

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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REP. JOHN N. DIAMOND
CHAIRMAN

SEN. CHARLES P. PRAY
VICE-CHAIRMAN



STATE OF MAINE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
STATE HOUSE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

SEN. NANCY RANDALL CLARK
SEN. BARBARA A. GILL
SEN. THOMAS R. PERKINS
SEN. PAUL E. VIOLETTE
REP. LELAND C. DAVIS, JR.
REP. MARTIN S. HAYDEN
REP. JOHN L. MARTIN
REP. THOMAS W. MURPHY, JR.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

JANUARY 9, 1985

MEETING SUMMARY

(Approved and placed on
file February 6, 1985)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Legislative Council was called to order in the Council Chambers by the Chairman, John N. Diamond at 2:25 p.m..

ROLL CALL

Senators: Sen. Violette, Sen. Gill, Sen. Pray, Sen. Clark,
Sen. Perkins

Representatives: Rep. Diamond, Rep. Murphy, Rep. Martin, Rep.
Davis, Rep. Hayden

Legislative Officers:

Sally Diamond - Legislative Administrative
Director

Catharine Atchley - Law Librarian

Richard Sawyer - Assistant Legislative Finance
Officer

Helen Ginder - Director of Legislative
Assistants

David Silsby - Legislative Research Director

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the January 2, 1985, meeting of the Legislative Council were approved and placed on file (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Pray; unanimous).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

•Personnel Committee

Rep. Martin, Committee Chair, moved the following on behalf of the Committee:

Motion: That the Council authorize the filing of two clerical positions at the salary level of Secretary I, Step A as follows: Legislative Finance Office and Office of Legislative Assistants. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Pray; unanimous).

Motion: That the salary for the position of Committee Clerk to the Audit and Program Review Committee be increased to \$274.57 per week in recognition that this is a full year position requiring research skills in addition to those required of other Committee Clerks (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Pray; unanimous).

Motion: That the Council authorize the establishment of a full-time, permanent secretarial position in the Administrative Director's Office (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Pray; unanimous).

Discussion: Rep. Martin also noted that the Committee had begun discussion of the recommendation of the State Compensation Commission regarding the establishment of personnel budgets for leadership offices and has concluded that this issue needs further study before the Committee is prepared to make a recommendation to the Council.

OLD BUSINESS

No items.

NEW BUSINESS

Item # 1 Submission of Committee Study Reports from the
Joint Standing Committee on State Government

The Joint Standing Committee on State Government submitted the following reports: 1) The Need for an Economic Development Strategy for the State of Maine and 2) The Need for Protection from Discrimination for State Employees Who Testify before Legislative Committees.

Motion: That these reports be accepted and placed on file (Motion by Sen. Pray; second by Sen. Clark; unanimous).

Item # 2: Enforcement of Handicapped Parking in Legislative Parking Areas (request from Sen. Pray)

Sen. Pray reported that he had received several complaints from both Capitol Security and others regarding the use of handicapped parking areas by non-handicapped persons.

Discussion: Council members agreed that both use and enforcement of parking in the legislative parking area was a general problem, and that unauthorized use of handicapped parking slots was a single dimension of the larger problem. Fines are currently set by statute; thus, changing the fines structure would require legislative action.

Motion: That alternatives for assigning and enforcing legislative parking be referred to the Committee on Allocation of Legislative Space for further study and recommendations (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Violette; unanimous).

Item # 3: State Compensation Commission: Legislation to Implement Final Recommendations Regarding Compensation of Governor, Public Utilities Commissioners, and Worker's Compensation Commissioners

Motion: That the Council Chair be authorized to obtain bipartisan sponsorship of this bill (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Pray; unanimous).

Item #4: Request to schedule University of Maine Law School Seminars for Legislators

Discussion: Council members focused on two items in discussing the proposed schedule:

- The desirability of assisting legislators who attend the seminars in obtaining credit toward continuing education requirements of their respective professional associations. Helen Ginder agreed to provide participating legislators with a course summary to aid them in petitioning for this credit.

•The best time to schedule the seminars in terms of the legislative schedule. There was general agreement that 11 a.m., the proposed time, was not convenient.

Item # 5: Motion: That Helen Ginder work with the Legislative Administrative Director to develop an alternative schedule (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Clark; unanimous).
Special Select Committee to Study Teacher Contributions to and Benefits from the State Retirement System

Motion: That, rather than create a separate committee to study this issue, the issue be referred to the Committee on Aging, Retirement, and Veterans for study and recommendation to the Legislature (Motion by Rep. Martin; Second by Sen. Pray; unanimous).

Item # 6: After Deadline Requests

After Deadline Requests were considered by the Legislative Council. The Council's action on these requests is included on the attached list.

Item # 7: Report from Joint Select Committee to Investigate the Public Utilities

Sen. Baldacci, Senate Chair of the Joint Select Committee, reported that the Committee had met pursuant to passage of the joint order reestablishing the Committee and to the Legislative Council's request for submission of a budget. He requested Council authorization of \$24,000 for completion of the Committee's work, to be allocated as follows:

Attorneys' fees (includes review of the final report by legal counsel for liability, etc.)	\$11,000
Staff Director	10,000
Secretary	3,000

The Committee projects that its work will be completed by February 28, 1985.

Motion: That the \$24,000 budget be approved with the understanding that it be expended in accordance with guidelines previously established by the Council (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Pray; passed 6-4).

ADJOURNMENT

The Council meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m. (Motion by Violette; second by Clark; unanimous).

Attachment



HELEN T. GINDER, DIRECTOR
HAVEN WHITESIDE, ASST. DIRECTOR
GILBERT W. BREWER
DAVID ELLIOTT
MARTHA FREEMAN
CHRISTOS GIANOPOULOS
WILLIAM T. GLIDDEN, JR.

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SARAH HOOKE
JULIE JONES
JOHN B. KNOX
EDWARD POTTER
LARS RYDELL
JOHN SELSER

January 8, 1985

To: Rep. John Diamond, Chairman
Legislative Council

From: Helen T. Ginder, Director
Office of Legislative Assistants

Dean Kevin Wroth contacted me to discuss the Law School Faculty seminars for legislators. This program was established in the 110th legislature and has been an important part of the training for new legislators.

We recommend two initial seminars in late January and early February focused on Constitutional law, statutory interpretation, the criminal code and other criminal issues. Later in the session, workshops on agricultural issues and marine law are planned.

It is always difficult to set a convenient time of day for these meetings that will not interfere with House & Senate morning sessions and public hearings. Tuesday seems to be a pretty sure session day and 11:30 A.M. to 12:45 seems to be a time of day that is convenient. I think it would be helpful if we could provide coffee. Legislators could pick up a sandwich at the cafeteria. Perhaps we should arrange a meeting place in the State Office Building opposite the cafeteria.

Dean Wroth has requested a mileage & lunch reimbursement for the visiting professor(s).

I would like to get back to Dean Wroth promptly so that he can make necessary arrangements.

HG/vmp/0423