

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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SEN. TROY JACKSON
CHAIR

REP. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS
VICE-CHAIR

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SUZANNE M. GRESSER



131ST MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. ELOISE A. VITELLI
SEN. MATTHEA DAUGHTRY
SEN. HAROLD "TREY" STEWART III
SEN. LISA KEIM
REP. MAUREEN F. TERRY
REP. KRISTEN CLOUTIER
REP. BILLY BOB FAULKINGHAM
REP. AMY ARATA

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
MEETING SUMMARY
November 16, 2023
Approved December 21, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

President Jackson called the November 16, 2023 meeting of the 131st Legislative Council to order at 10:17 a.m. in the Legislative Council Chamber.

ROLL CALL

Senators: President Jackson, Senator Vitelli, Senator Daughtry, Senator Stewart, and Senator Keim

Representatives: Speaker Talbot Ross, Representative Terry, Representative Cloutier (via Zoom), Representative Faulkingham, and Representative Arata

Legislative Officers: Suzanne Gresser, Executive Director of the Legislative Council
Darek Grant, Secretary of the Senate
Michelle Dunphy, Assistant Clerk of the House
Ed Charbonneau, Revisor of Statutes
Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Christopher Nolan, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review
Nik Rende, Director, Office of Legislative Information Technology

President Jackson convened the meeting at 10:17 a.m. with a quorum of members present.

President Jackson announced his intention to take items out of order, and hearing no objection, moved to New Business, Item 2.

NEW BUSINESS

Item #3: Procedures for Deciding Appeals for Bill Requests for the Second Regular Session

Ms. Gresser reviewed the procedures for the review of Legislative Bill Requests and the proposed protocol for deciding those requests.

The Legislative Council proceeded to consider and vote on one hundred five (105) appeals in accordance with the outlined protocol, and using an electronic voting system. The Legislative Council authorized forty-two (42) bills for introduction in the Second Regular Session. Seven (7) bill requests were withdrawn by the sponsors prior to the Legislative Council's vote. The Legislative Council's action on the bill requests is attached.

President Jackson then returned to the printed agenda.

In the interests of time, the Legislative Council deferred acceptance of the summary of the Council meeting held on November 9, 2023, until the next meeting of the Legislative Council.

REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND COUNCIL OFFICES

Fiscal Report; Studies Report

President Jackson drew the Legislative Council's attention in the Council's meeting materials to the written fiscal report prepared by Christopher Nolan, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review, and the studies report prepared by Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

None

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Council Actions Taken by Ballot

Legislative Council Decisions:

Motion: **That, in accordance with Joint Rule 353(7), the Legislative Council extends to December 15, 2023, the reporting deadline of the Blue-Ribbon Commission to Design a Plan for Sustained Investment in Preventing Disease and Improving the Health of Maine Communities.**

Motion by: Speaker Talbot Ross
Date: November 9, 2023
Vote: 8-0-2-0 Passed

Motion: **That, in accordance with Joint Rule 353(7), the Legislative Council extends to December 15, 2023, the reporting deadline of the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission.**

Motion by: Speaker Talbot Ross
Date: November 13, 2023
Vote: 7-0-3-0 Passed

Motion: That, in accordance with Joint Rule 353(7), the Legislative Council extends to December 15, 2023, the reporting deadline of the Commission to Study Expansion of Public Preschool and Early Care Education

Motion by: Speaker Talbot Ross
Date: November 7, 2023
Vote: 7-0-3-0 Passed

Motion: That, in accordance with Joint Rule 353(7), the Legislative Council extends to December 15, 2023, the reporting deadline of the Criminal Records Review Committee.

Motion by: Speaker Talbot Ross
Date: November 2, 2023
Vote: 7-0-3-0 Passed

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Acceptance of the Annual Report of the Loring Development Authority of Maine

In the interests of time, the Legislative Council deferred acceptance of the Annual Report of the Loring Development Authority of Maine until the Council's next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

President Jackson reminded members that the annual Legislative Employee Appreciation event, and the Recognition of Service Awards would take place immediately following the Legislative Council meeting, and invited members who were able to attend.

With no other business to consider or further announcements, the Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.