

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

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 27, 1985

MEETING SUMMARY

(Approved and placed on
file March 6, 1985)

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.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Legislative Council was called to order in the Council Chambers by the Chairman John N. Diamond at 3:10 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
Catherine Atchley - Law Librarian
Bent Schlosser - Legislative Finance Officer
Helen Ginder - Director of Legislative Assistants
David Silsby - Legislative Research Director

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of meeting of the Legislative Council, on February 27, 1985, were approved and placed on file (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Perkins; unanimous).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The report submitted by Sally Diamond, Legislative Administrative Director, included the following:

- Approved Step Increases for Catherine Atchley, State Law Librarian, (to Step C) and Robert Michaud, Associate Law Librarian, (to Step C) of their respective salary scales.

- Announcement of the employment of Andrea Colnes as Research Assistant in the Office of Legislative Assistants. This position is one of the two year positions recently established by the Council.

Motion: That the Director's report be accepted and placed on file. (Motion by Sen. Pray; second by Rep Martin; unanimous)

NEW BUSINESS

(Items were taken up out of order)

Item #1: 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 #3: Request to Increase the salary of Donat Boisvert, Director, Maine-Canadian Legislative Advisory Office

The Council considered a letter from Sen. Berube, Chair of the Maine-Canadian Legislative Commission, requesting a reclassification of the position of Commission Director and an adjustment in annual salary from \$22,000 to \$29,000.

Motion: That the matter be referred to the Personnel Committee (Motion by Rep. Martin; seconded by Rep. Davis; unanimous)

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Item #1: Status Report from Council Budget Committee

Rep. Murphy raised questions regarding current budgeting procedures for funds in the Legislative account. In the course of the ensuing discussion, it was clarified that the Legislature, like other State agencies, submits a budget request which includes line item detail.

Rep. Diamond noted that he had appointed members of the Committee: Rep. Diamond, Sen. Pray, Rep. Martin, and Sen. Perkins. Rep. Murphy and other members of the Council were invited to meet with the Committee, and Rep. Diamond directed the Administrative Director to send materials prepared for the Committee's review to all Council members.

In the course of the discussion, issues related to the Joint Select Committee to Investigate the Public Utilities were raised. Speaker Martin was asked to call a meeting of the Committee which was established to review the Jt. Select Committee's budget to resolve outstanding issues.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Council of State Governments/Eastern Regional Conference Annual Meeting: Progress Report from Legislative Steering Committee

Senator Diamond, Chair of the Legislative Steering Committee which has been charged with the responsibility for overall planning of the Conference reported on the Committee's efforts to date. Major points of his report include:

- Meeting Dates: July 14-18, 1985
Portland, Maine
Holiday Inn
Sonesta Hotel
- Legislative Steering Committee Members:
 - Sen. Charles P. Pray, Honorary Chair
 - Rep. John L. Martin, Honorary Chair
 - Sen. G. William Diamond, Chair
 - Rep. Merle Nelson, Vice-Chair
 - Sen. Barbara A. Gill
 - Sen. Ronald Usher
 - Rep. Donald Carter
 - Rep. Leland Davis
 - Rep. Annette Hoglund
 - Rep. Judith Foss
 - Ed Pert
 - Joy O'Brien
 - Sally Diamond

- A Private Sector Host Committee is being formed under the leadership of Colin Hampton, President, Union Mutual Life Insurance Company, and William J. Bullock, Chairman of the Board and President of Merrill Bank. The primary responsibility of this Committee is to raise each and in-kind contributions from Maine's corporate and business community, which are used to support the social events planned for the conference. Approximately half of the total funds needed will be raised outside the State of Maine
- Highlights of the social program include a clambake, a reception at the Portland Art Museum, and a Casco Bay Cruise.

Sen. Diamond stressed that the Steering Committee's objective throughout the planning process will be to lure conference delegates and their families to other parts of the State before and after the Conference.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Submission of Reports from Joint Standing Committees

- Committee on Agriculture: Final Report on Food Policy
- Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs: General Assistance for Migrant Workers
- Committee on Audit and Program Review: Final Report and Recommendations

Motion: That the reports be accepted and placed on file (Motion by Rep. Martin; seconded by Sen. Clark, unanimous)

ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second Rep. Hayden; unanimous)

SENATE

MICHAEL D. PEARSON, DISTRICT 6, CHAIR
CHARLES G. DOW, DISTRICT 18
JAMES A. McBREAIRTY, DISTRICT 2

BENT SCHLOSSER, LEGISLATIVE
FINANCE OFFICER-ADVISOR

BETTY BARTLETT, SECRETARY



STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

HOUSE

DONALD V. CARTER, WINSLOW, CHAIR
LORRAINE N. CHONKO, TOPSHAM
LAURENCE E. CONNOLLY, JR., PORTLAND
JOHN LISNIK, PRESQUE ISLE
GREGORY G. NADEAU, LEWISTON
PATRICK K. MCGOWAN, CANAAN
CARL W. SMITH, SR., MARS HILL
SUSAN J. BELL, SOUTH PARIS
LINWOOD M. HIGGINS, SCARBOROUGH
RUTH S. FOSTER, ELLSWORTH

February 8, 1985

Hon. John Diamond, Chairman
Legislative Council
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Representative Diamond:

On January 29, 1985, the Appropriations' Study Committee on General Assistance for Migrant Workers created by the 111th Legislature unanimously passed a recommendation to take no action regarding the proposed legislation for the State of Maine to finance a general assistance program for migrant workers.

