

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

*One Hundred and Fourth
Legislature*

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

1969

KENNEBEC JOURNAL
AUGUSTA, MAINE

HOUSE

Friday, March 21, 1969

The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker.

Prayer by the Rev. Mr. John S. Nottle of Gardiner.

The journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Papers from the Senate

Bills and Resolves from the Senate requiring reference were disposed of in concurrence.

Reports of Committees Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Report of the Committee on Education on Bill "An Act relating to the Protection of Rights of Employees of the Unified University of Maine" (S. P. 260) (L. D. 864) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-41) submitted therewith.

Report of the Committee on Health and Institutional Services on Bill "An Act relating to Licensing of Ambulance Service, Vehicles and Personnel" (S. P. 263) (L. D. 867) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-42) submitted therewith.

Report of the Committee on Labor on Bill "An Act Revising the Bedding and Upholstered Furniture Law" (S. P. 145) (L. D. 426) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-38) submitted therewith.

Came from the Senate with the Reports read and accepted and the Bills passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

In the House, the Reports were read and accepted in concurrence and the Bills read twice. Committee Amendment "A" to each was read by the Clerk and adopted in concurrence, and the Bills assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

Divided Report Tabled and Assigned

Majority Report of the Committee on Health and Institutional

Services on Bill "An Act to Amend the Eating Place Licensing Law" (S. P. 220) (L. D. 668) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. STUART of Cumberland
GREELEY of Waldo
MINKOWSKY

of Androscoggin

— of the Senate.

Mrs. WHITE of Guilford

Messrs. BINNETTE of Old Town

NOYES of Limestone

Mrs. PAYSON of Falmouth

Messrs. FRASER of Mexico

CARRIER of Westbrook

— of the House.

Minority Report of same Committee reporting "Ought not to Pass" on same Bill.

Report was signed by the following member:

Mr. SOULAS of Bangor

— of the House.

Came from the Senate with the Majority Report accepted and the Bill passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

In the House: Reports were read.

Thereupon, Mr. Soulas of Bangor moved that the House accept the Minority "Ought not to pass" Report in non-concurrence.

(On motion of Mr. Binnette of Old Town, tabled pending the motion of Mr. Soulas of Bangor that the Minority Report be accepted in non-concurrence and specially assigned for Tuesday, March 25.)

Divided Report Tabled and Assigned

Majority Report of the Committee on State Government on Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Providing for Annual Legislative Sessions (S. P. 1) (L. D. 15) reporting "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" submitted therewith.

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. WYMAN of Washington
LETOURNEAU of York
BELIVEAU of Oxford

— of the Senate.

Mr. D'ALFONSO of Portland
Miss WATSON of Bath
Mr. STARBIRD of Kingman
Township
— of the House.

Minority Report of same Committee reporting "Ought not to pass" on same Resolve.

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. DENNETT of Kittery
DONAGHY of Lubec
RIDEOUT of Manchester
MARSTALLER
of Freeport
— of the House.

Came from the Senate with the Majority Report accepted and the Resolve passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A".

In the House: Reports were read.

(On motion of Mr. Rideout of Manchester, tabled pending acceptance of either Report and specially assigned for Wednesday, March 26.)

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act Adjusting State Employees' Pay" (H. P. 1009) (L. D. 1311) which was referred to the Committee on State Government in the House on March 11.

Came from the Senate referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs in non-concurrence.

In the House: On motion of Mr. Richardson of Cumberland, the House voted to recede and concur with the Senate.

Non-Concurrent Matter Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act Providing for Full-Time District Attorneys" (S. P. 384) (L. D. 1291) which was referred to the Committee on State Government in non-concurrence in the House on March 19.

Came from the Senate with that body voting to insist on its former action whereby the Bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary and asking for a Committee of Conference.

In the House:

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Southwest Harbor, Mr. Benson.

