

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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REP. ELIZABETH H. MITCHELL
CHAIR

SEN. MARK W. LAWRENCE
VICE-CHAIR



Lynn Randall
Legislative Council Info.

J. CHELLIE PINGREE
J. JANE A. AMERO
J. ANNE M. RAND
SEN. R. LEO KIEFFER
REP. CAROL A. KONTOS
REP. JAMES O. DONNELLY
REP. MICHAEL V. SAXL
REP. RICHARD H. CAMPBELL

SARAH C. TUBBESING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

118th MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEETING SUMMARY

February 27, 1997

Approved March 18, 1997

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Speaker Mitchell, called the Council to order at 9:35 a.m. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators:	Sen. Pingree, Sen. Rand, Sen. Kieffer Absent: President Lawrence, Sen. Amero
Representatives:	Speaker Mitchell, Rep. Kontos, Rep. Donnelly, Rep. Saxl, Rep. Campbell
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 Joy O'Brien, 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 January 16, January 22, January 23, and January 30 Council meetings be accepted as amended and placed on file. (Motion by Sen. Rand; second by Rep. Kontos; unanimous)..

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sally Tubbesing presented the following items to the Council for its consideration:

Item #1: Interpreters for the Deaf

Ms. Tubbesing reported that she has completed contractual arrangements to provide interpreters for the deaf on a regular basis with the Pine Tree Society for Handicapped Children and Adults in accordance with the recommendations adopted by the 117th Legislative Council. Interpreters will be available for committee hearings and work sessions, and committee chairs have been asked by the presiding officers to schedule bills of particular interest to the deaf community on those days. Ms. Tubbesing noted that the interpreters would also be available to work with individual legislators who may wish to arrange meetings involving deaf constituents. The interpreters will be scheduled through the Legislative Information Office.

This item required no formal Council action; however, Rep. Kontos asked that copies of the language that gives the Council responsibility for compliance with ADA requirements be provided at the next Council meeting.

Item #2: Legislative Budget: Adjustments in Governor's Original Recommendations

Ms. Tubbesing drew members' attention to the memo she had written the previous week that reported the adjustments that had been made in the Governor's Recommendations for the accounts included in the Legislative Department. The Governor's recommended reduction has been cut from \$1,207,084 to \$688,534. She noted that these revised figures are included in the Governor's budget bill, which has recently been printed.

This item did not require Council action.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Search Committee, Director of Legislative Information Services

In the absence of the Chair, Senate President Lawrence, Sally Tubbesing reported that the Subcommittee had initially selected 10 candidates to spend a day at the State House to visit many of the legislative offices and meet with various members of the Search Committee. The Search Committee then selected 4 candidates to invite back for a formal interview with a subcommittee of the full Search Committee, and those interviews had taken place the previous day (Wednesday, February 27).

Ms. Tubbesing concluded by saying that the Subcommittee would be scheduling a meeting to review the results of calls to references provided by each candidate and hoped to have a recommendation to present to the full Council at its March meeting.

This report required no formal action by the Council.

Committee on Legislative Information Technology

Senator Pingree, Committee Chair, reported that she and Rep. Carleton have started a Legislators' Internet User's Group and that the group had met in the new area, on the 1st floor, which has recently been equipped with computers for legislators' exclusive use. The Chair, Speaker Mitchell, suggested that members might need another memo indicating that the area is open and available for use.

The Council took no formal action on this item.

CSG/ERC '97 Legislative Steering Committee

Rep. Kontos, who co-chairs the Committee with Sen. Amero, reported that the Committee was completing plans for the ERC Executive Committee meeting which would be convened in Portland the weekend of March 7-9. Maine is responsible for hosting dinners on both Friday and Saturday nights during the meeting, and Rep. Kontos encouraged Council members to attend. She stated that the Steering Committee would be meeting later that day to begin fleshing out the details for the summer program.

Finally, she reported that Hugh Farrington, President and CEO for Hannaford Bros., and Mike McNamara, who is CEO and President of Key Bank of Maine, have agreed to co-chair the Private Sector Host Committee, which will assume primary responsibility for overseeing the fund-raising that will be required to fund the Social activities for the summer meeting. She concluded that both she and Sen. Amero continue to be confident that the fund raising goal - \$125,000 - is "very doable."

