

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

September 25, 1985

MEETING SUMMARY

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Legislative Council was called to order in the Council Chambers by the Chairman, John N. Diamond, at 3:23 p.m..

ROLL CALL

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

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

Legislative Officers:

Sally Diamond	Executive Director
Lynn Randall	Acting Law Librarian
Bent Schlosser	Legislative Finance Officer
Helen Ginder	Director of Legislative Assistants
David Silsby	Legislative Research Director

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The minutes of the meetings of the Legislative Council on June 27, July 17 and August 21, 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 Legislative Employees.

Approved Out-of-State Travel for Legislative Employees.

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

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Item #1: Personnel Committee

Rep. Martin, Committee Chair, reported that advertising for a new State Law Librarian had begun, and that November 15 had been established as the application deadline. No council action is required at this time.

Motion: That the Personnel Committee's report be accepted and placed on file. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second Rep. Hayden, unanimous).

Item #2: Committee on Allocation of Legislative Space

Sen. Pray, Committee Chair, made the following recommendations:

That an advisory committee be formed to work with and be informed by the Bureau of Public Improvements regarding the restoration of the dome.

That renovation in Room 228 be approved to allow for additional space for the Legislative Finance Office. The room will be divided and half of the space will remain the a working room for the Committee.

That Sally Diamond write a letter to all interested parties throughout the State to develop a more complete understanding of the kind of press space needed in the State House.

Motion: That the Committee's recommendations be accepted. (Motion by Sen. Pray, Second by Rep. Hayden; unanimous).

Item #3: Committee on Data and Word Processing

Rep. Hayden, Committee Chair, reported the following:

That requests for additional work stations will be reviewed by John Bailey and a recommendation will be made at the next meeting.

Motion: That the Data and Word Processing Committee's report be accepted. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Pray; unanimous).

Item #4: CSG/ERC '85 Steering Committee

Sen. Gill reported that she had met with Sally Diamond and the Co-Chairs to review the funds left in the CSG/ERC account and to make a recommendation for the remaining funds. A preliminary statement of Income and Expenditures was distributed to Council members. The Steering Committee recommended the following: That the Council authorize the preparation of legislative sentiments for volunteers and plaques for major contributors. That the balance be sent to CSG/ERC. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Clark; unanimous).

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Request from Lawrence Willey for payment of fees related to Reapportionment Law Suit

Both Mr. Richard Violette, representing Mr. Willey, and John Melrose, representing Maine Tomorrow, were present. Discussion focussed on two issues: 1) Mr. Buxton's role as a consultant to Maine Tomorrow for purposes of preparing the defense while he was, at the same time, representing the Maine Democratic Committee in the case, and 2) whether the Legislature had any legal responsibility for paying Mr. Willey's claim.

Motion: That the request for payment to Lawrence Willey be denied. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Pray; motion failed).

Motion: That more information be provided to the Council at the next meeting. (Motion by Sen. Gill; second Rep. Davis; motion failed).

Motion: That Mr. Violette meet with Maine Tomorrow and that the item be tabled until the next Council Meeting. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second by Sen. Gill; unanimous).

Item #2: Lobster Study Committee (P.L. 85, c 353)

The Lobster Study Committee submitted their organization plan and tentative budget.

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

Item #3: Status Reports from Study Committees

Various Study Committees submitted status reports to the Council.

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

Item #4: Requests for adjustments in Study budgets and schedules

The Committee on State Government requested authorization to hold one full committee and four subcommittee meetings to review and evaluate their report on the recruitment and retention of state employees.

The Committee on Taxation requested approval of their work plan for three interim studies. Railroad Excise Tax, three half day sessions; Telecommunications, four half-day sessions; Tax Expenditure Review, one full day and three half-day sessions.

Motion: That the requests be approved. (Motion by Sen. Clark; second by Sen. Gill; unanimous).

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Submission of Report: "Mental Health Services to Deaf Persons in Maine - 1984-1985" by Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation

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

Item #2: Negotiation of Tentatively agreed to Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Judicial Department and MSEA (Letter from Dana Baggett, State Court Administrator)

At Mr. Baggett's request, this item was withdrawn until the October Council Meeting.

Item #3: Memorandum from Frank P. Wood, State Purchasing Agent regarding proposed relocation of Central Services to Wade Street

The memorandum had been distributed to Council members as a point of information.

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

Item #4: Establish Deadlines for Cloture for Second Regular Session

Rep. Martin recommended October 25 be set as the deadline for filing bills for the Second Regular Session. Rep. Murphy recommended that a letter be sent to Departments advising them of the deadline. The President and Speaker have approved expenses for one day for this purpose.

Motion: That the October 25 deadline be approved. (Motion by Rep. Martin; second Sen. Pray; unanimous).

Item #5: Operation and Management of the Legislature: Discussion

Rep. Martin suggested that there be an Executive Session on an upcoming Saturday or Sunday to hold this discussion and that Sally poll members to find a convenient date for everyone.

Item #6: Pineland Status Report from Kevin Concannon, Commissioner, Department of Mental Health and Corrections

Commissioner Concannon appeared before the Council to discuss the status of the recent allegations of abuse at Pineland.

Item #7: Governor's Proposed Executive Branch staff agency reorganization: Presentation.

Members of the Council received a letter of invitation from the Governor's Management Task Force to attend a presentation on reorganization immediately following the Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m. (Motion by Sen. Pray; second Rep. Murphy; unanimous).