

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
March 4, 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. Collins, Sen. Conley, Sen. Pierce, Sen. Pray, Sen. Sewall

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

Legislative Officers

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved that the minutes of February 26, 1981 be approved.

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

LEGISLATIVE OFFICERS AND STAFF REPORTS

William Garside, Legislative Administrative Director, presented a letter to the Council, per Sen. Collins' request, concerning unemployment insurance benefits paid to Legislative Employees. Discussion followed.

MOTION

Sen. Collins moved to accept William Garside's recommendation, to request a determination from the Employment Security Commission on whether or not the Legislature could be ruled a "seasonal industry."

Sen. Pierce seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

The motion was voted upon and Sen. Pray opposed. Motion carried.

William Garside was also asked to check into savings on the printing size of L.D's by Sen. Collins. Mr. Garside told the Council that the Kennebec Journal informed him that no matter what size the L.D is printed it will still cost the same to print. Discussion followed and a sample of an L.D in original form was shown.

No motion was necessary. Informational only.

Helen Ginder, Legislative Assistants Coordinator, requested whether or not her office can participate in the work study program at the University of Southern Maine by having up to 2 students work this summer for 10 weeks.

MOTION

Sen. Conley moved that the request be accepted.

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

David Silsby, Legislative Research Director, informed the Council that there were 292 bills pending in the Legislative Research Office, that will fall into the grace period after cloture, March 6, 1981. These bills are spread among the several offices and are loose ends that can be cleaned up shortly without extending the deadline. The Council therefore agreed not to extend this deadline with that exception.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from the Committee on Audit and Program Review was received.

MOTION

Rep. Martin moved that the letter be placed on file.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Recommendations on printing and postage from the February 18, 1981 meeting was reconsidered. Sen. Collins withdrew his previous motion from that meeting. Each recommendation was taken up separately.

Recommendation #2 concerning printing quantities of the House and Senate Register was discussed.

MOTION

Sen. Collins moved that the Council recommend to the next Legislature that only 30,000 House and Senate Registers be printed.

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

Recommendation #3 concerning a cost benefit analysis to be made regarding the further printing of the Weekly Legislative Calendar published by the Clerk's Office.

MOTION

Sen. Collins moved that the Council implement Recommendation #3.

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

Recommendation #4 concerning implementing the publication of daily House and Senate journals and eliminating the Legislative Record in the 111th Legislative Sessions.

MOTION

Sen. Collins moved that Recommendation #4 be rejected and made a recommendation to try to cut back the costs of binding.

Rep. Martin seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Recommendation on postage was discussed concerning an establishment of a dollar limit for each member.

MOTION

Sen. Collins moved to implement the postage recommendation.

The motion was seconded by Sen. Pierce and voted upon. Those voting for the motion were Rep. Tarbell and Sen. Collins, those voting against were Sen. Pray, Sen. Pierce, Rep. Mitchell and Rep. Martin. Motion did not carry.

NEW BUSINESS

Senator Teague and Rep. Post talked to the Council about L.D. 654 concerning AN ACT Relating to Veteran's Tax Exemptions. They gave the Council information on what is happening with this

bill. The Council requested that the Taxation Committee give them a list of options that can be used to deal with this issue. This will be discussed further at a future meeting.

No motion necessary.

An After Deadline Bill Request submitted by Rep. Richard concerning a RESOLVE, Reimbursing the Town of Madison under the Tree Growth Tax Law was discussed.

MOTION

Sen. Pierce moved that the Resolve be discussed.

The motion was seconded by Rep. Tarbell.

MOTION

Sen. Pierce moved that this item be tabled.

Sen. Pray seconded the motion.

Rep. Treadwell spoke on an After Deadline Bill that was tabled at an earlier meeting concerning supervision of Liquor Sales.

MOTION

Sen. Collins moved that the request be voted upon.

Rep. Tarbell seconded the motion but due to lack of number of votes it could not be passed or rejected.

MOTION

Sen. Collins moved that the request be tabled.

Rep. Tarbell seconded the motion and the request was tabled.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

Sen. Pierce moved that the Council be adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Rep. Martin seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.