

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

**LAWS**  
OF THE  
**STATE OF MAINE**  
AS PASSED BY THE

**ONE HUNDRED AND TENTH LEGISLATURE**

**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
December 3, 1980 to June 19, 1981

**AND AT THE**

**FIRST SPECIAL SESSION**  
August 3, 1981

**PUBLISHED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH MAINE REVISED STATUTES ANNOTATED, TITLE  
3, SECTION 164, SUBSECTION 6.**

---

**K.J. Printing Co.**  
Augusta, Maine  
1981

---

---

# LEGISLATIVE ADDRESS

August 3, 1981

by

GOVERNOR JOSEPH E. BRENNAN

to the

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

One Hundred and Tenth Legislature

---

---

REMARKS OF GOVERNOR JOSEPH E. BRENNAN  
TO THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
OF THE 110th MAINE LEGISLATURE  
August 3, 1981

RELEASE TIME: 10:30 a.m.

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, honorable members of the 110th Maine Legislature:

In the fall of 1607, so long ago that the exact date is lost to history, members of the Popham Colony built and launched the first ocean-going ship in the New World.

Since that time, hardworking Maine men and women have built countless other ships, vessels that became a part of our nation's commerce and defended us against enemies, and many became the pride of the United States Navy.

Like blueberries and potatoes, Katahdin and Camden, building ships is a part of Maine.

Part of our tradition.

Part of our heritage.

Part of our way of life.

Part of ourselves.

The sailing vessels they build in Friendship and the guided missile frigates they build in Bath have in common the insistence of sturdy Maine working people that their finished product will be nothing short of the very best.

And over the decades, generations of these workers have earned the reputation they deserve for the quality of their workmanship.

Because of this, thousands of Maine people enjoy steady and consistent employment and earn good livelihoods to support themselves and their families.

And because of the unrivaled quality of the Maine-built ships of the Bath Iron Works, we stand at the threshold of new opportunity.

Opportunity to make possible shipbuilding jobs for another one thousand Maine people.

Opportunity to continue the progress we have made in strengthening our economy.

Opportunity to revitalize an important port.

And opportunity to strengthen the foundation of the future we must build for generations of Maine people who will follow us.

And because of this opportunity, I have asked you to meet today.

The legislation I am asking you to consider will commit a small part of the state's resources as an investment.

In a proven, reliable industry.

In a proven, reliable company.

And the proven, reliable people of Maine.

A sound investment, and one which will reap dividends in jobs and tax revenues, dividends which will be declared daily in wages and will be paid for generations to come.

The simple amendment of a bond issue already approved by more than two-thirds of you will help this happen.

Your vote will make possible an additional four million dollars annually in tax revenues.

I ask that you consider the likelihood that an investment of this magnitude by Maine's largest employer must be seen by the bond-rating institutions as an impressive vote of confidence in Maine.

I ask that you consider that this development can only enhance the reputation of the Maine worker, and that reputation is our strongest argument to businesses that might locate or expand in Maine as it was for Burrelle's in Presque Isle, and Myllickoski in Madison, and Lemforder in Brewer, and Pratt & Whitney in North Berwick.

I ask that you consider that this legislation comes to you with strong bipartisan support.

It has the unanimous endorsement of your Joint Standing Committee on Transportation and the agreement of your leadership that it should be approved.

In selecting Maine as the place where it wishes to continue to do business Bath Iron Works considered more than simple geography.

It considered 90 years of successful history.

Ninety years of partnership with the people of Maine.

Today, I ask that you accept their offer to expand that partnership.

To match their confidence with your own.

If you do, then this necessary convening of you men and women who make up our Legislature will truly be, in every sense of the word, a very special session.