

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

MEETING SUMMARY

January 20, 1994

Approved February 9, 1994

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Representative Gwadosky, called the Council meeting to order at 3:17 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators:

President Dutremble, Sen. Esty, Sen. Cahill, Sen. Bustin, Sen. Carpenter

Representatives:

Speaker Martin, Rep. Gwadosky, Rep. Whitcomb, Rep. Paradis, Rep. Zirnkilton

Legislative Officers:

Sally Tubbesing, Executive Director,
Legislative Council
Lynn Randall, State Law Librarian
Grant Pennoyer, Principal Analyst,
Office of Fiscal and Program Review
Martha Freeman, Director, Office of
Policy and Legal Analysis
Margaret Matheson, Revisor of Statutes
Joy O'Brien, Secretary of the Senate
Joseph Mayo, Clerk of the House

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Summary of the December 27, 1993 Council meeting was accepted and placed on file. (Motion by President Dutremble; second by Speaker Martin; unanimous)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sally Tubbesing presented the following to the Council for its consideration.

Item #1: Letter of Resignation from Evelyn Knopf, Attorney, Office of the Revisor

Ms. Tubbesing reported that Ms. Knopf, who joined the Revisor's Office

Ms.

Tubbesing noted that Meg Matheson and her staff were currently interviewing candidates for the existing attorney vacancy and recommended that the Council authorize filling the newly-created vacancy immediately as it is critical to restore the Revisor's Office to full strength.

The Chair, Rep. Gwadosky, then recognized Ms. Matheson, who reported that while the applicant pool included several promising candidates, she was not quite ready to recommend specific names. She then recommended that she would like to promote Suzanne Gresser to the vacant Principal Attorney position, which she had occupied until her appointment as Revisor.

Motion: That Ms. Knopf's resignation be accepted with regret and that a letter of appreciation be sent to her. (Motion by Speaker Martin; second by Sen. Carpenter; unanimous).

Motion: That Suzanne Gresser be promoted to the position of Principal Attorney in the Revisor's Office, effective immediately, and that Meg Matheson be authorized to work with the Executive Director to fill the two vacant attorney positions as soon as possible. (Motion by Speaker Martin; second by Sen. Carpenter; unanimous).

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

- **Committee on Total Quality Management in the Legislature**

Rep. Gwadosky, who chairs this Committee, reported that the Committee and two subcommittees continued to meet and work.

- **Committee to Review the Audit Committee**

Rep. Gwadosky, who also chairs this Committee, reported that the Committee had been scheduled to meet on the day all state offices were closed early due to weather and would be rescheduling this meeting in the near future.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Remarks by the Bureau of General Services regarding the Structural Soundness of the State House. (Request of Rep. Patrick E. Paradis; tabled at October 24 meeting).

Motion: That this item be withdrawn at the request of Rep. Paradis. (Motion by Speaker Martin; second by Sen. Carpenter; unanimous).

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Submission of Study Reports

- Administrative Costs Task Force (pursuant to Resolves of 1993, ch. 48)
- Commission to Study the Statutory Procedures for Local Property Tax Abatement Appeals (pursuant to Resolves of 1993, ch. 41)
- Health and Social Services Transition Team (pursuant to Resolves of 1993, ch. 36).
- Land Use Regulatory Reform Committee (authorized by the Legislative Council)

Motion: That all of these reports be accepted and placed on file. (Motion by Speaker Martin; second by President Dutremble; unanimous).

Item #2: Requests for Introduction of After Deadline Bills

Before he proceeded to take up the bill requests, the Chair, Rep. Gwadosky, asked Ms. Matheson to give the Council a status report regarding the bills still in the drafting process. Ms. Matheson responded that more than 80 bills were currently out for sponsor and/or cosponsor review and signature, and that there were slightly more than 100 bills at some stage of the drafting process.

President Dutremble stressed that the Council should either establish criteria to apply to after deadline bills as a part of their review of these bills or else abolish cloture completely. Sen. Bustin suggested that the Joint Select Committee on Rules should deal with this issue; but President Dutremble reiterated his position that the Council itself should develop such criteria. The Chair, Rep. Gwadosky, noted that if there were any change in the rules, it would be important to give advance notice of the changes to all legislators.

The Council then proceeded to consider the list of After Deadline requests. The Council's action on these requests is included on the attached list.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council meeting was adjourned at 4:29 p.m.