Mr. BENSON: Mr. Speaker, I move that item twelve be tabled until Tuesday next.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Southwest Harbor, Mr. Benson, moves that item twelve, L. D. 1291, be tabled until Tuesday, March 25, pending further consideration. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The motion prevailed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the same gentleman.

Mr. BENSON: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, I was going to make that until later in today's session. Is it too late?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would advise the gentleman that it is tabled until the next legislative day pending further consideration.

Non-Concurrent Matter Tabled and Assigned

Bill "An Act relating to Expenditures from Aeronautical Fund" (H. P. 72) (L. D. 72) which was passed to be engrossed in the House on February 25.

Came from the Senate recommitted to the Committee on State Government in non-concurrence.

In the House: On motion of Mr. Ross of Bath, tabled pending further consideration and specially assigned for Tuesday, March 25.

From the Senate: The following Order:

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they adjourn to Tuesday, March 25, at 10 o'clock in the morning. (S. P. 413)

Came from the Senate read and passed.

In the House, the Order was read and passed in concurrence.

Orders

On motion of Mr. Ross of Bath, it was

ORDERED that Mr. Harriman of Hollis be excused from attendance for the duration of his illness.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Rocheleau.

Mr. ROCHELEAU: Mr. Speaker, I would inquire if the House has

in its possession House Paper 1084.

The SPEAKER: The answer is in the affirmative.

Mr. ROCHELEAU: I now move that we reconsider our action of yesterday whereby the Bill was referred to the Committee on Towns and Counties.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Rocheleau, moves that the House reconsider its action of yesterday whereby Bill "An Act Providing for Androscoggin County Funds for Child and Family Services," House Paper 1084, was referred to the Committee on Towns and Counties. Is this the pleasure of the House?

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: This measure was presented to this body by the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Marquis. It had on it the signature and approval of every member of the Reference Committee, and I hope that the motion to reconsider where it was referred will not prevail.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Rocheleau.

Mr. ROCHELEAU: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: In requesting this morning for the reconsideration and assignment to the Committee on Health and Institutional Services, this would be in order I believe, Mr. Speaker, due to the fact that the Towns and Counties—this bill was brought in under the Androscoggin County appropriation and the Androscoggin delegation voted, as well as the County Attorney ruling, that this was not acceptable to the delegation. Therefore, our thinking is that the Health and Institutional Services Committee would be more appropos for this bill. When the vote is taken I would ask for a division.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I am sorry to take the time up. The majority of the Androscoggin County delegation voted that these funds be included, the majority of the Andros-

coggin County delegation voted that these funds be included in the county budget. This is strictly a county budget matter, it promptly was referred unanimously by the Reference of Bills Committee to the Towns and Counties Committee, where it rightfully belongs.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question? The question before the House is on the motion of the gentleman from Auburn, Mr. Rocheleau, that the House reconsider its action whereby this Bill was referred to the Committee on Towns and Counties. A division has been requested. All those in favor of this matter being reconsidered will vote yes; those opposed will vote no. The Chair opens the vote.

51 having voted in the affirmative and 69 having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

House Reports of Committees Leave to Withdraw

Mr. Trask from the Committee on Business Legislation on Bill "An Act relating to Deposits by Minors in Savings Banks and Shares of Minors in Savings and Loan Associations" (H. P. 659) (L. D. 846) reported Leave to Withdraw.

Mrs. Cummings from the Committee on Education reported same on Bill "An Act to Incorporate the Town of Wales School District" (H. P. 546) (L. D. 725)

Mr. Durgin from the Committee on Labor reported same on Bill "An Act relating to the Extension of Workmen's Compensation" (H. P. 412) (L. D. 523)

Mr. Huber from the Committee on Labor reported "Ought not to pass" on Bill "An Act to Provide that Labor Unions shall File Certain Statements and Reports with the Commissioner of Labor and Industry and Supply Certain Information to its Members" (H. P. 336) (L. D. 445)

Reports were read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Referred to Committee on Legal Affairs

Mr. Scott of Wilton from the Committee on Business Legislation on Bill "An Act relating to Exception in Filing to Perfect Security Interest under Uniform

Commercial Code" (H. P. 979) (L. D. 1263) reported that it be referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs.

