

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

J. DONALD E. ESTY, JR.
N. PAMELA L. CAHILL
SEN. BEVERLY MINER BUSTIN
SEN. DAVID L. CARPENTER
REP. PAUL F. JACQUES
REP. WALTER E. WHITCOMB
REP. PATRICK E. PARADIS
REP. STEPHEN M. ZIRNKILTON

SARAH C. TUBBESING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 7, 1994

MEETING SUMMARY

Approved May 11, 1994

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Speaker Gwadosky, called the Council meeting to order at 1:13 p.m. in Room 437 of the State House, the Legal Affairs Committee Room.

ROLL CALL

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

Representatives: Speaker Gwadosky, Rep. Jacques, Rep. Whitcomb, Rep. Paradis, Rep. Zirnkilton

It should be noted that all members were present at some point during the meeting; however, some were not present for the votes on all items.

Legislative Officers: Sally Tubbesing, Executive Director, Legislative Council
Lynn Randall, State Law Librarian
Grant Pennoyer, Principal Analyst, representing the 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 February 9 Council meeting was approved and placed on file. (Motion by Rep. Paradis; second by Rep. Jacques; unanimous).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Personnel Committee

Speaker Gwadosky, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee had met on Thursday, February 17, for the purpose of conducting a performance review with John Wakefield in conjunction with his reappointment to the position of Office Director. Speaker Gwadosky noted that the Committee was unanimous in its support of John's reappointment and in their appreciation of his dedication to the Legislature and his commitment to supporting the continued evolution of the budget process. He noted that Mr. Wakefield was not in attendance at the meeting because he was staffing a work session of the Taxation Committee.

Motion: That John Wakefield be reappointed as Director of the Office of Fiscal & Program Review, and that this appointment be retroactive to his anniversary date. (Motion by Speaker Gwadosky; second by Rep. Jacques; unanimous).

Committee on State House Space

In the absence of the Committee Chair, President Dutremble, Speaker Gwadosky reminded Committee members that they would meet, as previously scheduled, at 2 p.m. in the President's Office.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Submission of Reports pursuant to Statute

- Maine Harness Racing Commission Annual Report for 1993. (submitted by Philip M. Tarr, Chair, pursuant to 8 MRSA § 267).

- Violence Among Children, Adolescents and Young Adults in Maine: Part I (submitted by the Division of Maternal and Child Health, Department of Human Services pursuant to Resolves of 1993, Chapter 22).

Motion: That both reports be accepted and placed on file. (Motion by Sen. Esty; second by Rep. Jacques; unanimous).

Item #2: Requests for Introduction of After Deadline Bills

Before proceeding with the list, the Chair, Speaker Gwadosky, asked Meg Matheson to give a brief report regarding the status of bill drafting in her office. Ms. Matheson responded that her office still had custody of 9 "live" bills, all of which were Governor's bills, and noted that some of these had been delivered in final form to the Governor's Office. She reported that the focus of her office has now shifted to processing committee amendments and that, because her staff had not had to juggle both amendments and new bills at the same time, the turnaround on amendments had been good. Martha Freeman added that there were approximately 310 bills remaining in committee and that committees had yet to complete their work on about 220 of these bills.

The Chair, Speaker Gwadosky, noted that he viewed it as "remarkable" that drafting of initial bills was virtually complete given that the Revisor's Office had been understaffed for most of the session, and again complimented the staff offices on the teamwork that had gotten the Legislature to this point. He reiterated that it was the intention of both the presiding officers to have no committee meetings the week of March 14, noting that this recess was important if the system was to work efficiently. In response to questions from Rep. Paradis regarding the impact of having committees meet that week, Ms. Freeman reported that the need to continue to sit with committees would delay her staff's drafting of amendments. Rep. Jacques then asked for clarification that the goal of the recess is to have committee amendments on the Calendar when the Legislature resumes on March 22, and the Chair replied that this was indeed the goal.

The Council then proceeded to consider after deadline requests. The Council's action on these requests is summarized on the attached list.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

ADJOURNMENT

The Council meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 2:45 p.m.