.

Comes from the House, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, the Senate **INSISTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Protect Taxpayers by Requiring Referenda on Significant Municipal Debt"

S.P. 430 L.D. 1013
(C "A" S-72)

In Senate, May 13, 2025, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-72)**.

Comes from the House, the Minority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, the Senate **INSISTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication:

S.C. 394

**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SPEAKER'S OFFICE
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

May 14, 2025

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

Dear Secretary Grant:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (I) (a), I am appointing Representative Brian P. Reynolds of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians to the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, effective immediately.

Do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,

S/Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 395

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

May 14, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME. 04333

RE: Nomination of Active Retired Judges to the Maine District Court

Dear President Daughtry:

I am pleased to nominate The Honorable Patricia G. Worth of Belfast for reappointment and the Honorable Michael P. Roberts for appointment as Active Retired Judges of the Maine District Court.

Pursuant to Article V, Part First, §8, of the Maine Constitution, these nominations are contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 396

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

May 14, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Nominations to the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services to the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services

Dear President Daughtry:

I am pleased to nominate the following individuals to the Maine Commission on Public Defense Services:

- Randall J. Bates, Esq. of Yarmouth for reappointment
- Taylor Sawyer Kilgore of Turner for appointment
- Anne H. Jordan, Esq. of South Portland for appointment

Pursuant to Title 4, MRSA §1803, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 391

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

May 13, 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 Housing and Economic Development has had under consideration the nomination of Nancy Y. Harrison of Veazie, for reappointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority.

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

YEAS	Senators	2	Curry, C. of Waldo, Bennett, R. of Oxford
	Representatives	6	Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Eder, J. of Waterboro, Golek, C. of Harpswell, Julia, C. of Waterville, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Yusuf, Y. of Portland
NAYS		0	

ABSENT 5 Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Rep. Collamore, A. of Pittsfield, Rep. Mingo, A. of Calais, Rep. Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Rep. Walker, M. of Naples

Eight members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Nancy Y. Harrison of Veazie, for reappointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Chip Curry
Senate Chair

S/Traci Gere
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** 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 Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator **BICKFORD**, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **BRENNER**, and the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **NANGLE**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#170)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

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

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 414

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

May 15, 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 Housing and Economic Development has had under consideration the nomination of Noel Bonam of Portland, for reappointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority.

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

YEAS	Senators	2	Curry, C. of Waldo, Bennett, R. of Oxford
	Representatives	9	Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Collamore, A. of Pittsfield, Eder, J. of Waterboro, Golek, C. of Harpswell, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Mingo, A. of Calais, Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Walker, M. of Naples, Yusuf, Y. of Portland
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		2	Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Rep. Julia, C. of Waterville

Eleven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Noel Bonam of Portland, for reappointment as a Commissioner of the Maine State Housing Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Chip Curry
Senate Chair

S/Traci Gere
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** 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 (#171)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

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

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 390

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

May 13, 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 Housing and Economic Development has had under consideration the nomination of Robert C. Bryant of Hartland, for reappointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

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

YEAS	Senators	2	Curry, C. of Waldo, Bennett, R. of Oxford
	Representatives	5	Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Eder, J. of Waterboro, Golek, C. of Harpswell, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Yusuf, Y. of Portland
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		6	Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Rep. Collamore, A. of Pittsfield, Rep. Julia, C. of Waterville, Rep. Mingo, A. of Calais, Rep. Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Rep. Walker, M. of Naples

Seven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Robert C. Bryant of Hartland, for reappointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Chip Curry
Senate Chair

S/Traci Gere
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** 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 (#172)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Robert C. Bryant** of Hartland, for reappointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

Off Record Remarks

The Following Communication:

S.C. 392

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

May 13, 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 Housing and Economic Development has had under consideration the nomination of Ian Houseal of Portland, for reappointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

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

YEAS	Senators	1	Curry, C. of Waldo
	Representatives	7	Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Collamore, A. of Pittsfield, Eder, J. of Waterboro, Golek, C. of Harpswell, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Walker, M. of Naples, Yusuf, Y. of Portland
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		5	Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Sen. Bennett, R. of Oxford, Rep. Julia, C. of Waterville, Rep. Mingo, A. of Calais, Rep. Roberts, T. of South Berwick

Eight members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Ian Houseal of Portland, for reappointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Chip Curry
Senate Chair

S/Traci Gere
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** 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 (#173)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Ian Houseal** of Portland, for reappointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 415

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

May 15, 2025

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

Dear Madam President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation has had under consideration the nomination of James Cohen, Esq. of Portland, for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority.

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

YEAS	Senators	3	Nangle, T. of Cumberland, Farrin, B. of Somerset, Pierce, T. of Cumberland
	Representatives	9	Crafts, L. of Newcastle, Albert, R. of Madawaska, Ankeles, D. of Brunswick, Bishop, S. of Bucksport, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Montell, K. of Gardiner, Parry, W. of Arundel, Ray, M. of Lincolntonville, White, J. of Guilford
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		1	Rep. Eaton, H. of Deer Isle

Twelve 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 Cohen, Esq. of Portland, for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Tim Nangle
Senate Chair

S/Lydia Crafts
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **CONSIDERATION**.

The Following Communication:

S.C. 416

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

May 15, 2025

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

Dear Madam President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation has had under consideration the nomination of Carol Murray of Sanford, for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority.

