

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Lynn Randall  
Legislative Council Info.



REP. DAN A. GWADOSKY  
CHAIR

SEN. DENNIS L. DUTREMBLE  
VICE-CHAIR

STATE OF MAINE

116th LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. DONALD E. ESTY, JR.  
SEN. PAMELA L. CAHILL  
SEN. BEVERLY MINER BUSTIN  
SEN. DAVID L. CARPENTER  
REP. JOHN L. MARTIN  
REP. WALTER E. WHITCOMB  
REP. PATRICK E. PARADIS  
REP. STEPHEN M. ZIRNKILTON

SARAH C. TUBBESING  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Tuesday, April 27, 1993**

## **MEETING SUMMARY**

**Approved May 11, 1993**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair, Rep. Gwadosky, called the Council to order at 3:35 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL**

<b>Senators:</b>	Sen. Dutremble, Sen. Esty, Sen. Cahill, Sen. Carpenter Absent: Sen. Bustin
<b>Representatives:</b>	Rep. Gwadosky, Rep. Whitcomb, Rep. Paradis, Rep. Zirnkilton Absent: Speaker Martin
<b>Legislative Officers:</b>	Sally Tubbesing, Executive Director Lynn Randall, State Law Librarian John Wakefield, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review Martha Freeman, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis David Kennedy, Revisor of Statutes Joy O'Brien, Secretary of the Senate Joseph Mayo, Clerk of the House

### **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

The Summary of the April 6 Council meeting was approved and placed on file. (Motion by Sen. Dutremble; second by Sen. Cahill; unanimous).

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sally Tubbesing deferred to Martha Freeman and David Kennedy to present a status report on bill drafting and committee work. Mr. Kennedy reported that there were currently 209 bills left to be printed, of which 155 were out for sponsor review and signature or, for Governor's bills, final review by the Governor's Office. Ms. Freeman then reported that of the total number of bills referred, approximately 50% -- or 700 -- have yet to be voted on by committees. She noted that committees are working hard to meet their deadlines and suggested that the Council and the presiding officers needed to adopt clear policies regarding how the 209 bills that are still to be printed should be handled in terms of hearings, etc.

Council members then engaged in a general discussion of how to help committees balance the need to complete their work by the established deadlines (May 1 for small & moderate workload committees; May 13 for large workload committees) with their responsibility to give each bill individual consideration. Sen. Dutremble stated that at this point in the session committees must decide whether to "kill or carry" - that is, whether to kill a bill, or request that it be carried over to the Second Regular Session. He reported that he had instructed Senate Chairs to group bills as much as possible for purposes of public hearings and work sessions and then observed that this Legislature is a part-time legislature and must cut down on the amount of work it can reasonably do. Sen. Cahill expressed concern that some of the bills just being printed are bills filed before cloture and that the sponsors of those bills were not to blame. Sen. Dutremble responded that the issue is not one of who's to blame, but that there is simply too much work for the time available. The Chair, Rep. Gwadosky, reminded Council members that most committees had devoted considerable time to the budget this year with no offsetting decrease in their bill workload.

Discussion then shifted to the pros and cons of carrying over bills. Rep. Paradis stated that the budget should be the committees' priority and supported carrying over bills, noting that it had worked well for the Judiciary Committee two years ago. There appeared to be consensus that allowing committees to carry over bills was the best approach; however, Sen. Dutremble noted that this could simply transfer the workload to the shorter session. He went on to suggest that the Council and others should consider a change in the Joint Rules to require any bill introduced in the Second Regular Session to have an emergency preamble, thus requiring adoption by a 2/3 vote. At this point, discussion shifted to how the Council should proceed with After Deadline bill requests.

## REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

### Personnel Committee

Rep. Gwadosky, Committee Chair, drew members' attention to a policy establishing a Sick Leave Bank Committee which had been distributed to members in advance of the meeting. He noted that the Committee had spent considerable time developing the policy and represented a unanimous Committee recommendation.

**Motion:** That the policy establishing a Sick Leave Bank Committee be adopted as proposed. (Motion by Sen. Dutremble; second by Sen. Carpenter; unanimous).

### Budget Committee

Sen. Dutremble reminded Committee members of their next scheduled meeting -- Thursday, April 29.

## OLD BUSINESS

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

**Item #1: Request for Comment on Procedures for the Next Census**

**Motion:** That the item be tabled. (Motion by Sen. Dutremble; second by Rep. Gwadosky; unanimous).

**Item #2: Requests to Carry Bills Over to the Second Regular Session**

**Motion:** That the item be tabled. (Motion by Sen. Cahill; second by Sen. Dutremble; unanimous).

**Item #3: After Deadline Bill Requests**

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

None.

## ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m., on the motion of Sen. Dutremble.