Same gentleman from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Use of False or Unauthorized Credit Devices" (H. P. 980) (L. D. 1264)

Reports were read and accepted, the Bills referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs and sent up for concurrence.

Ought to Pass in New Draft New Drafts Printed

Mr. Starbird from the Committee on State Government on Bill "An Act to Permit a Teacher to be a Selectman or a City Council Member" (H. P. 124) (L. D. 140) which was recommitted, reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1088) (L. D. 1342) under title of "An Act Regarding the Membership of School Committees and Boards of School Directors" and that it "Ought to pass"

Mr. Finemore from the Committee on Transportation on Bill "An Act Providing for Transportation of Passengers in Units of Trucking Equipment on a Test Basis" (H. P. 247) (L. D. 302) reported same in a new draft (H. P. 1087) (L. D. 1341) under same title and that it "Ought to pass"

Reports were read and accepted, the New Drafts read twice and assigned the next legislative day.

Ought to Pass Printed Bills

Mr. Waxman from the Committee on Education reported "Ought to pass" on Bill "An Act relating to Audits of School Revenues and Expenditures" (H. P. 549) (L. D. 728)

Mr. Foster from the Committee on Judiciary reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Acts of Cruelty to Animals" (H. P. 564) (L. D. 745)

Mr. Casey from the Committee on Labor reported same on Bill "An Act to Exempt Seamen from the Payment of Overtime Wages" (H. P. 693) (L. D. 893)

Mr. McTeague from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act to Increase Workmen's Com-

pensation Payments for Disfigurement" (H. P. 820) (L. D. 1059)

Mr. Cox from the Committee on Legal Affairs reported same on Bill "An Act to Create Hospital Administrative District No. 3 in Aroostook and Penobscot Counties" (H. P. 438) (L. D. 562)

Mr. Starbird from the Committee on State Government reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Education of Indians" (H. P. 531) (L. D. 702)

Miss Watson from same Committee reported same on Bill "An Act relating to Service and Attendance in State Military and Naval Forces" (H. P. 869) (L. D. 1111)

Reports were read and accepted, the Bills read twice and assigned the next legislative day.

Ought to Pass with Committee Amendment

Mr. Cushing from the Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act to Grant a Council-Manager Charter to the Town of Lincoln" (H. P. 572) (L. D. 759) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-112) submitted therewith.

Mrs. White from the Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act relating to Bond for Excise Tax for Malt Liquor Sold by Wholesalers" (H. P. 874) (L. D. 1117) reported "Ought to pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-113) submitted therewith.

Reports were read and accepted and the Bills read twice. Committee Amendment "A" to each was read by the Clerk and adopted, and the Bills assigned for third reading the next legislative day.

Divided Report Tabled and Assigned

Majority Report of the Committee on State Government reporting "Ought not to pass" on Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Grant Adult Rights to Persons Eighteen Years of Age and to Reduce the Voting Age to Eighteen Years (H. P. 10) (L. D. 10)

Report was signed by the following members:

Messrs. WYMAN of Washington
 LETOURNEAU of York
 BELIVEAU of Oxford
 —of the Senate.
 Messrs. DONAGHY of Lubec
 D'ALFONSO of Portland
 DENNETT of Kittery
 Miss WATSON of Bath
 Messrs. MARSTALLER of
 Freeport
 STARBIRD

of Kingman Township
 —of the House.
 Minority Report of same Com-
 mittee reporting "Ought to pass"
 on same Resolve.

Report was signed by the fol-
 lowing member:
 Mr. RIDEOUT of Manchester
 —of the House.