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

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

Eleven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Carol Murray of Sanford, for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Tim Nangle
Senate Chair

S/Lydia Crafts
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** 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 (#174)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Carol Murray** of Sanford, for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 397

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 we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. Morris of Turner, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 1151 An Act to Protect Access to Health Insurance Under the MaineCare Program

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. 423

**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 we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Sen. Talbot Ross of Cumberland, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 842 An Act to Improve the Health of Maine Residents by Amending the Laws Governing the MaineCare, Maine Rx Plus and Emergency MaineCare Programs

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. 418

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

May 14, 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 we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. Brennan of Portland, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 655 An Act Establishing a State Minimum Hourly Wage for Agricultural Workers

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 419

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

May 14, 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 we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. Roeder of Bangor, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 664 An Act to Improve Unemployment Insurance

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 404

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

May 13, 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 we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. Hepler of Woolwich, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 619 An Act Related to Marine Resources and
Maine's Working Waterfront

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Denise A. Tepler
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Allison Hepler
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 409

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

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 we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. Kuhn of Falmouth, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 1045 An Act to Expand the Use of Tax Increment
Financing District Revenue by Adding Public
Safety as an Authorized Project Cost

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kristen Sarah Cloutier
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 401

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

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 Criminal Justice and Public Safety has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1000 An Act to Require Correctional Facilities and
Substance Use Disorder Treatment Facilities to
Release Prisoners and Patients to a
Responsible Adult

L.D. 1693 An Act to Establish a Sustainable Housing
Development Prison Work Program

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Beebe-Center
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Tavis Rock Hasenfus
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 406

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

May 13, 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 Criminal Justice and Public Safety has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 333 An Act Regarding County Jails
L.D. 334 An Act Regarding County Jail Funding
L.D. 423 An Act Regarding Technical Violations
L.D. 1909 Resolve, to Provide a Comprehensive Analysis of Criminal Legal System Data
L.D. 1950 An Act to Authorize the Inclusion of Additional Counties in the Lincoln and Sagadahoc Multicounty Jail Authority

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Beebe-Center S/Rep. Tavis Rock Hasenfus
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 412

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

May 13, 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. 1627 An Act Regarding Workforce Development, Education Reform and Talent Retention

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

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

Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 420

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

May 15, 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. 701 Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Report on Financial Literacy Education in the System of Learning Results

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

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

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 421

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

May 16, 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. 803 An Act to Address Certification Violations for School Staff

L.D. 1753 An Act to Establish the Upper St. John Valley Recovery High School Program

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. 426

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

May 16, 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. 680 An Act to Support Higher Education in Maine by Providing Funds to Maine's Community Colleges

L.D. 972 An Act to Change the Entity Responsible for Operating the Career and Technical Education Center in Machias to Regional School Unit 37

L.D. 988 An Act to Allow Hunting on University of Maine System Property

L.D. 1369 An Act to Provide Emergency Medical Services Training Through the Maine Community College System

L.D. 1833 An Act to Expand Law Education and Training by Creating a Night Law School Program

L.D. 1891 An Act to Address the Dental Professional Workforce Shortage by Establishing Scholarship and Loan Programs and Updating the Dental Care Access Tax Credit

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. 399

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

May 2, 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 Energy, Utilities and Technology has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1250 An Act to Provide That Portfolio Requirements for Renewable Electricity Resources Apply Only to Actual Retail Sales

L.D. 1346 An Act Regarding the Supply of Water to the Town of New Sharon (EMERGENCY)

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Mark W. Lawrence S/Rep. Melanie Sachs
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 400

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

May 1, 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 Energy, Utilities and Technology has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1675 An Act to Provide Just Compensation in Cases of Taking by Eminent Domain by Transmission and Distribution Utilities

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Mark W. Lawrence S/Rep. Melanie Sachs
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 405

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

May 14, 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 Energy, Utilities and Technology has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 359 An Act to Prohibit Net Energy Billing by Certain Customers

L.D. 1317 An Act to Promote Responsible, Cost-effective Energy in Maine by Amending the Tariff Rates Applicable to the Commercial and Institutional Net Energy Billing Program

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Mark W. Lawrence S/Rep. Melanie Sachs
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 427

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

May 15, 2025

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

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1698 An Act Regarding Changes of Ownership of Dams

L.D. 1721 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Commingling of Beverage Containers

L.D. 1808 An Act to Enact the Maine Climate Superfund Act

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Denise A. Tepler
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Victoria W. Doudera
House Chair

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

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 398

The Following Communication:

S.C. 424

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

May 15, 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. 1316 | An Act to Amend the Mandated Reporter Laws Regarding Medical Records, Additional Information and Immunity |
| L.D. 1397 | An Act to Fund Community-based Organizations to Prevent and Reduce the Risk of Children's Involvement in the Child Welfare System |
| L.D. 1459 | An Act to Make General Assistance Officers Mandated Reporters |
| L.D. 1606 | An Act to Require Data Collection and Major Substantive Rulemaking for the Lifespan Waiver Providing Home and Community-based Services for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorder or Other Related Conditions (EMERGENCY) |
| L.D. 1703 | Resolve, to Establish the Adverse Childhood Experiences Screening and Resiliency Assessment Pilot Project |

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Michele Meyer
House Chair

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND
FINANCIAL 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 Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| L.D. 91 | An Act to Authorize Employees of the Maine Association of Retirees to Be Eligible for Participation in the State Employee Health Insurance Program |
| L.D. 955 | An Act to Ensure Human Oversight in Medical Insurance Payment Decisions |
| L.D. 1084 | Resolve, to Alleviate the Behavioral Health Workforce Shortage by Allowing the Training and Granting of Behavioral Health Certifications by Community-based Agencies and Hospitals |
| L.D. 1115 | An Act to Expand Eligibility Under the State's Group Health Plan to Employees and Members of the Maine Association for the Education of Young Children |
| L.D. 1192 | An Act to Increase the Commercial Insurance Reimbursement Rate for Ambulance Services |
| L.D. 1590 | An Act to Reduce the Counselor and Social Worker Shortage by Amending Reciprocity Requirements for Those Professionals from Other Jurisdictions |

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Donna Bailey
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kristi M. Mathieson
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 411

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

May 14, 2025

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

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1660 An Act Creating a Private Right of Action
 Against a Government Employer

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Amy D. Kuhn
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 425

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

May 15, 2025

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

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1351 An Act to Require Antisemitism to Be
 Considered as Motivation When Determining a
 Violation of a Criminal or Civil Law

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Amy D. Kuhn
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 402

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

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 Labor has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 357 An Act to Establish a State Minimum Hourly
 Wage for Agricultural Workers

L.D. 539 An Act to Repeal the Paid Family and Medical
 Leave Benefits Program (EMERGENCY)

L.D. 575 An Act to Ensure Equitable Access to the Paid
 Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program by
 Removing the Requirement That Leave Must
 Be Scheduled to Prevent Undue Hardship on
 the Employer

L.D. 1249 An Act to Delay Payment of Benefits Under the
 Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits
 Program (EMERGENCY)

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Michael Tipping
Senate Chair House Chair

