MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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REP. ELIZABETH H. MITCHELL
CHAIR

SEN. MARK W. LAWRENCE
VICE-CHAIR

118th MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. CHELLIE PINGREE
SEN. JANE A. AMERO
SEN. 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

MEETING SUMMARY

June 16, 1997

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Speaker Mitchell, called the Council to order at 1:20 p.m. in the Legislative Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Senators:	President Lawrence, Sen. Pingree, Sen. Amero, Sen. Rand Absent: Sen. Kieffer
Representatives:	Speaker Mitchell, Rep. Kontos, Rep. Saxl, Rep. Campbell Absent: Rep. Donnelly
Legislative Officers:	Sally Tubbesing, Executive Director, Legislative Council John Wakefield, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review David Boulter, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Paul Mayotte, Director, Legislative Information Services Suzanne Gresser, Principal Attorney, Office of the Revisor Joy O'Brien, Secretary of the Senate Joseph Mayo, Clerk of the House

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Motion: That the Summaries of the May 8 and May 29, 1997, Council meetings be accepted and placed on file. (Motion by Sen. Rand; second by Rep. Saxl; unanimous).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sally Tubbesing presented the following items for the Council's consideration:

Item #1: Resignation of Lisa Copenhaver, Office of Policy & Legal Analysis

Ms. Tubbesing drew Council members' attention to Ms. Copenhaver's letter of resignation, and noted that she had brought her specialized knowledge in labor law to bear on her work in the Legislature - including the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and with the Blue Ribbon Commission on Workers' Compensation. Ms. Copenhaver is leaving to assume a position with the Maine Labor Relations Board, and Ms. Tubbesing remarked that her expertise will be difficult to replace.

Motion: That Ms. Copenhaver's resignation be accepted with regret and that a letter of appreciation be sent to her. (Motion by Rep. Kontos; second by Sen. Rand; unanimous).

Item #2: Staff Participation in NCSL Annual Meeting, Philadelphia

Ms. Tubbesing reported that after consultation with Senate President Lawrence and Speaker Mitchell regarding allocation of the out-of-state travel budget, she had approved attendance by the following at the NCSL Annual Meeting in Philadelphia: David Boulter; Paul Mayotte; and John Wakefield.

This was an informational item and did not require formal Council action.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

CSG/ERC '97 Legislative Steering Committee

Rep. Kontos, who Co-Chairs the Steering Committee with Senator Amero, reported briefly on the progress of planning for the meeting, noting that fund-raising was going extremely well and that an outstanding program had been developed.

No Council action was required on this item.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Proposal from Business and Economic Development Committee to Review Agencies Pursuant to the Government Evaluation Act (Tabled at May 29 meeting)

The Chair, Speaker Mitchell, asked David Boulter to recap the Council's prior discussion of the Committee's request. Mr. Boulter stated that the Committee had requested 4

meetings during the interim to begin its evaluation of certain agencies. Speaker Mitchell pointed out that the Council had been very careful to limit the number of meetings for all of the study commissions and asked Mr. Boulter if, based on his assessment of the work to be done, 4 meetings was necessary. Mr. Boulter responded that the Committee would need at least 3.

Sen. President Lawrence then asked Mr. Boulter why the Maine Development Foundation was included in the Government Evaluation Act. Mr. Boulter responded that the Foundation does receive some General Fund money, and that it is also set up in law as a public instrumentality with certain statutory changes; thus, it is subject to review under the law.

Motion: That the Committee be authorized to meet 3 times during the interim to conduct work related to its responsibilities under the Government Evaluation Act. (Motion by Sen. President Lawrence; second by Rep. Kontos; unanimous).

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Requests to Introduce Legislation to the First Special Session

Requests to introduce legislation to the First Special Session were considered by the Legislative Council. A summary of the Council's action on these requests is attached to this meeting summary.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m. on the motion of Sen. President Lawrence.