Reports were read.
 (On motion of Mr. Crosby of
 Kennebunk, tabled pending ac-
 ceptance of either Report and
 specially assigned for Wednesday,
 March 26).

**Divided Report
 Tabled and Assigned**

Majority Report of the Commit-
 tee on State Government reporting
 "Ought to pass" on Resolve Pro-
 posing an Amendment to the Con-
 stitution to Reduce the Voting Age
 to Eighteen Years (H. P. 12) (L.
 D. 12)

Report was signed by the follow-
 ing members:

Messrs. LETOURNEAU of York
 BELIVEAU of Oxford
 —of the Senate.
 Miss WATSON of Bath
 Messrs. D'ALFONSO of Portland
 RIDEOUT of Manchester
 STARBIRD
 of Kingman Township
 —of the House.

Minority Report of same Com-
 mittee reporting "Ought not to
 pass" on same Resolve.

Report was signed by the follow-
 ing members:

Mr. WYMAN of Washington
 —of the Senate.
 Messrs. MARSTALLER
 of Freeport
 DENNETT of Kittery
 DONAGHY of Lubec
 —of the House.

Reports were read.
 (On motion of Mr. Jalbert of Lew-
 iston, tabled pending acceptance

of either Report and specially as-
 signed for Wednesday, March 26.)

Passed to Be Engrossed

Bill "An Act Exempting Sales to
 Certain Children Treatment Cen-
 ters from the Sales Tax" (H. P.
 182) (L. D. 221)

Was reported by the Committee
 on Bills in the Third Reading, read
 the third time, passed to be en-
 grossed and sent to the Senate.

**Third Reader
 Tabled and Assigned**

Bill "An Act Concerning the
 Liquor Laws" (H. P. 702) (L. D.
 902)

Was reported by the Committee
 on Bills in the Third Reading and
 read the third time.

(On motion of Mr. Starbird of
 Kingman Township, tabled pend-
 ing passage to be engrossed and
 specially assigned for Tuesday,
 March 25.)

Bill "An Act Providing for a
 Statutory Agent for Foreign Domi-
 ciled Carriers Purchasing Six-year
 Trailer Plates" (H. P. 1085) (L. D.
 1330)

Was reported by the Committee
 on Bills in the Third Reading, read
 the third time, passed to be en-
 grossed and sent to the Senate.

Amended Bills

Bill "An Act relating to Com-
 pensation of Electricians Exam-
 ining Board and Membership and
 Compensation of Oil Burner Men's
 Licensing Board" (H. P. 505) (L.
 D. 676)

Bill "An Act to Amend the
 Charter of the Union Mutual Life
 Insurance Company" (H. P. 716)
 (L. D. 934)

Were reported by the Committee
 on Bills in the Third Reading, read
 the third time, passed to be en-
 grossed as amended by Commit-
 tee Amendment "A" and sent to
 the Senate.

**Emergency Measure
 Tabled and Assigned**

An Act to Appropriate Moneys
 for the Expenditure of State Gov-
 ernment for the Fiscal Year End-
 ing June 30, 1969 (S. P. 219) (L. D.
 660)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed.

(On motion of Mr. Bragdon of Perham, tabled pending passage to be enacted and specially assigned for Wednesday, March 26.)

Emergency Measure Tabled and Assigned

An Act to Appropriate Moneys for the Expenditures of State Government and for other Purposes for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1970 and June 30, 1971 (S. P. 372) (L. D. 1232)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed.

(On motion of Mr. Bragdon of Perham, tabled pending passage to be enacted and specially assigned for Wednesday, March 26.)