S/Rep. Amy Jean Roeder

State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 403

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

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 Marine Resources has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1678 An Act to Allocate Commercial Menhaden Fishing Licenses for Island Communities

L.D. 1679 An Act to Allocate Scallop Dragging Licenses for Island Communities

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Denise A. Tepler
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Allison Hepler
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 410

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

May 14, 2025

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

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

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

L.D. 1603 An Act to Eliminate the Property Tax on Business Equipment With a Value of No More Than \$50,000

L.D. 1732 An Act to Allow a Municipality to Waive the Excise Tax on an Antique Automobile Owned by a Person 65 Years of Age or Older

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kristen Sarah Cloutier
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 417

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

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 Taxation has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1621 An Act to Allow Municipalities to Use Tax Increment Financing Revenues to Support Lake Restoration and Protection Activities

L.D. 1630 An Act to Amend the Open Space Tax Law

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski

S/Rep. Kristen Sarah Cloutier

Senate Chair

House Chair

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

S/Sen. Tim Nangle
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lydia Crafts
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 393

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

May 8, 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 Transportation has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| L.D. 329 | An Act to Increase the Fine for Passing a Stopped School Bus |
| L.D. 433 | An Act Relating to Requirements for School Bus Drivers |
| L.D. 622 | An Act to Implement a Surcharge on Electric Vehicle Registration |
| L.D. 773 | An Act to Provide for the Issuance of Enhanced Driver's Licenses and Enhanced Nondriver Identification Cards in Maine |
| L.D. 1015 | An Act to Require a Minimum of 2 Persons on a Crew for the Operation of Freight Trains |
| L.D. 1644 | An Act to Require Train Axle Bearing Sensors to Be Installed on Passenger Rail Lines |
| L.D. 1659 | An Act to Raise Revenue to Fund Firefighting Equipment Purchases and Training Related to Electric Vehicle Fires Through a Fee on Electric Vehicles |
| L.D. 1709 | An Act Regarding Antique Automobiles |
| L.D. 1714 | An Act to Create a New Pathway to Licensure to Drive School Buses |

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

The Following Communication:

S.C. 407

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

May 14, 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 Transportation has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| L.D. 1846 | An Act to Amend the Law Governing Notification to Vehicle Owners and Lienholders When a Vehicle Is Towed or Left Without Permission on Residential or Business Property |
|-----------|---|

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Tim Nangle
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lydia Crafts
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 408

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

May 13, 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 Transportation has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 547 An Act to Modify Maine Motor Vehicle Inspection Standards to Permit Exterior, Nonstructural Corrosion That Does Not Directly Affect the Passenger Compartment
- L.D. 661 An Act to Amend Motor Vehicle Inspection Requirements
- L.D. 1305 An Act to Improve Access to Transportation to Work for Forestry Workers and Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Tim Nangle
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lydia Crafts
House Chair

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

The Following Communication:

S.C. 413

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

May 13, 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. 302 An Act Regarding Maine's Cannabis Industry
- L.D. 392 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Cannabis

L.D. 684 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Liquor and Lottery Operations

L.D. 959 An Act to Require the Development of Better Cannabis Testing Criteria and Processes

L.D. 1116 An Act to Protect the Constitutional Rights of Petition Circulators

L.D. 1415 An Act to Expand Reporting Requirements for Legislators and Lobbyists

L.D. 1862 An Act to Provide That Authority over In-person Sports Betting Resides Solely with the Gambling Control Board

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.**

The Following Communication:

S.C. 422

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

May 15, 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. 1567 An Act to Require Labeling of Radiation Treatment and Ozonation of Adult Use Cannabis and Inspection and Registration of Associated Equipment

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.**

The Following Communication:

S.C. 428

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

May 16, 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. 1717 An Act Regarding Background Checks for Medical Cannabis Providers

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.**

The Following Communication:

H.C. 169

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

May 14, 2025

Honorable Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate
132nd Maine Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Grant:

The House voted today to insist on its former action whereby it Indefinitely Postponed Joint Order to Amend Joint Rule 308 (S.P. 726).

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

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

The Following Communication:

H.C. 168

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

May 7, 2025

Honorable Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate
132nd Maine Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Secretary Grant:

The House voted today to insist on its former action whereby it accepted the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report of the Committee on Health and Human Services on Bill "An Act to Fund Medical Research and Cancer Prevention" (S.P. 355) (L.D. 792).

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

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

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Provide Funding to Reduce Stigma for Parents Seeking Support"

H.P. 689 L.D. 1060

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-149)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-149)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-149) **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 to Initiate Recounts in Tied Elections"
H.P. 368 L.D. 600

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-145)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-145)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-145) **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 Require Testing of Solar and Wind Energy Developments for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination"

H.P. 305 L.D. 451

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

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York
GROHOSKI of Hancock

Representatives:

SACHS of Freeport
GEIGER of Rockland
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 as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-88)**.

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**.

Senator **LAWRENCE** 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 York, Senator Harrington.

Senator **HARRINGTON:** Thank you, Madam President. I rise in opposition to the pending motion.

I think with the development -- mass development of solar in the state of Maine, I think the people of Maine deserve to know what this is doing to the soil underneath these panels. This bill is pretty straightforward. It requires simply that the soil be tested prior to, during, and after installation of solar panels for PFAS. PFAS seems to be a rising concern in this Chamber for every other application other than when it comes to solar panels, which we know have PFAS in them.

So, I would encourage you to vote against the current motion and support this bill. Thank you.

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

Senator **LAWRENCE:** Thank you, Madam President. I hope you will oppose this bill. This is the only industry I can think of that we're singling out in this fashion with a special bill to try to determine if it has PFAS. There's ways to determine through the ENR committee. They've done on determining what products that are used, what elements that are used have PFAS. But what really enrages me about this bill is it's going to cost a million dollars a year to implement. A million dollars a year. And when we're in such tight budget situation, having to make difficult choices, why would we want to add a million dollars a year to the budget. It would require somebody to go out and test land before a solar farm is put on it, then test it afterwards, and then make a determination if there is an increase in PFAS whether it's coming

from the products used in the solar farm. It's absolutely ridiculous. I know the proclivity of some people to spend a lot of money, but this is a million dollars that would be wasted, and I hope you'll vote it down. Thank you.