This item require no formal Council action.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: State House: Maintenance and Repair Issues

Sally Tubbesing drew members' attention to an item in their packets which listed the major repair and renovation projects that constitute the "State House Master Plan" at this point. She described the Master Plan as a dynamic document, which changes as some projects are completed and as additional information regarding the scope of work required to accomplish other projects becomes available.

The Chair, Speaker Mitchell, stated that she had recently taken a guest on a tour of the State House, and that the tour had further heightened her concern about the need for a sustained program of repairs. She encouraged all members of the Council to take their own tour and cited several areas of "distress," including the chairs in the House Chamber, some of which have been patched with duct tape and/or safety pins. She emphasized the Council's role as the custodian of the State House, and noted that she was actively seeking partnerships and ideas to supporting a sustained capital improvements program in the building. Sen. Kieffer stated that it is important to break the work that needs to be done into two segments - ongoing maintenance and capital improvements. Speaker Mitchell closed the discussion by asking all Council members to assist in efforts to restore the public's pride in the State House.

This item did not require formal Council action.

Item #2: Submission of Reports:

• **Maine State Revenue Forecasting Committee**

Motion: That the Council accept the report and place it on file. (Motion by Rep. Kontos; second by Sen. Rand; unanimous).

• **License Plate Task Force: Report to Joint Standing Committee on Transportation**

Motion: That the Council accept the report and place it on file. (Motion by Rep. Campbell; second by Sen. Rand; unanimous).

• **Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority:
1996 Annual Report**

Motion: That the Council accept the report and place it on file. (Motion by Rep. Saxl; second by Sen. Rand; unanimous).

Item #3: After Deadline Requests

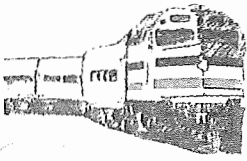
After deadline requests were considered by the Legislative Council. The Council's action on these requests is included on the attached list.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

The Chair, Speaker Mitchell, congratulated all the staff "for the extraordinary work they've done to get us to this point," noting that the public recognition of their efforts was well-deserved.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. on the motion of the Chair.



NNEPRA

Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority

Child Street • 16 State House Station • Augusta, Maine 04333-0016

Tel (207)287-2346 • Fax (207)287-2144

Executive Director Michael J. Murray, P.E.

Board of Directors

Roger L. Mallar, Chairman
Jonathan Carter
F. Bruce Sleeper, Esq.
Sharon S. White
Barbara M. Whitten

February 24, 1997

Ms. Sarah C. Tubbesing, Executive Director
Legislative Council
115 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

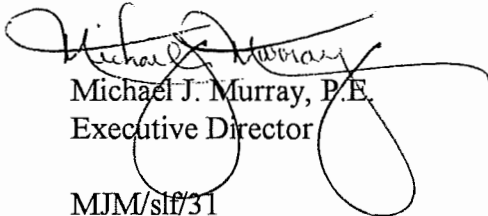
Re: Annual Report of the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority

Dear Ms. Tubbesing:

Pursuant to 23 MRSA C.621 subchapter II, I am pleased to forward for your review and distribution the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority's annual report for 1996.

Should you have any questions concerning this report or its contents, please contact me at 287-2346.

Sincerely,


Michael J. Murray, P.E.
Executive Director

MJM/slf/31

Enclosures:

CC: Jonathan L. Carter, Chairman, NNEPRA
John G. Melrose, Commissioner, MDOT
Gregory Nadeau, Senior Advisor, Executive Office

FEB 25 1997

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
REQUESTS TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
February 25, 1997

Action

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker, Jr., George H.

LR 2395 An Act to Require Notice to Telephone Subscribers
of the Sale or Transfer of an Interchange Carrier
or a Change in Rates

SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker, Jr., George H.

LR 2396 An Act to Create the Pleasant River Standard Water
District

SPONSOR: Rep. Dexter, Edward L.

LR 2410 Resolve, Authorizing the Transfer of the Land from
the State to the Freeman Ridge Cemetary Association

In
6-0

SPONSOR: Sen. Goldthwait, Jill M.

LR 2429 An Act to Repeal the Victualer's Law

In
8-0

SPONSOR: Rep. Jones, Kyle W.

LR 2392 An Act to Restructure Maine's Electric Industry

PUC
study *In*
8-0

SPONSOR: Sen. Lawrence, Mark W.

LR 2398 An Act to Establish the Adopt a Highway Program

SPONSOR: Sen. Lawrence, Mark W.