Passed to Be Enacted

An Act relating to Driver's License Reexamination (S. P. 232) (L. D. 672)

An Act Providing the Maine Insurance Code (H. P. 201)

An Act relating to Funds and Personal Property of Deceased Patients and Inmates of State Institutions (H. P. 385) (L. D. 495)

An Act relating to Maine State Prison Minimum Security Unit (H. P. 435) (L. D. 559)

An Act Tolling Running of Probation Period Pending Determination of Violation (H. P. 470) (L. D. 607)

An Act relating to Liquors Manufactured or Bottled in Maine (H. P. 524) (L. D. 695)

An Act relating to Disclosure of Information Concerning Patients at State Hospitals and the Pineland Hospital and Training Center (H. P. 666) (L. D. 853)

An Act Amending Laws Pertaining to the Maine State Prison (H. P. 667) (L. D. 854)

An Act relating to Violations of Law Authorizing Work - Release from County Jails (H. P. 689) (L. D. 889)

Finally Passed

Resolve Providing for Purchase of Copies of History of Sanford (H. P. 677) (L. D. 876)

Resolve Providing for Purchase of One Hundred Copies of History of Parkman (H. P. 540) (L. D. 719)

Were reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed, Bills passed to be enacted, Resolves finally passed, all signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Orders of the Day

The Chair laid before the House the first tabled and today assigned matter:

Bill "An Act relating to Certain Disqualifications under the Employment Security Law" (H. P. 565) (L. D. 746)

Tabled—March 14, by Mr. Huber of Rockland.

Pending — Passage to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Carter of Winslow, retabled pending passage to be engrossed and specially assigned for Wednesday, March 26.

The Chair laid before the House the second tabled and today assigned matter:

HOUSE MAJORITY REPORT (9)—"Ought not to pass"—Committee on Health and Institutional Services on Bill "An Act Revising the Laws Relating to Support at State Institutions" (H. P. 465) (L. D. 602)—MINORITY REPORT (1)—"Ought to pass"

Tabled—March 18, by Mr. Moreshead of Augusta.

Pending—Acceptance of either Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Vincent.

Mr. VINCENT: Mr. Speaker, I move that this lie on the table until Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Portland, Mr. Vincent moves that item two, L. D. 602, be tabled until Wednesday next pending the acceptance of either Report.

Mr. Richardson of Cumberland asked for a division on the tabling motion.

The SPEAKER: All those in favor of this matter being tabled until Wednesday, March 26, will vote yes; those opposed will vote no. The Chair opens the vote.

A vote of the House was taken.

33 having voted in the affirmative and 81 having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

Thereupon, the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report was accepted and sent up for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the House the third tabled and today assigned matter:

HOUSE REPORT—"Ought not to pass" Committee on Education on Bill "An Act to Create a School Administrative District in the Town of Jay" (H. P. 428) (L. D. 552)

Tabled—March 19, by Mr. Dyar of Strong.

Pending—Acceptance.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wilton, Mr. Scott.

Mr. SCOTT: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: There are several bills having to do with single town districts that are coming along before the Legislature as well as one for compulsory districts, and I would hope that someone would table this for one week until they can be considered altogether.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Scott of Presque Isle, retabled pending acceptance of the Report and specially assigned for Friday, March 28.

The Chair laid before the House the fourth tabled and today assigned matter:

Bill "An Act Permitting Employment of State Prison and Reformatory Inmates on County and Municipal Public Works Projects" (H. P. 497) (L. D. 651)

Tabled — March 19, by Mr. Vincent of Portland.

Pending — Passage to be engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Bath, Miss Watson.

Miss WATSON: Mr. Speaker, I move that item four lie on the table until Wednesday, March 26.

The SPEAKER: The gentlewoman from Bath, Miss Watson, moves that item four be tabled until Wednesday, March 26, pending passage to be engrossed.

Mr. MacPhail of Owls Head asked for a division on the tabling motion.

The SPEAKER: A vote has been requested on the tabling motion. All those in favor of item four be-

ing tabled until Wednesday, March 26, will vote yes; those opposed will vote no. The Chair opens the vote.

A vote of the House was taken. 46 having voted in the affirmative and 74 having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Owls Head, Mr. MacPhail.