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

Senator **CYRWAY:** Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I need to speak up on that situation just mentioned.

You know, growing up, I grew up on a farm, and it was the times when they were having the buyouts for cattle and because we had a surplus of milk. And when they did, that's when we -- this kind of -- the PFAS issue really became a problem and at that time, the EPA said there was no problem and they allowed it and had the -- our human waste being spread on the fields so that -- because the cattle weren't there anymore, it was just the heifers and there wasn't enough to supply the hay fields so that they -- the farmers thought that it was okay. And so, we're doing this again? I think that maybe we should rethink this before we go and vote and say oh, it's too much money. Because once you do it, it's forever. And it took, you know, a lot of farmers by surprise when this hit us and we found in my area, especially, in Fairfield Center, where it was the highest in the whole United States.

And so, we don't know what these solar farms are doing and we don't know the answers, and I think for us to just say -- and push a button and say it's okay because it's too much money, it wouldn't hurt to test prior to and maybe do some tests and find out what the end results could be before and not after.

So, Madam President, and I really think it is serious. I know we had farmers that cried, that it took their farms away. And I've heard some other people that were crying because they had the well issues, and now we're even finding that now they tried to correct it by putting these nice filter systems in and now they're running out of money, the State's running out of money to supply those filters and it's going to be very costly to the people that own those homes. And so, this is a big mistake, I think, that just -- and maybe there's an easier answer of testing and finding out this answer, but I just want to say don't do it by pushing this button and say let's -- let's ignore this. Because we've done it once, why do it again? That's what I'm saying.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator **LIBBY:** Thank you, Madam Chair -- Madam President, Men and Women of the Senate. I just want to bring a story to you, and it was just something that I'll never forget. I was in the House Chamber, I believe it was, in the 1990s and Angus King, who we keep talking about in here, had just become Governor, and I was behind a bill to look at and, in that case, ban MTBE. It was a gasoline additive that we decided nationwide that we would add. Well, we had some early preliminary scientific reports on MTBE and what it basically said was that this is a chemical that is soluble in water and it's very difficult to clean. And so, anyway, we had -- to make a long story short, we had an incredible fight, it was a battle, it was a very close vote in both Chambers, and it was right at the end of the session, which a lot of these bills are, the controversial ones, and so, I lost, we lost the vote. And I'll never forget the next morning, waking up at about ten in the

morning because you know how the last day of session is, you're absolutely -- you're here all night, you're exhausted, and I was in my home just kind of like barely awake, sitting on my couch, and I got a phone call from Angus King. And I couldn't believe it. And I -- hey, Angus, great talking to you, and he said why is it that you're so adamant about this MTBE issue? And I said to him well, I mean, what I'd like to do is just send you a scientific report about why we need to get this out of our environment, and these are -- these are scientific reports that are based on spills that have occurred all over the United States and the level of pollution is significant, we don't want that to happen in Maine. And so, I sent it to him, and I heard from him two days later and basically what he said was look, I want you to come up, we're going to have a press conference. I know I fought you on this with the help of the Legislature, I fought you on the MTBE bill, but I'm going to invite you up, we're going to have a press conference, and we are going to get this substance out of Maine and we're going to make sure that it doesn't poison our well water. Well, you can imagine how thrilled I was. Later on, I told him and others in this -- in this Chamber, a few years later, that the spreading of sludge had a similar problem, that there were contaminants in the sludge and we really ought not be spreading that all over our farmers' fields. And nobody listened. Nobody listened to the arguments of the minority, and what did we end up with? I mean -- and I'm not saying minority party, I'm saying there were -- it was bipartisan, but what did we end up with? You know what we ended up with, we ended up with polluted farmers' fields.

It's clear to all of us that PFAS is a problem and we're a leader in the nation on this issue. And I do think that -- and I agree that the Senator from Kennebec spoke very wisely when he said maybe there's another way to do this. Whatever it takes, I mean, we really should not -- we've got, especially in my rural district, acres and acres and acres of these solar panels. And if -- when the rain hits them or whatever the weather is, it's leaking PFAS into the ground, I want to know. You want to know. And we don't want to let it go on for a long period of time. So, I -- just thinking about that whole issue, it -- it just reminds me of other mistakes that we've made, and I think we need to learn from our mistakes.

So, I would encourage you to vote against the pending motion and support the Minority Report.

Thank you very much for your patience.

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

Senator **LAWRENCE:** Thank you, Madam President, and just in response to the two prior speakers, there is a better way to do this, and it is being done now. It is in our environmental statutes. It is saying whenever products are used - it identifies products that has PFAS in them and sets restrictions on the use of them. And that will apply to solar developers, that will apply to farmers, that will apply if you're putting in a Dairy Queen, if you're putting anything on a property, that applies. What this bill is about, it's directing at a specific industry and trying to place a burden on this industry. And the purpose behind it is not PFAS, it's to slow down renewables and keep us reliant on oil, coal, and natural gas. That's the purpose of this bill.

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

Senator **LIBBY**: Thank you, Madam President. I want to thank the Good Senator from York for bringing up those issues, and I don't disagree that some people may feel like solar development is problematic, doesn't bring us enough energy, and so forth, but that's not my argument here, I don't think that way at all. My problem is that I'm looking at solar farms and there's just a concentrated area of one product, and because it's so concentrated, one might think that there is more of an opportunity for there to be a PFAS problem. We've identified that there's PFAS in the panels, so I would think that we would want to take this step and try to, you know, take a strong position on the concentration of these panels, not try to block solar. Solar is one energy alternative that we all should embrace. That's really not what this is about at all. 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 (#176)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

18 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 14 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **LAWRENCE** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Off Record Remarks

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Resolve, to Study the Effects of 5G and Other Non-ionizing Radio Frequency Radiation-emitting Technology on Bird, Bee, Insect and Other Wildlife Populations and the Effects of Long-term Exposure on Children

H.P. 564 L.D. 878

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

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York
GROHOSKI of Hancock
HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:

SACHS of Freeport
KESSLER of South Portland
RUNTE of York
WADSWORTH of Hiram
WEBB of Durham

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-87)**.

