

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

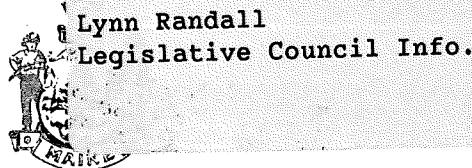
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SEN. JANE A. AMERO
CHAIR

REP. ELIZABETH H. MITCHELL
VICE-CHAIR



Lynn Randall

Legislative Council Info.

JEFFREY H. BUTLAND
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.
SALLY C. TUBBESING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE 117th MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEETING SUMMARY

November 9, 1995

Approved December 6, 1995

CALL TO ORDER

Senator Amero, Council Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators:

President Butland, Sen. Lawrence,
Sen. Kieffer, Sen. Bustin, Sen. Amero

Representatives:

Speaker Gwadosky, Rep. Jacques,
Rep. Whitcomb, Rep. Mitchell,
Rep. Carleton

Legislative Officers:

Sally Tubbessing, Executive Director, at
Legislative Council
John Wakefield, Director, Office of
Fiscal and Program Review
David Boulter, Director, Office of
Policy and Legal Analysis
Margaret Matheson, Revisor of Statutes
Suzanne Gresser, Principal Attorney,
Office of Revisor of Statutes
May Ross, Secretary of the Senate
Joseph Mayo, Clerk of the House

SUMMARY OF OCTOBER 22, 1995 COUNCIL MEETING

Motion: That the Meeting Summary be approved. (Motion by Rep. Carleton; second by Rep. Jacques; unanimous).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Item #1: Bill Drafting: Status Report

At Sally Tubbesing's suggestion, the Chair, Sen. Amero, recognized Margaret Matheson, Revisor of Statutes. Ms. Matheson reported that her office had received some portions of the bill that the Governor will submit to the Special Session and that they anticipate receiving the final draft on Monday, November 27. She noted that the Governor planned to submit at least 2 other pieces of legislation as part of his productivity recommendations to the Legislature. Finally, she reminded Council members that the legislation establishing the Productivity Realization Task Force (Ch. 99, P.L. 1995) stipulates that the Legislature must take action on the bill within 3 calendar days from the date it is submitted to the Revisor's office.

Ms. Matheson also reported that her office was processing agency bills for the Second Regular Session and that staff in her office and the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis had been making a concerted effort to draft the bills the Council had already approved for introduction, with the goal of having some available for legislators to review and get cosponsors' signatures during the Special Session. Ms. Matheson drew Council members' attention to the letter she had drafted to accompany final drafts which laid out the timetable for review and signature.

Ms. Tubbesing then drew Council members' attention to the schedule of committee hearings and meetings. Sen. Bustin inquired whether the policy committees would be reviewing the portions of the proposed legislation that fell within their jurisdiction, and Rep. Jacques noted that the Appropriations Committee Chairs had invited the 3-member Budget Subcommittees from the policy committees to attend their scheduled hearings.

No Council action was required on this items.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Submission of Report from the Interagency Task Force on Homelessness and Housing Opportunities pursuant to statute (P.L. 1993, Ch. 738, Part D)

Motion: That the Report be accepted and placed on file.
(Motion by Rep. Mitchell; second by Sen. Lawrence; unanimous).

Item #2: Request for Extension of Reporting Deadline for the Naturopathic Task Force

Ms. Tubbesing clarified that this extension would have no impact on either funding (since the Task Force had none) or the availability of legislative staff for the Second Session, since staffing is being provided by the Department of Professional & Financial Regulation as provided by law.

Motion: That the extension be approved. (Motion by Rep. Mitchell second by Sen. Lawrence; unanimous).

Item #3: Consideration of Legislators' Appeals of Council Action on Bill Requests

Senator Amero reported that the Revisor's Office had received appeals from 62 legislators on 95 bill requests by the deadline. She noted that many legislators were in attendance in order to present their appeal in person and proposed that the Council employ procedures similar to those used in past years to facilitate the consideration of appeals. These include:

- Taking the bills in alphabetical order, with the exception that the Council would take legislators who had long distances to travel or other scheduling constraints, out of order.
- Legislators would be asked to limit their remarks on each request to 3 minutes in order to give all who were present an opportunity to speak.
- Legislators were asked to focus their remarks on why it is important that the bill be dealt with in the upcoming Second Regular Session.
- Pursuant to Joint Rules, the Council would vote on each request by a show of hands, and the individual votes would be recorded.

Item #4: 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 Council meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m., on the motion of Rep. Carleton.