

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Third
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1967

KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

SENATE

Wednesday, January 11, 1967

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by Rev. Harold J. Rowley of Augusta.

Reading of the Journal of yesterday.

House Papers**Communication**

State of Maine
Senatorial Apportionment
Commission

To the One Hundred
And Third Legislature
Of the State of Maine:

I have the honor submit herewith the report of the Senatorial Apportionment Commission, established by the 102nd Legislature. This report, approved by a majority of the Commission, is submitted to provide guidelines for reapportionment of the Senate of Maine for the 104th and 105th Legislatures.

EDWARD S. GODFREY
Chairman

January 4, 1967

(H. P. 20)

Comes from the House Read and Ordered placed on file.

Which was read and Ordered Placed on file in concurrence.

Senate Papers**Appropriations and
Financial Affairs**

Mr. Albair of Aroostook presented

Bill "An Act Relating to Appropriations to the Maine Industrial and Recreational Finance Approval Board." (S. P. 44)

Which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Business Legislation

Mr. MacLeod of Penobscot presented

Bill "An Act Relating to Certain First Mortgage Loans by Savings Banks." (S. P. 45)

Which was referred to the Committee on Business Legislation and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Education

Mr. Good of Cumberland presented

Bill "An Act Relating to Application of State Aid for School Construction." (S. P. 13) (L. D. 29)

Which was referred to the Committee on Education.

Sent down for concurrence.

Highways

Mr. Ferguson of Oxford presented

Resolve Designating Certain Portions of the Interstate System at Kittery as "The Piscataqua River Bridge." (S. P. 46)

Which was referred to the Committee on Highways, and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

**Industrial and
Recreational Development**

Mr. Hildreth of Cumberland presented

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Creation of the Maine State Park and Recreation Area Fund and the Issuance of Not Exceeding Eight Million Dollar Bonds of the State of Maine for the Financing Thereof." (S. P. 14) (L. D. 30)

Which was referred to the Committee on Industrial and Recreational Development.

Sent down for concurrence.

**Inland Fisheries
And Game**

Mr. Hoffses of Knox presented

Bill "An Act Repealing Bounty on Bobcat and Canada Lynx." (S. P. 47)

Which was referred to the Committee on Inland Fisheries and Game and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Labor

Mr. Brewer of Sagadahoc presented

Bill "An Act Increasing Minimum Wages." (S. P. 48)

Which was referred to the Committee on Labor and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Legal Affairs

Mr. Viles of Somerset presented Bill "An Act Relating to Fee for Renewal of Master Plumber's License." (S. P. 49)

Which was referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Natural Resources

Mr. Hoffses of Knox presented Bill "An Act Relating to Membership of State Soil and Water Conservation Committee." (S. P. 50)

Which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

State Government

Mr. Barnes of Aroostook presented

Bill "An Act Authorizing Appointment of the Commissioner of Agriculture by the Legislature." (S. P. 51)

Which was referred to the Committee on state government and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Orders

On motion by Mr. Berry of Cumberland

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the action of the Clerk of the House of Representatives in purchasing supplies for the Legislature prior to its convening on January 4, 1967 without complying with procedures of the State Bureau of Purchases is ratified. (S. P. 52)

Which was read and passed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Out of Order and under Suspension of the Rules.

Additional Paper from the House. (S. P. 43)

On motion by Mr. Berry of Cumberland the Senate voted that S. P. 43 be expunged from the record.

Mr. Anderson of Hancock was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate.

Mr. ANDERSON: Mr. President and ladies and gentlemen of the Senate: I would like to reminisce a little.

As a freshman legislator in the 100th session I was confused and bewildered by the staggering increase in amounts that Highways, Education, Institutions and all functioning departments of the State were asking for in that biennium.

On February 23rd, 1961, I spoke on the floor of the House. I quote in part from the legislative record of that date:

"I am reminded of a runaway horse dashing crazily down a street until he crashes into some insurmountable obstacle and destroys himself and the load behind him. But if some courageous bystander should reach out and snatch his bridle as he sweeps by and bring him to a halt, both horse and load would be saved from destruction.

I don't think I am far out of line when I say that every member here, in campaigning for this office, promised economy to their constituents. Let's not betray that trust — let's keep our promises.

There was a time when thrift was a virtue, but now, apparently, it seems to be un-American to save. We should spend, spend some more and keep on spending.

Let's dedicate ourselves to the revival of thrift — keep it breathing for posterity. Let's go down in Maine history as the 100th Legislature that stopped the runaway horse."

Today the horse is still running and gaining momentum in spite of an heroic attempt by forty or more of my colleagues to bring him to a halt — members of the so-called economy block back in the 100th Legislature.

Here in the 103rd Legislature we are faced with the same situation. Nearly every department head is asking for more money. They present a very pretty package wrapped with colorful paper and tied with gaudy ribbons.

In this session let's not buy the fancy wrappings. Let's open the package and thoroughly evaluate the contents before committing ourselves. Of course we all understand if we don't accede to their wishes we will be labeled as obstructionists — halting the march of progress.

It has always been my contention that we can have progress and with it a generous sprinkling of economy if we manage the affairs of state as we would our own businesses.

You all know what happened at the last session. The top-heavy legislature added many new problems. It increased highway salaries, added additional personnel to many departments, gave rebates to gasoline dealers, authorized construction of a garage at Caribou, gave the nod to purchase of equipment and many other expenditures.

And you all know what happened at the special session last winter. Not only was all the surplus spent, but legislation was enacted that we, the 103rd, must pay for in some miraculous manner.

Going back to the Highway Commission, we are all aware that they are operating in the red. We realize that adequate highways are the life blood of the State. We must keep pace with our sister states if we are to preserve a healthy industrial and recreational climate: and yet, knowing how essential it was to maintain a healthy balance in this department, we deliberately passed a bill in the 101st removing the tolls on the Maine Turnpike when the bonds are retired in thirteen years.

You can imagine the extra burden placed on the taxpayers in maintaining this 120 miles of highway without the toll revenue from tourists.

This act should be repealed.

In this 103rd Legislature we are faced with fiscal responsibility that will require the utmost in prudence, the utmost in evaluation of all acts before we nail them down.

We don't know what the future will bring. World problems are most disturbing. There are menacing signs of inflation. The Vietnam situation could very easily accelerate overnight. In the racial dispute in the South we are sitting on a powder keg.

Rather a gloomy picture, but it should make us conscious of the fact that rough days may be ahead for us — that we should do our utmost to acquire a surplus and hang onto it for a rainy day.

Our big problem in this session will be raising money with minimum extra burden on the taxpayer. Shall we adjust the rates of existing taxes, come up with new taxes, or broaden the base of taxes we are now using? It will take a lot of serious thought to come up with the right answer.

I am sure my colleagues all join me in the earnest hope that party lines in this session will not impede legislation that will be good for the State and its people.

It behooves all of us to join the construction gang and not the wrecking crew. Thank you.

On motion by Mr. Ross of Piscataquis,

Adjourned until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.