Signed:

Representatives:

FOSTER of Dexter
GEIGER of Rockland
MCINTYRE of Lowell
PAUL of Winterport
WARREN of Scarborough

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 **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act Prohibiting Public Utilities from Requiring Deposits Based Solely on a Residential Customer's Income"

H.P. 702 L.D. 1080

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-86)**.

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-86)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-86)**.

Reports **READ**.

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

On motion by 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 (#176)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

18 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 14 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **LAWRENCE** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-86) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME**.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#177)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

19 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused this Bill was **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 Track Certain Information Regarding and Seek Federal Reimbursement for Medical Care Provided to Asylum Seekers"

H.P. 283 L.D. 429

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

Signed:

Senators:
INGWERSEN of York
NANGLE of Cumberland

Representatives:
MEYER of Eliot
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 To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:
MOORE of Washington

Representatives:
DAIGLE of Fort Kent
GRIFFIN of Levant
JAVNER of Chester
LEMELIN of Chelsea

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

Reports **READ**.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#178)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

19 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators
having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the
motion by Senator **INGWERSEN** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority
OUGHT NOT TO PASS Report, **PREVAILED**.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on RESOLUTION,
Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Provide
for Parental Rights

H.P. 321 L.D. 492

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

Signed:

Senators:
CARNEY of Cumberland
TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland

Representatives:
KUHN of Falmouth
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" (H-146).

Signed:

Senator:
HAGGAN of Penobscot

Representatives:
BABIN of Fort Fairfield
CARUSO of Caratunk
HENDERSON of Rumford
POIRIER of Skowhegan

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

Reports **READ**.

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

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

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

Senator **HAGGAN:** Thank you very much, Madam President,
and distinguished and Honorable Members of this august Body,
the Senate.

Basically, this bill clarifies that the State, its political
subdivisions, and government entities may not infringe on the
authority of parents to direct the upbringing, education, and care
for the physical, mental, and spiritual health of the child unless
there is child abuse and other things that are happening that are
against the law.

Moms and dads and guardians need to have support --
excuse me -- parental control of their children's lives. There are a
lot of things that have been legislated in this -- in this big building
where parents have no control over what happens to their
children, especially ages 16 and 17. The age of adulthood or
consent or whatever words we would use is 18. And until they're
18, they are not ready. It's been said many times upstairs on the
fourth floor, the prefrontal lobe is not developed and whatnot until
age 26. That's when my insurance went way down back in the
day, in the '80s. So, I think that moms and dads should have
more say with education. Being a public-school teacher for a long

time, there's a lot of new things that have come down the path of the public schools that parents don't agree with, and they call me crying, you know, what do I do? What do I do? I'm not a licensed counselor, I can't advise. And I can give a thousand different reasons and I could speak until tomorrow morning as to why parents should have control over the people that they brought into this world, and they love dearly.

So, for me, this is an easy, easy vote. We've got to give the parents the proper respect and rights to guide their children into adulthood the way they see fit.

Thank you very much.

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

Senator **GUERIN:** Madam President, Esteemed Members of the Senate, fellow Mainers, and defenders of liberty, I stand today to champion LD 492, a bill that seeks to enshrine in our state law the fundamental rights of parents to direct the upbringing, education, and care of our children.

This is not a matter of political expediency, but a bedrock principle rooted in the very fabric of our constitutional republic. Let us be clear, the right of parents to raise their children is not a privilege granted by the State, but a preexisting inherent right. It is a natural right, recognized and protected by the foundational documents of our nation. The 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution declares that no state shall deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law. The Supreme Court, in a long line of landmark cases, has consistently recognized that the liberty interest protected by this amendment includes the right of parents to direct the upbringing and education of their children. In *Meyer v. Nebraska*, the court struck down a state law that prohibited the teaching of foreign languages, stating that the 14th Amendment's liberty guarantee includes the right to establish a home and bring up children. In *Pierce v. Society of Sisters*, the court affirmed the right of parents to choose their children's education, including the right to send them to private schools.

These cases established a clear and unwavering precedent, the right of parents to control their children's education and upbringing is a fundamental liberty. This is not a mere suggestion, but a constitutional mandate. Furthermore, the Ninth Amendment reminds us that the enumeration of several rights in the Constitution shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people. This acknowledges that not all rights are explicitly listed, that the people retain enumerable rights, including the right to raise their children as they see fit. This amendment serves as a safeguard against government overreach, preventing the State from claiming authority over areas rightfully belonging to individuals and families.

LD 492 seeks to codify these constitutional principles in Maine law, ensuring that parental rights are not subject to the whims of shifting political tides or bureaucratic overreach. It seeks to establish a clear and unambiguous standard, protecting families from intrusive state actions. Some argue that the State has a compelling interest in the welfare of children. I agree. But this interest must be balanced against the fundamental rights of parents. The State's role is not to supplant parental authority, but to support and supplement it, stepping in only when there is clear and convincing evidence of abuse or neglect.

LD 492 is not about denying the State its legitimate role. It is about affirming the primacy of the family, recognizing that parents

who love and know their children best are the primary caretakers and decision makers in their lives. This bill is about protecting the sacred bond between parent and child, ensuring that the State respects the fundamental rights of families. Let us stand together, united in our commitment to liberty and constitutional principle that parents, not the State, are the rightful guardians of their children. Let our voices ring out across the state declaring Maine will protect parental rights.

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, Madam President. I'm pleased to speak in support of the pending motion.

I did want to point out to my colleagues that Maine already has constitutional rights for parents that are far greater than any other state. Our law court also has issued a long series of decisions that protect and actually show great deference to the fundamental rights of parents to parent their children. What passing this legislation would entail is upending that strong track record of court decisions as well as creating uncertainty in many areas of existing law.

So, one of those areas, of course, is the rights of 16- and 17-year-olds to obtain treatment for substance use and mental health disorders and to have privacy in their medical records. There are lots of other examples. For instance, the Maine Schoolboard Association pointed out that while the Maine Schoolboard Association reaffirms the commitment to parental rights and parental engagement, there are certain rights that are established under federal law, under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, and other federal laws, as well as state laws that would be called into question by this legislation.

And then, finally, the Office of Child and Family Services noted that these proposed amendments would call into question the government involvement when a child is at risk of abuse and neglect. They would also call into question the current parental rights and responsibilities determinations that are made in our district courts when there is a family law dispute, and then finally they would make it difficult for the State to follow its existing processes in overseeing education, including of homeschooled children.