Mr. MacPHAIL: Mr. Speaker, I now move this bill be passed to be engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Owls Head, Mr. MacPhail now moves that this bill be passed to be engrossed.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Portland, Mr. Vincent.

Mr. VINCENT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I would like to speak further on this bill. This bill is being checked into by three departments and the Governor's office and I wish further consideration on time for this so that it can be checked out.

Thereupon, the Bill was passed to be engrossed and sent to the Senate.

The Chair laid before the House the fifth tabled and today assigned matter:

HOUSE REPORT — "Ought not to pass" Committee on State Government on Bill "An Act relating to State Historian" (H. P. 710) (L. D. 924)

Tabled — March 19, by Mr. Starbird of Kingman Township.

Pending — Acceptance.

Thereupon, the Majority "Ought not to pass" Report was accepted and sent up for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the House the sixth tabled and today assigned matter:

HOUSE MAJORITY REPORT (9)—"Ought not to pass"—Committee on Legal Affairs on Bill "An Act relating to Minimum Speed under the Motor Vehicle Laws" (H. P. 696) (L. D. 896)—MINORITY REPORT (1)—"Ought to pass"

Tabled — March 19, by Mr. Carey of Waterville.

Pending — Acceptance of either Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Waterville, Mr. Carey.

Mr. CAREY: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I note the absence of Mrs. Boudreau, the gentlewoman from Portland, in the House this morning. She is preparing an amendment to my knowledge and I would certainly hope that somebody would table this until the next day.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Levesque of Madawaska, retabled pending acceptance of either Report and specially assigned for Tuesday, March 25.

The Chair laid before the House the seventh tabled and today assigned matter:

Resolve Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution Repealing the Provisions which Establish the Treasurer of State as a Constitutional Officer (H. P. 14) (L. D. 14)

Tabled — March 19, by Mr. Birt of East Millinocket.

Pending — Motion of Mr. Donaghy of Lubec to Indefinitely postpone.

On motion of Mr. Marstaller of Freeport, retabled pending the motion of Mr. Donaghy of Lubec to indefinitely postpone and specially assigned for Tuesday, March 25.

The Chair laid before the House the eighth tabled and today assigned matter:

An Act relating to Definition of Agricultural Societies to Qualify for Stipend (H. P. 365) (L. D. 475)

Tabled—March 19, by Mr. Cox of Bangor.

Pending—Passage to be enacted.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Norway, Mr. Henley.

Mr. HENLEY: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I now offer House Amendment "B" to House Amendment "A"—

The SPEAKER: The Chair would advise the gentleman that the rules must be suspended.

Thereupon, on motion of the same gentleman, under suspension of the rules, the House reconsidered its action of March 12 whereby

the Bill was passed to be engrossed as amended by House Amendment "A".

On further motion of the same gentleman, under suspension of the rules, the House reconsidered its action of March 12 whereby House Amendment "A" was adopted.

Mr. Henley then offered House Amendment "B" to House Amendment "A".

House Amendment "B" to House Amendment "A" (H-114) was read by the Clerk and adopted. House Amendment "A" as amended by House Amendment "B" thereto was adopted.

The Bill was then passed to be engrossed as amended by House Amendment "A" as amended by House Amendment "B" thereto in non-concurrence and sent up for concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kingman Township, Mr. Starbird.

Mr. STARBIRD: Mr. Speaker, I move we reconsider our action whereby we accepted the "Ought not to pass" Report on L. D. 924, item five, on page seven.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Kingman Township, Mr. Starbird, now moves that the House reconsider its action whereby it accepted the "Ought not to pass" Report on House Paper 710, L. D. 924, Bill "An Act relating to State Historian." Is it the pleasure of the House to reconsider its action whereby it accepted the "Ought not to pass" Report? All those in favor will say yes; those opposed will say no.

A viva voce vote being taken, the motion to reconsider did not prevail.

