

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
January 28, 1981

CALL TO ORDER

A scheduled meeting of the Legislative Council was held in the Legislative Council Chambers, Room 327, and called to order by Rep. Elizabeth Mitchell, at 2:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Senators: Sen. Conley, Sen. Collins, Sen. Pierce,
Sen. Pray, Sen. Sewall

Representatives: Rep. Diamond, Rep. Higgins, Rep. Martin,
Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Tarbell

Legislative Officers
and Staff: William Garside - Legislative Administrative Director
David Silsby - Legislative Research Director
Ronald Lord - Legislative Finance Officer
Helen Ginder - Legislative Assistants Coordinator
Edith Hary - Law Librarian

SECRETARY'S REPORT

MOTION

Rep. Tarbell moved that the minutes of December 10, 1980 be approved.

The motion was seconded by Rep. Diamond and carried unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS AND STAFF REPORTS

Helen Ginder, Legislative Assistants Coordinator, submitted a memo to the Council with information on several items: The hiring of Mr. William E. Saufley, Esq. as a Legislative Assistant; The hiring of Mrs. Charlene Brann as a secretary for the session; A report on population counts from the Bureau of the Census for Legislative Reapportionment; and a full report of the Subcommittee on Environmental Health.

No action required, informational only.

Edith Hary, Law Librarian, requested approval of setting Mr. Paul D'Alessandro's, Associate Law Librarian, salary at \$8.20 an hour - the first step in that classification.

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved to approve the request.

The motion was seconded by Sen. Pierce and carried unanimously.

David Silsby, Legislative Research Director, asked the Council's approval of a merit increase for Mary Harding, Legislative Specialist III, currently in Range 12, Step C at \$209.60, to Range 12, Step D at \$218.00.

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved to approve the merit increase.

Sen. Conley seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Silsby also submitted an After Deadline Request from Rep. S. Tarbell for AN ACT Relating to Media Coverage of Trials.

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved that the After Deadline Request be approved.

A vote was taken with Sen. Collins, Sen. Conl y, Rep. Diamond, Rep. Martin, Rep. Mitchell, Sen. Pierce, Sen. Pray, and Sen. Sewall opposing, and Rep. Higgins and Rep. Tarbell voting for the motion. The motion was rejected.

To conclude, Mr. Silsby informed the Council that 133 bills had been withdrawn and that the total number of bills for this session now stands at 1, 957.

Informational only, no motion necessary.

NEW BUSINESS

Attorney General James E. Tierney submitted a letter to the Council concerning a significant amount of litigation pending against the State which could have a potential impact on the State's General Fund. He suggested a committee to discuss the status of the litigation composed of three members from leadership, and two members from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

Discussion followed.

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved that the Council suggest to Attorney General James E. Tierney that the Committee be composed of all ten members of the Council and two members from the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

Sen. Pierce seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Rep. Martin informed the Council of a Memorial Request for the Joint Resolution Memorializing the Congress of the United States to Enact Legislation Allowing the Veteran's Administration to Furnish Outpatient Medical Service to Atomic Veterans.

The Council moved to table the item until the next meeting.

Dean L. Kinvin Wroth of the University of Maine Law School spoke to the Council of his proposed Law School CLE seminar for this session. He requested approval to base this seminar on last year's seminar as it was quite successful.

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved that the request be approved.

Sen. Conley seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS - TABLED AND UNASSIGNED ITEMS

The Joint Select Committee on Pesticide Control submitted a memo to the Council to report on their progress and to request approval for continuation of the Committee.

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved that the request be denied.

The motion was seconded by Sen. Pierce and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS cont.

The Council discussed the movement of bills from the Legislative Research Office to the Legislature. After much discussion it was decided that Rep. Martin and Sen. Sewall would co-sign a letter stating that bills must be signed within 5 days, following its completion, or they would be sent from the Research Office to the Legislature without those signatures.

No motion necessary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

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The Chairman of the Council, Rep. Mitchell, made presentations of plaques to the former Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of the Legislative Councils of the 108th and 109th Legislatures. They were: John L. Martin, Chairman of the 108th Legislative Council, David G. Huber, Vice-Chairman of the 108th Legislative Council, Richard H. Pierce, Chairman of the 109th Legislative Council, and James E. Tierney, Vice-Chairman of the 109th Legislative Council.

It was discussed and decided by the Council that they will meet the 4th Wednesday of every month unless for some reason they must meet sooner.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Sen. Conley moved that the meeting be adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

The motion was duly seconded and the meeting adjourned.