So, I would urge my colleagues to vote in support of the pending motion. Unfortunately, this proposal would jeopardize the existing protections that adequately support parents' rights in our state.

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 (#179)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

19 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Make Technical Changes to Maine's Tax Laws"
H.P. 188 L.D. 288

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-147)**.

Signed:

Senators:
GROHOSKI of Hancock
TIPPING of Penobscot

Representatives:
CLOUTIER of Lewiston
CROCKETT of Portland
FRIEDMANN of Bar Harbor
MATLACK of St. George
SAYRE of Kennebunk
SWALLOW of Houlton
WHITE of Ellsworth

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-148)**.

Signed:

Senator:
BICKFORD of Androscoggin

Representatives:
LAVIGNE of Berwick
QUINT of Hodgdon
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-147)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-147)**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-147)** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-147) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Senate

Change of Committee

Senator RAFFERTY for the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Provide a Source of Revenue for School Construction and for the Land for Maine's Future Trust Fund"

S.P. 542 L.D. 1312

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator GROHOSKI for the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Use a Portion of the Sales Tax on Snowmobiles to Fund Maine's Snowmobile Trail Programs"

S.P. 631 L.D. 1547

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator TALBOT ROSS for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act to Require Notification of Certain Outdoor Pesticide Applications" (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 142 L.D. 356

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-88)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-88) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator TALBOT ROSS for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act to Support Outdoor, Agricultural-based and Hands-on Experiential Learning in Public Schools"

S.P. 202 L.D. 550

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-91)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-91) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator TALBOT ROSS for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act to Extend Funding for the Land for Maine's Future Program"

S.P. 277 L.D. 593

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-83)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-83) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator TALBOT ROSS for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Resolve, to Update Flood Mapping in the Sandy River Watershed to Federal Emergency Management Agency Standards

S.P. 291 L.D. 758

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-89)**.

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-89) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator TALBOT ROSS for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Assess Its Current Meat and Poultry Inspection Programs

S.P. 487 L.D. 1198

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-90)**.

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-90) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator TALBOT ROSS for the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act to Support Farmland Conservation"

S.P. 612 L.D. 1528

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-84)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-84) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator TEPLER for the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Continue the Exemption for Polystyrene Foam Disposable Food Service Containers Prepackaged at Wholesale" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 536 L.D. 1306

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-92)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-92) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator INGWERSEN for the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Increase the Number of Children a Family Child Care Provider May Care for Without Having to Be Licensed by the Department of Health and Human Services"

S.P. 89 L.D. 202

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-101)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-101) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator INGWERSEN for the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Update Reimbursement Rates for Transportation of Deceased Persons by Funeral Homes When the Transport is at the Request of the Chief Medical Examiner"

S.P. 241 L.D. 562

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-103)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-103) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator INGWERSEN for the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Amend Its Rules to Protect Water Quality by Reducing Nutrient Pollution from Septic Systems
S.P. 634 L.D. 1550

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-102)**.

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-102) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator BAILEY for the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Extend the Period of Time a Dentist May Operate the Practice of a Deceased or Incapacitated Dentist" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 37 L.D. 23

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-87)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-87) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator BAILEY for the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Allow Retail Pharmacies to Operate Remote Dispensing Sites in Rural Areas"

S.P. 105 L.D. 239

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-85).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-85) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Senator BAILEY for the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Amend Laws Governing Hearing Aid Dealers and Health Insurance to Allow an Exception to Certain Hearing Examination Requirements"

S.P. 552 L.D. 1413

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-86).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-86) **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 Regarding the Term of Appointment of Judicial Officers"

S.P. 20 L.D. 8

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-106).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-106) **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 Regarding the First Judicial District and the District Court Locations in the Judicial Divisions of Androscoggin and Western Aroostook"

S.P. 33 L.D. 20

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-105).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-105) **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 Court Procedure and Update Family Law"

S.P. 191 L.D. 458

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-104).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-104) **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 **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Support Informed Community Self-determination in Emergency Medical Services Planning"

S.P. 266 L.D. 583

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-97).**

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

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-97) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Increase Support for Statewide Emergency Broadcast Messaging"

S.P. 309 L.D. 692

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-107)**.

Signed:

Senators:

RAFFERTY of York
LIBBY of Cumberland
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:

Representatives:

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

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-107) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act Regarding Eligibility for Historic Preservation Bond Proceeds"

S.P. 510 L.D. 1282

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-96)**.

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

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-96) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to Approve Rate Adjustments for Low-income Water Utility Ratepayers"

S.P. 107 L.D. 241

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-82)**.

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York
GROHOSKI of Hancock

Representatives:

SACHS of Freeport
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:

Representatives:

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

Reports **READ**.

Senator **LAWRENCE** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report.

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

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending motion by Senator **LAWRENCE** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report (Roll Call Ordered).

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Protect Maine's Scenic Beauty by Requiring Solar Panel Fields to Be Hidden from View"

S.P. 357 L.D. 830

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" (S-100)**.

Signed:

Senator:

MARTIN of Oxford

Representatives:

CAMPBELL of Orrington
SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico
SOBOLESKI of Phillips

Reports **READ**.

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

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

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

Senator **BENNETT**: Thank you, Madam President, Fellow Members of the Senate. This issue is one that deserves some attention because the effect of solar panel fields and their visual

significance is something which is unignorable and something which I'm pleased that this -- the Environment and Natural Resources Committee took some time to review.

I encourage you not to vote for the Ought Not to Pass Report. The Ought to Pass as Amended Report is modest in changing site location law to require the Department of Environmental Protection to consider scenic values as part of the considerations.

