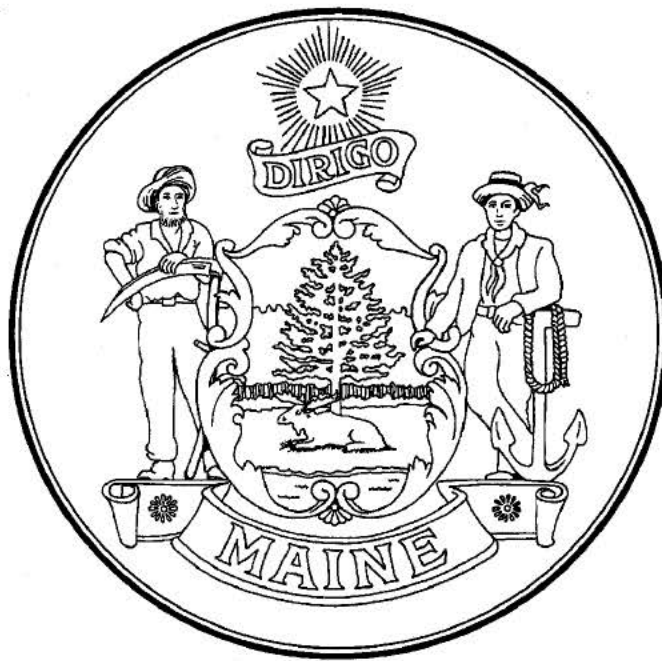


# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL MEETING  
Legislative Council Chamber  
January 15, 1976

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by the vice-chairperson, Rep. Najarian.

ROLL CALL

Senators:

Sen. Conley, Sen. Cummings, Sen. Danton and Sen. Sewall

Representatives:

Rep. Martin, Rep. McKernan, Rep. Najarian, Rep. Palmer  
Rep. Rolde

Guests: Sen. David Huber and Rep. Louis Jalbert, Senate and House Chairmen of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Immediately after call to order the Council voted to temporarily dispense with the scheduled agenda in order to hear from Sen. David Huber and Rep. Louis Jalbert, Chairmen of the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

An interim report on the Committee's study of H.P. 1793 which concerns the funding of state agencies in an effort to ascertain what savings are being accomplished was presented. The report, which contains a breakdown of estimated deficits in fiscal 1975-76 on programs which are mandated by law, along with an estimated 1976-77 breakdown, revealed that the State has a deficit of over 13 million dollars as of this date on programs already established. The report also contained explanations of several areas not covered by the report. The Committee chairmen answered several questions from the Council concerning the 8.7 million dollar deficit in the educational funding and on other areas of the report.

This portion of the meeting concluded with discussion concerning the Attorney General's opinion regarding the Governor's disproportionate cutting of funds appropriated to programs by the Legislature. It was suggested that this opinion should perhaps be reviewed by the Maine Supreme Judicial Court.

In returning to the agenda, the secretary's report was discussed and the secretary was asked to make a correction on page 4 where it was indicated that the Legislative Administrative Director projected a 55-week special session. He projected a 55-day session.

Motion

Rep. Martin: That the secretary's report be accepted with corrections.

Seconded: Rep. Rolde

Motion carried unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE STAFF

The Legislative Administrative Director presented a report of the activities of the Legislative Staff Assistants office and an updated report on expenses of Legislative Committee meetings.

No report was received from the Legislative Finance Office, the Legislative Research Office, or from the Law Library.

COMMUNICATIONS

It was voted to accept all communications and place them on file.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

It was voted to accept and place on file committee reports received from the Joint Select Committee on Jobs, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, and State Government Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

1. TABLED AND ASSIGNED ITEMS

- a. Report of subcommittee - University of Maine budget

Rep. Martin reported that the subcommittee had met in Orono and would soon come up with some recommendations. Rep. Palmer advised that he had met with the vice-president of U of M, Presque Isle and was very impressed with that University's budget system. It was decided that the subcommittee would meet with the vice-president on January 20, 1976, at 3:00 p.m.

2. TABLED AND UNASSIGNED ITEMS

It was voted to table unassigned the remaining items under Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approval of service fees for document service.

NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

MOTION

Rep. Martin: That the document service fees as outlined in correspondence from the Clerk of the House be approved.

Seconded: Sen. Conley

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Attorney General's opinion concerning funding of vocational rehabilitation services for the deaf

MOTION

Rep. Rolde: That we accept and place on file the opinion from the Attorney General regarding the funding of vocational rehabilitation services for the deaf.

