

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEN. JANE A. AMERO
CHAIR

REP. ELIZABETH H. MITCHELL
VICE-CHAIR

Lynn Randall
Legislative Council Info.

SEN. JEFFREY H. BUTLAND
SEN. R. LEO KIEFFER
SEN. MARK W. LAWRENCE
SEN. BEVERLY MINER BUSTIN
REP. DAN A. GWADOSKY
REP. PAUL F. JACQUES
REP. WALTER E. WHITCOMB
REP. JOSEPH G. CARLETON, JR.

SARAH C. TUBBESING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

117th MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEETING SUMMARY

June 7, 1995

Approved July 31, 1995

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Senator Amero, called the Council to order at 1:25 p.m. in the Senate Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators:	Sen. Kieffer, Sen. Bustin, Sen. Amero Absent: President Butland; Sen. Lawrence
Representatives:	Speaker Gwadosky, Rep. Jacques, Rep. Whitcomb, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Carleton
Legislative Officers:	Sally Tubbesing, Executive Director, Legislative Council Lynn Randall, State Law Librarian John Wakefield, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review David Boulter, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Margaret Matheson, Revisor of Statutes May Ross, Secretary of the Senate Joseph Mayo, Clerk of the House Millicent MacFarland, Assistant Clerk of the House

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion: That the Summaries of the May 22 and May 24 Council meetings be accepted and placed on file. (Motion by Speaker Gwadosky; second by Rep. Jacques; unanimous).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

None.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Committee on Computer Security and Access

Senator Kieffer, Committee Chair, reported that the Committee had scheduled a meeting the prior week -- and that he and Senator Lawrence had met briefly in the absence of the other members, Representatives Jacques and Whitcomb. He noted that he and Sen. Lawrence have asked Ms. Tubbesing to develop a working draft of a policy statement for the Committee's review and that the Committee will bring it to the full Council as soon as it has had a chance to work on it. The statement will address the following issues:

- The legitimate uses of legislatively-owned computers, as well as other equipment and supplies, including telephones, FAX machines, copiers, etc. The policy will also define uses that are not permissible. Sen. Kieffer noted that the law that the Legislature had enacted earlier this session addresses this issue, and will provide the foundation for the policy statement.
- System Security. Sen. Kieffer stated that the Committee members think it is critical that the Council adopt a formal policy regarding the provision of training and written materials to all legislative employees, as well as those legislators who use the computer system, regarding both the appropriate use of the system and procedures for ensuring security of files and documents on the system. These materials will deal with both records on our Wang mainframe and those that are created and stored either on "stand alone" PC's or on local office PC networks.

Finally, he noted the Committee will also continue to pursue the definition of what constitutes a "public record", and has asked Sally to explore specifically what other states have done regarding correspondence between legislators and constituents.

No Council action was required on this report.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Request for Review of Agency Rules Pursuant to 5 MRSA § 377-A: Report from Joint Standing Committee on Human Resources

Sen. Amero noted that the letter from the Committee Chairs was for the Council's information only.

No Council action was required on this item.

NEW BUSINESS

- Item #1: Request to Assign the Joint Standing Committee on Business & Economic Development to a "Permanent" Hearing Room.**
(Requested by Speaker Gwadosky on behalf of Representatives Cameron and Libby of Kennebunk)

Both Representatives Cameron and Libby were present at the meeting, and the Chair, Sen. Amero, recognized Rep. Libby, who reported that the Committee had been assigned to the various "undedicated" hearing rooms in the State Office Building throughout the session and noted that none of the rooms was "pleasant." He further noted that the Committee, which was the product of a merger of two smaller committees, had routinely attracted large audiences and proposed that two of the 3 unassigned hearing rooms be combined into one and refurbished. In the brief discussion that followed, Council members raised the following questions:

1. Would the Business & Economic Development Committee be willing to share the larger room with another committee? (Rep. Jacques). Rep. Libby responded affirmatively.
2. The cost of the proposed refurbishing (Sen. Bustin).
3. Whether the refurbishing of Room 113 several years ago had been paid for by the Legislature (Rep. Whitcomb). Ms. Tubbesing responded affirmatively.

Motion: That this item be referred to the Council's Committee on the Allocation of Improvement of Legislative Space. (Motion by Rep. Jacques; second by Sen. Kieffer; unanimous).

Rep. Mitchell indicated that she would convene the Committee to discuss this and other items once the Legislature had finally adjourned.

- Item #2: Letter from Senator Mills and Representative Treat Regarding Workload of the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary**

Motion: That the letter be accepted and placed on file and that a letter be sent to the Committee expressing appreciation for their hard work. (Motion by Rep. Whitcomb; second by Speaker Gwadosky; unanimous).

- Item #3: Letter Regarding Commissioning of the Submarine USS Maine on July 25, 1995 (letter from Joseph R. Phillips, Director, Maine State Museum)**

Joseph R. Phillips, Director of the State Museum, was present and reported that the situation appears to have been resolved. The Governor has agreed to return one piece of silver to the U.S. Navy for the new submarine, U.S.S. Maine.

No Council action was required on this item.

Item #4: Request from the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources to conduct a Study on Issues Relating to Dams

Motion: That this item be tabled, so that it can be considered at the same time as other committee requests and pending statutory proposals to conduct interim studies.
(Motion by Rep. Whitcomb; second by Sen. Bustin; unanimous).

Item #5: Requests from Committees to Carry Bills Over to the Second Regular Session

A list summarizing the Council's action is attached.

Item #6: Requests to Introduce After Deadline Bills and Joint Resolutions

The Council considered after deadline requests. A summary of the Council's action on these requests is attached to this meeting summary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

Speaker Gwadosky noted that he and Senate President Butland had discussed the session schedule for the following week and had agreed that they would schedule full-day sessions since only one or two committees were still working. He then applauded the efforts of the staff in OPLA, Revisor and OFPR to get the Legislature to this point.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m. on the motion of Sen. Bustin (second by Rep. Carleton).