LR 2424 An Act to Establish the Maine Prosperity Fund

SPONSOR: Rep. McAlevey, Michael J.

LR 2405 An Act to Modify the Retirement Laws for the 38th
Training Troop of the Maine State Police

SPONSOR: Rep. Mitchell, J. Elizabeth

LR 2393 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Maine Health
and Higher Educational Facilities Authority

In
6-0
1 abstain

SPONSOR: Rep. Murphy, Jr., Thomas W.

LR 2407 An Act to Promote Higher Education

SPONSOR: Sen. Nutting, John M.

LR 2403 An Act Regarding Unclaimed Property

Fail
3-2

SPONSOR: Rep. Saxl, Jane W.

LR 2425 An Act Authorizing the Department of Transportation to Provide Signage for the World War II Memorial in Bangor

SPONSOR: Rep. Sirois, Rosaire J.

LR 2422 An Act to Construct Rest Areas on Interstate 95 Between Medway and Houlton

Fail
4-3

SPONSOR: Rep. Townsend, Elizabeth

LR 2411 An Act to Extend the Deadline for Participation in the Maine Residents Property Tax Program for 1996

w/p

SPONSOR: Rep. Usher, Ronald E.

LR 2406 An Act Regarding the Rights of Mobile Home Park Residents

Tabled

SPONSOR: Rep. Usher, Ronald E.

LR 2417 An Act to Suspend the License to Operate a Motor Vehicle of a Person Convicted of Operating a Snowmobile While Under the Influence of Intoxicating Liquor or Drugs or Speeding on a Snowmobile

Tabled

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SPONSOR: Rep. Kontos, Carol A.

LR 2430 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING STATE AGENCIES, CITIZENS, BUSINESS AND THE GOVERNOR TO CONSOLIDATE EXPERTISE FOR THE MONITORING OF COMPETITIVE MARKETS FOR ELECTRICITY, NATURAL GAS AND OTHER SOURCES OF ENERGY IN A SINGLE STATE AGENCY IN ORDER TO FACILITATE A CONSISTENT ENERGY POLICY

SPONSOR: Rep. Kontos, Carol A.

LR 2431 JOINT RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM POWER PLANTS TO ENVIRONMENTALLY COMPARABLE LEVELS REGARDLESS OF AGE; THE GOVERNOR TO CONTINUE MAINE'S INVOLVEMENT IN FEDERAL AND REGIONAL EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF ELECTRIC UTILITY RESTRUCTURING; AND THE OWNERS OF EXEMPT UTILITY FOSSIL FUEL PLANTS TO VOLUNTARILY REDUCE EMISSIONS

SPONSOR: Sen. Lawrence, Mark W.

LR 2399 JOINT RESOLUTION RELATING TO EDUCATING FAMILY MEMBERS ABOUT BREAST CANCER

SPONSOR: Sen. Paradis, Judy

LR 2400 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR CRITICAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH NORTHERN MAINE FROM HOULTON TO FORT KENT

ln
17-0

TABLED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SPONSOR: Rep. Kontos, Carol A. TABLED
01/30/97

LR 2391 An Act Concerning Correctional Impact Statements

SPONSOR: Rep. Tuttle, Jr., John L. TABLED
01/22/97

LR 2375 An Act to Allow Micropigmentation

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SPONSOR: Rep. Donnelly, James O. TABLED
01/16/97

LR 2319 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO CONSIDER
PREVAILING WINDS CAUSING POLLUTION FROM OTHER AREAS
IN PRIORITIZING ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARD REQUIREMENTS

Tabled again

SPONSOR: Rep. Donnelly, James O. TABLED
01/16/97

LR 2320 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS
CONCERNING FLAG DESECRATION

SPONSOR: Sen. Ruhlin, Richard P. TABLED
01/16/97

LR 2318 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE AND MAINE'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION
TO RETAIN AND PRESERVE THE HISTORIC POST OFFICE IN
CASTINE, MAINE

ADDENDUM

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
REQUESTS TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
February 27, 1997

Action

SPONSOR: Rep. Bull, Thomas

LR 2433 An Act to Require the Appointment of Members of the
Turnpike Authority by the Legislature

Fails
2-4

SPONSOR: Sen. Paradis, Judy

LR 2435 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the
Constitution of Maine to Provide Equal
Educational Funding

