MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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118TH MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

MEETING SUMMARY

November 20, 1997

Approved December 18, 1997

CALL TO ORDER

The Chair, Speaker Mitchell, called the Legislative Council to order at 2:40 p.m. in the Legislative Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL

Senators:	President Lawrence, Sen. Pingree, Sen. Amero, Sen. Rand, Sen. Kieffer
Representatives:	Speaker Mitchell, Rep. Kontos, Rep. Donnelly, Rep. Saxl, Rep. Campbell
Legislative Officers:	Sally Tubbesing, Executive Director, Legislative Council 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

The Chair, Speaker Mitchell, suggested that the Council move directly to **NEW BUSINESS, ITEM #1,** in deference to those legislators who were present. Without objection, the Council proceeded to take up this item out of order.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Consideration of Legislators' Appeals of Council Action on Bill Requests

Before proceeding with consideration of the individual requests, Speaker Mitchell reported that the Revisor's Office had received 211 appeals by the November 4th deadline and noted that this compared to 95 appeals two years ago. Recognizing the many legislators who were present to present their appeals in person, she stated that the Council would consider appeals in reverse alphabetical order, but would give

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precedence to take those legislators who had long distances to travel. She reviewed procedures briefly, and urged legislators to limit their remarks so that all would have an opportunity to speak.

The Council proceeded to consider the appeals that had been filed. With the unanimous support of the Council, the Chair, Speaker Mitchell, announced that legislators whose appeals had been successful, would have one week from receipt of the letter announcing the Council's action to file information related to bill requests.

A summary of the Council's action has been distributed and is also available on the Legislature's WEB site.

The Council proceeded to consider other items listed on the agenda under **NEW BUSINESS.**

Item #2: 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.

Item #3: Requests for Extension of Reporting Deadlines from Interim Study Commissions:

- **Commission to Examine Rate Setting and Financing of Long-Term Care Facilities. (Letter from Joseph M. Kozak, Chair)**

  Motion: That the request to extend until November, 1998, be approved, with the provision that the Commission suspend its activities for the duration of the Second Regular Session to allow the assigned staff Analysts from OPLA to devote their full attention to their regular Committee assignments. (Motion by Senate President Lawrence; second by Rep. Campbell; unanimous).

- **Commission to Study the Restructuring of the State's Fiscal Policies to Promote the Development of High-Technology Industry in Maine. (Letter from Mark B. LeDuc).**

  Motion: That the request to extend the deadline from January 1 to January 30, be approved. (Motion by Senate President Lawrence; second by Rep. Campbell; unanimous).

- **Task Force to Review Applied Technology Centers and Applied Technology Regions. (Letter from Philip A. Dionne, Chair)**

  Motion: That the request to extend the deadline from January 1 to March 1, 1998 be approved, with the provision that the Task Force submit an Interim Report by the original deadline. (Motion by Rep. Donnelly; second by Senate President Lawrence; unanimous).

SUMMARIES OF SEPTEMBER 24 AND OCTOBER 27 COUNCIL MEETINGS

Motion: That the Summaries be accepted and placed on file. (Motion by Rep. Campbell; second by Sen. Rand; unanimous).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sally Tubbesing presented the following item for the Council's information:

Item #1: Request for Legislative Review of Agency Rules pursuant to 5 MRSA, Chapter 377-A

Ms. Tubbesing drew members' attention to the material in the agenda packet related to this item, noting that Ms. Mary Jane Beyer had requested that the Legislature review rules adopted by the Department of Human Services related to Medicaid Eligibility. Ms. Tubbesing reported that she had referred the request for review to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services in accordance with the law and that the Committee has the option of deciding whether or not to schedule a meeting to review the rule. Correspondence from the Committee indicates that the Committee will schedule a review in January.

This item required no formal action by the Legislative Council at this time.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Legislative Document Service: Proposed Fee Schedule for Second Regular Session

The proposed schedule presented by Clerk of the House Joe Mayo was approved unanimously without a specific motion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

Rep. Kontos announced that Kevin Mattson, Chief of Staff in the House Majority Office, was resigning to pursue other opportunities and invited all present to a reception in his honor.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.