Seconded: Rep. Martin

Motion carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMARKS

The next scheduled meeting for the Legislative Council is February 19, 1976, at 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

SENATE

BRUCE M. REEVES, KENNEBEC, CHAIRMAN  
PETER W. DANTON, YORK  
HAYES E. GAHAGAN, AROOSTOOK  
ROSLYN DANSKY, COMMITTEE ASSISTANT



HOUSE

LAURENCE E. CONNOLLY, PORTLAND, CHAIRMAN  
HARLAND C. GOODWIN, JR., SOUTH BERWICK  
PETER J. CURRAN, SOUTH PORTLAND  
JAMES E. FLANAGAN, PORTLAND  
RICHARD S. DAVIES, ORONO  
JOHN R. MCKERNAN, JR., BANGOR  
RICHARD H. PIERCE, WATERVILLE  
LENA D. DURGIN, KITTERY

STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON JOBS

January 14, 1976

Senator Jerrold Speers, Chairman  
Legislative Council  
The State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Senator Speers:

This is in response to the Legislative Council's request for another report from the Joint Select Committee on Jobs. This is an update of our last report, submitted for the Council's last meeting.

Like most committees, the Jobs Committee has bills at various stages of development, preparatory to submission to the Special Session. The status of these bills is:

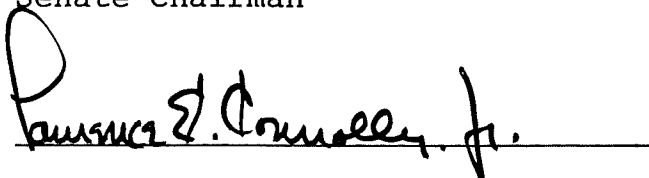
1. Bills approved by the Committee, ready for submission to the Legislature (copies enclosed):
  - a. Jobs impact statement
  - b. Governor's Jobs Report
2. Bills in preparation, to be submitted for full Committee approval:
  - a. A bill authorizing a vocational training program for woodcutters, in response to the bonded labor problem.
  - b. A resolution, memorializing Congress on the bonded labor problem.
3. Bills for which research is being done, including Subcommittee meetings:
  - a. A program and bill to establish a public jobs program.
  - b. A bill to require the Employment Service to provide service to recent high school graduates, including better use of the Job Bank.
  - c. A bill on tax incentives for jobs creation is being developed by a Subcommittee.

4. The Committee has decided not to submit a bill on development finance.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bruce Reeves", written over a horizontal line.

Senator Bruce Reeves,  
Senate Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Laurence Connolly", written over a horizontal line.

Representative Laurence Connolly,  
House Chairman

enclosures  
BB/sym

# STATE OF MAINE

Inter-Departmental Memorandum Date Dec. 2, 1975

To Jobs Committee

Dept. \_\_\_\_\_

F Jon Hull

Dept. Legislative Assistants

Subject Drafting Assignments

The following proposed draft legislation is a result of discussion by the Jobs Committee of proposed drafts:

1. Jobs Impact Statement.

A Joint Legislative Order to enact a new Joint Rule, to read as follows:

Joint Rule 12B. Employment Impact Statement. Every bill or resolve directly effecting employment within this state in the next biennium, either increasing or decreasing employment positions in the public or private sector, shall be accompanied by a written statement as to the net gain or loss of employment positions, the nature of the employment positions, and the reasons for the net gain or loss.

2. Governor's Report.

L.D. to be enacted to read as follows:

AN ACT to require an Annual Governor's Report on Employment and the Economy.

Be it enacted...

2 MRSA §8, enacted to read:

§8. Annual Report on Employment and the Economy.

The Governor shall, in January of each year, make a report to the Legislature and the people of the state on employment and the economy of this state. The report shall include: data on current public and private employment by category; projected employment over the future, in one year and five year periods; current unemployment and underemployment, and projections for the future, in one year and five year periods; estimates of the number, type and locations of jobs required to reach full employment in the state; activities of the Executive during the past year that have increased or decreased employment; public or private employment losses or gains anticipated from the Governor's proposed budget and legislation; description of the Governor's plans and legislative programs to reach full employment; recommendations for legislation; and contingency plans for unanticipated changes in employment. The Legislature shall hold hearings on this report after receiving it from the Governor.

## Statement of Fact.

A severe problem of unemployment and underemployment exists in this state and will remain for at least the next five years. During the past year unemployment has ranged between 9% and 12%, representing over forty thousand (40,000) of Maine's four-hundred and fifty thousand (450,000) person labor force. Another eighty thousand (80,000) persons are under-employed, working part-time because full-time employment is unavailable, or working full-time but making less than a poverty level wage. This level of unemployment and underemployment is likely to continue for the rest of the decade, and it is unlikely that private employers, alone can reduce this level of unemployment to even the high seven percent (7%) level.

Thus, the purpose of this bill is to focus on employment in the state, to encourage the Governor and Legislature to develop the facts on unemployment and underemployment, and to seek solutions to these problems. This bill requires an annual report on unemployment and underemployment from the Governor to the Legislature and people, and requires that the report contain detailed facts and recommendations. The Legislature is required to hold hearings on the report. As a result of this focusing, the scope of the problem will become known and solutions may be developed.