Ja
7-0

JOINT RESOLUTION

SPONSOR: Rep. Mack, Adam

LR 2432 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE CONGRESS OF THE
UNITED STATES TO REPEAL THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS
ACT

Fails
3-4

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
ACTION ON REQUESTS TO INTRODUCE LEGISLATION
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
February 27, 1997**

	Action
SPONSOR: Rep. Bull, Thomas	FAILED
LR 2433 An Act to Require the Appointment of Members of the Turnpike Authority by the Legislature	
SPONSOR: Rep. Dexter, Edward L.	ACCEPTED
LR 2410 Resolve, Authorizing the Transfer of the Land from the State to the Freeman Ridge Cemetary Association	
SPONSOR: Sen. Goldthwait, Jill M.	ACCEPTED
LR 2429 An Act to Repeal the Victualer's Law	
SPONSOR: Rep. Jones, Kyle W.	ACCEPTED
LR 2392 An Act to Restructure Maine's Electric Industry	
PONSOR: Rep. Mitchell, J. Elizabeth	ACCEPTED
LR 2393 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority	
SPONSOR: Sen. Nutting, John M.	FAILED
LR 2403 An Act Regarding Unclaimed Property	
SPONSOR: Sen. Paradis, Judy	ACCEPTED
LR 2435 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Provide Equal Educational Funding	
SPONSOR: Rep. Sirois, Rosaire J.	FAILED
LR 2422 An Act to Construct Rest Areas on Interstate 95 Between Medway and Houlton	

SPONSOR: Rep. Townsend, Elizabeth **WITHDRAWN**

LR 2411 An Act to Extend the Deadline for Participation in
the Maine Residents Property Tax Program for 1996

SPONSOR: Rep. Usher, Ronald E. **CORRECTED** **TABLED**
02/27/97

LR 2406 An Act Regarding the Rights of Mobile Home Park Residents

SPONSOR: Rep. Usher, Ronald E. **CORRECTED** **TABLED**
02/27/97

LR 2417 An Act to Suspend the License to Operate a Motor
Vehicle of a Person Convicted of Operating a Snowmobile
While Under the Influence of Intoxicating Liquor or
Drugs or Speeding on a Snowmobile

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SPONSOR: Rep. Mack, Adam **FAILED**

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UNITED STATES TO REPEAL THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS
ACT

SPONSOR: Sen. Paradis, Judy **ACCEPTED**

LR 2400 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES AND CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO PROVIDE
SUPPORT FOR CRITICAL HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH
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SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker, Jr., George H.	TABLED 02/27/97
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SPONSOR: Rep. Bunker, Jr., George H.	TABLED 02/27/97
LR 2396 An Act to Create the Pleasant River Standard Water District	
SPONSOR: Rep. Kontos, Carol A.	TABLED 01/30/97
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SPONSOR: Sen. Lawrence, Mark W.	TABLED 02/27/97
LR 2398 An Act to Establish the Adopt a Highway Program	
SPONSOR: Sen. Lawrence, Mark W.	TABLED 02/27/97
LR 2424 An Act to Establish the Maine Prosperity Fund	
SPONSOR: Rep. McAlevey, Michael J.	TABLED 02/27/97
LR 2405 An Act to Modify the Retirement Laws for the 38th Training Troop of the Maine State Police	
SPONSOR: Rep. Murphy, Jr., Thomas W.	TABLED 02/27/97
LR 2407 An Act to Promote Higher Education	
SPONSOR: Rep. Saxl, Jane W.	TABLED 02/27/97
LR 2425 An Act Authorizing the Department of Transportation to Provide Signage for the World War II Memorial in Bangor	
SSPONSOR: Rep. Tuttle, Jr., John L.	TABLED 01/22/97
LR 2375 An Act to Allow Micropigmentation	

JOINT RESOLUTIONS

SPONSOR: Rep. Donnelly, James O. **TABLED**
01/16/97

LR 2319 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO CONSIDER
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BUSINESS AND THE GOVERNOR TO CONSOLIDATE EXPERTISE
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NATURAL GAS AND OTHER SOURCES OF ENERGY IN A SINGLE
STATE AGENCY IN ORDER TO FACILITATE A CONSISTENT
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ABOUT BREAST CANCER

SPONSOR: Sen. Ruhlin, Richard P. **TABLED**
01/16/97

LR 2318 JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE AND MAINE'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION
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CORRECTED COPY

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