

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M I N U T E S

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
Legislative Council Chamber

March 11, 1975

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. by the Chairman, Senator Jerrold B. Speers.

ROLL CALL

Senators: Cummings, Danton, Sewall, Speers

Representatives: Martin, McKernan, Najarian, Palmer, Rolde

Staff: Mr. William H. Garside, Legislative Finance Officer
Mrs. Suzanne Havens, Chief of Legislative Staff
Mr. David S. Silsby, Director, Legislative Research

Guests: Mr. Edwin L. Pert, Clerk of the House
Mr. Thomas Downing, Legislative Staff

SECRETARY'S REPORT

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That we accept the secretary's report as submitted.

Seconded: Sen. Sewall

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the communications relative to information be referred to the Law and Legislative Reference Library.

Seconded: Sen. Danton.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the communication from Fred Holt, number 8 on the Agenda, be placed in the Legislative Council files.

Seconded: Rep. Najarian

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Sewall: That the Council Chairman be authorized to answer any letter of a general information aspect on behalf of the Council.

Seconded: Rep. Palmer.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Legislative Administrative Director

MOTION

Sen. Danton: That the Chairman of the Council, President of the Senate and Legislative Finance Officer discuss the legislative budget and make a report to the Council at its next meeting.

Seconded: Rep. Najarian

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Legislative Staff

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the Studies of the Committee on Health and Institutional Service relative to the needs and health care of the mentally retarded and health maintenance organizations, and the Studies of the Committee on Transportation relative to rail passenger service and the trucking industry in Maine be formally accepted.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the Legislative Council be authorized to hire one additional staff person at this time.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Sen. Sewall: That Senator Speers, Representative Najarian, Representative Rolde and Representative Palmer be named a committee to interview applicants.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the Chairman be authorized to sign purchase orders if necessary for needed equipment for the additional staff person.

Seconded: Sen. Danton

Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

1. TABLED AND TODAY ASSIGNED ITEMS

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the Legislative Council report to the Legislature, pursuant to Joint Order H.P. 78 as amended by Joint Order H.P. 544, that it has had the matter under consideration and reports that clarifying legislation is needed to ensure that only in-state travel expenses shall be paid under the state laws and that the Council submit the accompanying legislation.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Najarian: That the Legislative Council Directive #3 dated December 1, 1974 concerning fees for Legislative Information service be re-affirmed.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Palmer: That the Report of the Legislative Council of the 106th Legislature and suggestions for implementing legislation be re-tabled.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. TABLED AND UNASSIGNED ITEMS

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That, in light of the Eastern Conference of the Council of State Governments and the National Legislative Conference, the Rhode Island General Assembly be informed that the State of Maine declines participation in creating a New England Legislative Conference.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. McKernan: That the request from Dartmouth College for a student intern program be rejected.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. NEW JOINT RULING REGARDING DRAFT LEGISLATION OF
COMMITTEE REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

MOTION

Sen. Danton: That the Legislative Council recommend the adoption of an amendment to Joint Rule #3 to provide that reports of committees making recommendations be drafted and introduced as legislation.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. PETITION REGARDING EXPENSES OF PAGES OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That this matter be indefinitely postponed.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. COMMITTEE STUDIES

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That Joint Order, H.P. 512, relative to Performance Audit Committee study of payments to boarding homes, and Joint Order, H.P. 543, relative to Performance Audit Committee study of Medicaid program, be referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Performance Audit.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That Joint Order, H.P. 527, relative to Natural Resources Committee study of Board of Environmental Protection regulations governing solid waste management be referred to the Committee on Natural Resources.

Seconded: Duly seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

3. DISCUSSION OF PROCEDURE FOR SMALL CLAIMS

A discussion was held concerning the procedure for handling small claims against the state. Mr. Thomas Downing of the Legislative Staff explained that the last Legislature had set up a procedure that will be going into effect shortly. It was decided that before further legislation should be considered, the new procedure should be tested.

4. LETTER TO DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH FROM WEST PUBLISHING COMPANY RE. L.D. 212, APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR REPLACEMENT VOLUMES OF THE REVISED STATUTES.

MOTION

Rep. McKernan: That this item be Tabled and specially assigned to the next Council meeting.

Seconded: Sen. Danton

Motion carried unanimously.

REMARKS

The next meeting of the Council will be held Monday, April 14, at 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.