As a reminder, this legislation was introduced during the Second Regular Session of the 111th Legislature as L.D. #1836. It was voted on by the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs to report out this particular legislation as "Leave to Withdraw" with the understanding that an indepth study would take place. On April 25, 1984, the Legislative Council approved the request and the following members were assigned to the study committee:*

Sen. Mary Najarian, Chair
Sen. Thomas Perkins
Sen. Larry Brown

Rep. Donald Carter, Chair
Rep. Lorraine Chonko
Rep. Sue Bell

The Study Committee held its first meeting on September 28, 1984 and conducted a public hearing at the Bangor Civic Center on October 14, 1985. Several subsequent meetings were held with the intent of clarifying existing inconsistencies in the proposed legislation. Our Committee also received valuable assistance from the Department of Human Services in developing numerous alternatives.

*As present Senate Chair of the Appropriations Committee, Sen. Michael Pearson was appointed to this study committee in January 1985

Hon. John Diamond, Chairman

-2-

February 8, 1985

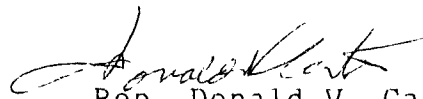
After careful consideration of all the information provided at the public hearing and meetings, it was the opinion of the study committee that the municipalities' local efforts to reach their General Assistance threshold obligation of .0003% of their valuation for state reimbursement was minimal.

In conclusion, the Study Committee has decided that the present method of general assistance funding is adequate and no additional action is necessary at this time.

Sincerely,



Sen. Michael Pearson
Senate Chair



Rep. Donald V. Carter
House Chair

SENATE

G. WILLIAM DIAMOND, DISTRICT 6, CHAIR
ZACHARY E. MATTHEWS, DISTRICT 13
MARYELLEN MAYBURY, DISTRICT 11

JANET E. WALDRON, SENIOR PROGRAM ANALYST
CHERYL E. RING, PROGRAM ANALYST
LOCK KIERMAIER, PROGRAM ANALYST



HOUSE

NEIL ROLDE, YORK, CHAIR
RUTH JOSEPH, WATERVILLE
PHYLLIS R. ERWIN, RUMFORD
HAROLD M. MACOMBER, SOUTH PORTLAND
NORMAN O. RACINE, BIDDEFORD
P. KELLEY SIMPSON, CASCO
ORLAND G. McPHERSON, ELIOT
EDWIN C. RANDALL, EAST MACHIAS
PAMELA L. CAHILL, WOOLWICH
DONALD F. SPROUL, AUGUSTA

STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWELFTH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON AUDIT AND PROGRAM REVIEW

February , 1985

Members of the Legislative Council:

It is our pleasure to transmit to you the sixth annual report of the Joint Standing Committee on Audit and Program Review. The recommendations contained in this report concern the Departments of Environmental Protection and Marine Resources and independent agencies such as the Public Utilities Commission, the Maine Development Foundation, the State Development Office, the Office of Energy Resources, the Atlantic Sea Run Salmon Commission, the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, and others.

As we did last year, the Committee is making well over 100 recommendations for change. We reviewed volumes of material, and solicited and received much public comment. Combined, this represented hundreds of hours of work on behalf of committee and adjunct committee members.

Throughout the entire process, our major objectives have been to make state government more efficient and less costly while ensuring high levels of service to the citizens of Maine as well as improving legislative oversight of the Executive Branch.

As a result, you will find contained in this report constructive changes recommended at no cost to the public which should result in future savings and a revenue increase of approximately \$282,000 to the General Fund over the biennium.

For the second year, our process included legislative members from other joint standing committees. These individuals served as active committee members and brought their expertise to enrich and strengthen the review process. A public hearing will now be held on each of the Committee's recommendations. We urge the full Legislature to consider these proposals carefully, and we invite questions, comments, and input regarding any part of this report.

We would like to add that the Committee has received excellent cooperation from the agencies which we reviewed this year. The timeliness of their responses to our requests for information facilitated the entire audit process.

Finally, the absence of recommendations about a program does not necessarily mean that the Committee found that program to be operating at peak efficiency and effectiveness.

Sincerely,



G. William Diamond
Senate Chairman



Neil Rolde
House Chairman