I'd like to share with you the words of a constituent of mine, Elizabeth Boepple of Fryeburg, and her husband wrote on this bill and testified - and I have to say Elizabeth Boepple is an amazing and impressive, well credentialed land use and environmental attorney who gives a substantial amount of thought to issues like this. I'm going to quote from her letter to the PUC regarding this issue. Quote, we live in Fryeburg. Over the past, a large rambling solar farm was constructed just off Route 302, heading out of town toward Bridgton. Please do not misread either of us or the town as being anything but pro alternative energy. However, this referenced project is an eyesore, to say the least. The town has reacted in its only legal way, but it is after the horse has left the barn. From our viewpoint, as well as the citizens and government of Fryeburg, there should've been a visual barrier between it and the immediate residential housing as well as any travelers into and out of our really lovely town. Our very clear conclusion is that such a utility project should have guidelines and controls designed by the State. Maine greenlighted these for-profit projects owned by no one from Fryeburg and perhaps no one from the state of Maine. All of the motivation was triggered by state financial and tax policy. There is absolutely no reason why all the advantages for these projects should be with the for-profit developer. There is almost no negative impact on the developer to add -- to adding plantings as a green visual barrier. To the contrary, it would repair his damaged reputation. Fryeburg and its citizens are left with the only option of paying for the corrective action themselves.

The State set up the program, she goes on to write, to financially induce such investors to come in and construct such solar farms, and we agree with such an approach 100%. However, there is no reason, she writes, to scar the landscape, and having done so, the town should not be left holding the bag. If anything, all municipalities in the state should've been informed of the imminent changes that were going to affect them. They should've been given the chance to make any alterations to their local codes. All the advantages cannot be with the developer. The only reasonable thing to do in our estimation is for the State to provide plantings at its expense to hide the scars. We hope that such a correction -- corrective action for towns across the state will follow, she and her husband, Bruce Baker, wrote.

I think the measure before us is maybe a little late to the -- to the public policy debate, unhappily, but there is still a lot of pending projects out there, and I think it's a fairly modest request that -- to have the state consider in approving these projects visual effects and scenic impacts.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

Senator **TEPLER:** Thank you, Madam Chair. While state site law does impact the siting of these projects, local municipalities are capable of writing ordinances that also impact the projects. If a municipality wishes to write an ordinance that requires vegetative

borders on any solar field in its municipality, it is entitled to do so. This is in some ways a bill that interferes with home rule and decision making by local communities and so, I ask you to follow me on the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending motion by Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report (Roll Call Ordered).

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit Financial Institutions from Charging Multiple Fees for Attempted Withdrawals Involving Insufficient Funds"
S.P. 78 L.D. 142

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-94).**

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 Not To Pass.**

Signed:

Senator:

HAGGAN of Penobscot

Representatives:

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

Reports **READ.**

Senator **BAILEY** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report.

On motion by 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 (#180)

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

NAYS: Senators: CYRWAY, FARRIN, HAGGAN, MARTIN

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

28 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 4 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-94) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down forthwith for 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 Specialized Risk Screening for First Responders"

S.P. 343 L.D. 784

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-95)**.

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 be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR**.

Signed:

Senator:
HAGGAN of Penobscot

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

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BAILEY** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report.

On motion by the same Senator 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 Aroostook, Senator Stewart.

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you very much, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I just wanted to explain what might be perceived as some opposition to this concept that's coming from -- from our side of the aisle is not in fact around the issue of supporting first responders, particularly those that may have been exposed to elements that could lead to various diagnoses. In fact, I was a first responder for five years on a fire department, I understand what the risks are, and I understand what my colleagues who I used to work with are potentially going through. The minority Report here is a referencing issue, sending it to a different committee in Labor because we feel that this issue, while an important one to discuss, is not being appropriately tackled through this committee and this committee process and would like to see it sent there to tackle this problem in a different part of our statute, namely around Workers' Comp.

So, that's where the opposition would be coming from from this Roll Call and I just wanted to set the record straight for that so that anybody paying attention today or reviewing this understands where the Republicans and several other first responders within our caucus are coming from with an impending no vote. Thank you.

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

Senator **BAILEY:** Thank you, Madam President. I just wanted to briefly respond to those comments.

The Health Coverage Insurance and Financial Services Committee has dealt with this issue both last session and this session. It is about a health insurance coverage issue and whether in fact there is going to be coverage for prescreening testing for our first responders for the work that they do and the exposures that they do have and the high risk that they have for heart problems and cancers and the like. Workers' Comp already has similar rebuttable presumptions in the Workers' Comp statute. Workers' Comp, of course, does not cover anything up front and we are trying to move something forward that would give coverage up front so that these diseases can be prevented and not have to put in a claim for Workers' Comp after our first

responders have already gotten sick. Thank you.

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

Senator **TIPPING:** Thank you, Madam President. I rise to echo the comments of my colleague from York. There is other issues around Workers' Comp and the rebuttable presumption there.

This is clearly about health insurance, it's within the HCIFS committee. I'd like to say further that from the conversations about those issues of the health affecting first responders that this is an incredibly important bill, and I hope everyone in this Body supports it.

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 (#181)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

20 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 12 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-95) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** on Bill "An Act to Protect Consumers from Hidden Fees and Ensure Transparent Pricing for Live Event Tickets and Short-term Lodging"

S.P. 426 L.D. 992

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

Signed:

Senator:
BAILEY of York

Representatives:
GERE of Kennebunkport
COLLAMORE of Pittsfield
EDER of Waterboro
GOLEK of Harpswell
MALON of Biddeford
MINGO of Calais
ROBERTS of South Berwick
WALKER of Naples
YUSUF of Portland

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

Signed:

Senator:
CURRY of Waldo

Representative:
JULIA of Waterville

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Update Certain Medical Examiner Fees"

S.P. 116 L.D. 249

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-98)**.

Signed:

Senators:
CARNEY of Cumberland
TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland

Representatives:

KUHN of Falmouth
BABIN of Fort Fairfield
LEE of Auburn
O'HALLORAN of Brewer
POIRIER of Skowhegan
PUGH of Portland
SATO of Gorham
SINCLAIR of Bath

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

Signed:

Senator:

HAGGAN of Penobscot

Representatives:

CARUSO of Caratunk
HENDERSON of Rumford

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-98) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Protect and Increase Access to Justice in Civil Legal Matters for Persons with Low Incomes" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 440 L.D. 1022

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-99)**.

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland
TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland

Representatives:

KUHN of Falmouth
BABIN of Fort Fairfield
CARUSO of Caratunk
LEE of Auburn
O'HALLORAN of Brewer
POIRIER of Skowhegan
PUGH of Portland

SATO of Gorham
SINCLAIR of Bath

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

Signed:

Senator:

HAGGAN of Penobscot

Representative:

HENDERSON of Rumford

Reports **READ**.

Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report.

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

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report (Roll Call Ordered).

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Allow Children to Participate in Beano Games Conducted by Nonprofit Charitable Organizations"
S.P. 368 L.D. 835

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

Signed:

Senators:

HICKMAN of Kennebec
DUSON of Cumberland

Representatives:

SUPICA of Bangor
FAIRCLOTH of Bangor
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth
MALON of Biddeford
TERRY of Gorham

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-93)**.

Signed:

Senator:

TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin

Representatives:

BOYER of Poland
CHAPMAN of Auburn
FREDERICKS of Sanford
FROST of Belgrade
HYMES of Waldo

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, the Majority
OUGHT NOT TO PASS Report **ACCEPTED**

Sent down for concurrence.

ENACTORS

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

Act

An Act to Include Judicial Marshals in the 1998 Special Plan for
Retirement

S.P. 359 L.D. 794
(C "A" S-47)

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

HELD MATTER

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

(In Senate, May 14, 2025, Minority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**
Report **FAILED**. Subsequently, Majority **OUGHT TO PASS**
Report **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.)

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, the Senate
RECONSIDERED whereby the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**.

Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot moved to **TABLE** until Later in
Today's Session.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#182)

YEAS: Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BERNARD,
BLACK, BRADSTREET, FARRIN,
GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON,
LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, STEWART,
TIMBERLAKE

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

ABSENT: Senators: CYRWAY, LAWRENCE

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

14 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 16 Senators
having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the
motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot to **TABLE** this
matter until Later in Today's Session, **FAILED**.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#183)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

15 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 17 Senators
having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused
PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED, FAILED.

HELD MATTER

Bill "An Act to Establish Separate Prosecutorial Districts in Downeast Maine"

S.P. 63 L.D. 16

(In Senate, May 14, 2025, Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.)

On motion by Senator **RENY** of Lincoln, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby it **ACCEPTED** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#184)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BERNARD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, RENY, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

14 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 18 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused **ACCEPTANCE** of the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **FAILED**.

The Minority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-81) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

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 (4/24/25) matter:

JOINT ORDER - Expression of Legislative Sentiment Recognizing the Saint Dominic Academy Boys Basketball Team, of Auburn

SLS 488

Tabled - April 24, 2025 by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook

Pending - **ADOPTION**

The Joint Order was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

HOUSE REPORTS - from the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Remove the Duty of an Individual Exercising Self-defense to Safely Retreat or Abstain from Performing Certain Acts upon Demand"
H.P. 315 L.D. 486

Majority - Ought Not to Pass (8 members)

Minority - Ought to Pass (5 members)

Tabled - May 7, 2025 by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox

Pending - **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT**

(In House, Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.)

Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by the same Senator, 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:** Madam President, I rise today in opposition to the -- to supporting LD 486, I am supporting the motion.

The basis of this repeal on this bill relies on the basic right of self-defense. Everyone who is threatened has the right to use proportionate force to defend oneself. However, current law requires someone who is threatened by unlawful deadly force to

retreat before defending themselves, potentially leading to them being harmed or killed. In other words, a lawful citizen trying to protect themselves would have to follow the commands of a person attacking them.

In his testimony, the sponsor provided a series of examples where a victim would lose their self-defense claim for failing to follow a command such as leave this park or I will kill you. People should be allowed to defend themselves if they are threatened, not to have to follow commands from the person threatening them.

Let's be clear, repealing the duty to retreat does not constitute the passage of a Stand Your Ground Act. Twenty states have neither a duty to retreat nor Stand Your Ground Act. This simply gives the law-abiding citizen of Maine greater discretion in when to use proportionate force to defend themselves.

So, I would vote in favor of the motion. Thank you, Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Minority 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 (#185)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

15 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 17 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook to **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report, **FAILED**.

The Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report was **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

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

HOUSE REPORTS - from the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Update the Laws Regarding Education"

H.P. 50 L.D. 86

Majority - Ought to Pass (8 members)

Minority - Ought Not to Pass (5 members)

Tabled - May 7, 2025 by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York

Pending - **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT**

(In House, Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.)

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#186)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

19 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

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

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

HOUSE REPORTS - from the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Increase Availability and Affordability of Mental Health Care and Substance Use Disorder Services by Removing the Certificate of Need Requirement"

H.P. 122 L.D. 189

Majority - Ought Not to Pass (8 members)

Minority - Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-95) (5 members)

Tabled - May 7, 2025 by Senator **BAILEY** of York

Pending - **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT**

(In House, Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.)

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#187)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

19 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

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

HOUSE REPORTS - from the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Increase the Availability and Affordability of Health Care by Eliminating Certificate of Need Requirements"

H.P. 485 L.D. 743

Majority - Ought Not to Pass (8 members)

Minority - Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-96) (5 members)

Tabled - May 7, 2025 by Senator **BAILEY** of York

Pending - **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT**

(In House, Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.)

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#188)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

19 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

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

SENATE REPORTS - from the Committee on **LABOR** on Bill "An Act to Protect Maine Businesses by Eliminating the Automatic Cost-of-living Adjustment to the Minimum Hourly Wage"
S.P. 93 L.D. 206

Majority - Ought Not to Pass (8 members)

Minority - Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-48) (4 members)

Tabled - May 7, 2025 by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot

Pending - **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT**

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

On motion by 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 (#189)

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

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

19 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (4/14/25) matter:

HOUSE REPORTS - from the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act Regarding Municipal Property Tax Levy Limits"

H.P. 361 L.D. 542

Report "A" - Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-115) (6 members)

Report "B" - Ought Not to Pass (6 members)

Tabled - May 14, 2025 by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot

Pending - **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT**

(In House, Report "B", **OUGHT NOT TO PASS, READ and ACCEPTED.**)

Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** Report "A", **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by 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 (#190)

YEAS: Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BERNARD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, MARTIN, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BICKFORD, BRENNER, NANGLE

14 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 18 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused the motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** Report "A", **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED, FAILED**.

Report "B", **OUGHT NOT TO PASS, READ and ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

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

Off Record Remarks

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **ADJOURNED**, until Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 10:00 in the morning.