The Chair laid before the House the ninth tabled and today assigned matter:

HOUSE MAJORITY REPORT (6)—"Ought to pass" in New Draft—Committee on Election Laws on Bill "An Act relating to Application for and Marking of Absentee Ballots" (H. P. 224) (L. D. 274)—New Draft under title "An Act relating to Delivery of Absentee Ballots" (H. P. 1064) (L. D. 1233) and

MINORITY REPORT (4) reporting "Ought not to pass"

Tabled—March 19, by Mr. Henley of Norway.

Pending—Motion of Mr. Porter of Lincoln to accept Majority Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross.

Mr. ROSS: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: The bill under consideration here concerns the absentee ballot. It received a six to four "Ought to pass" Report from the Committee. Four of the House members signing the "Ought to pass" Report, two of them belonged to the Democrat Party; two of them belonged to the Republican Party. Three House members signed the Minority "Ought not to pass" Report. Two are members of the Democrat Party, one a member of the Republican Party.

I mention this only as proof that this absentee bill is not a partisan matter. This bill would assure privacy in absentee voting without pressure or coercion from any person who now makes the actual delivery. In short, it states that city and town clerks should mail the ballot upon application rather than give it to a third party.

Of course, this is what is done now with persons in the Armed Forces and others known to be absent from their voting residence on election day. I have never heard opposition from these people or any comment that they needed special assistance in order to select candidates of their choice. However, this is not the group which interests us. These people are always conscientious, interested persons who are definitely going to vote their own convictions. Furthermore, certain of the dedicated absentee getters lose interest in this group because unfortunately they have no way of seeing how they finally voted.

It is my contention that no person who sincerely wants to vote should be deprived of this treasured right. However, I do not believe in trying to influence any person who really has no genuine

interest in exercising this prerogative. Three states prohibit absentee voting. In my opinion this is wrong. If a person desires to vote, he should not be disenfranchised because of incapacity, and the exercise of this right should not be made unduly difficult. However, personal pressures should certainly be eliminated and the proposal before us today meets these requirements.

Opponents maintain that this would drastically cut down on the number of absentee votes cast. Many elderly or sick persons would just not bother to mail back the ballot. This, I am sure, is a correct observation. However, in no way would this weaken our democratic process. We would still be giving the right to vote to all those who truly wished to participate. The total decrease in the number of votes cast would be equally fair to both political parties.

What about the person who becomes ill on, or shortly before, election day? There would be no time to mail and return the ballot. Except in the larger cities, there would not be many persons falling into this category. However, it is a valid point. Since I recognize this, we have tried to cover it under Section 2. Here, we suggest that the clerk be notified of the illness, and under these conditions a ballot would be delivered in person.

The bill in new draft that you have before you says that in such cases the ballot would have to be delivered by "persons" — plural — "persons" from two or more political parties.

Now this met with opposition, and many persons feel that this is not practical. So if the bill is accepted — the "Ought to pass" Report is accepted — during third reader, I plan to present House Amendment "A", under filing H-111, which says that the clerk at that time would designate a person — not persons — but a person or persons to take the ballot.

But in conclusion, I would like to reiterate that every person entitled to vote should never be denied that right. Still, I feel very strongly that they should vote in

privacy according to their own conscience. The temptation of partisan or individual special persuasion should be discouraged in the best interests of sound, democratic principles, and I support the move to accept the majority report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Madawaska, Mr. Levesque.

Mr. LEVESQUE: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I certainly don't want to belabor this item too long today because I assume that most of you have got something else on your mind other than listening to me on the Floor of the House this morning.

But somehow or other I have got to take issue with the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross, regarding giving the right of every individual to vote. We are going to make it by this act here a little bit harder for them to get a ballot on election day, and putting the onus almost entirely on the clerk, which on election day or on the day before election or even a couple of days before election, he is hard pressed for time. Granted, he may be able to designate somebody else to do it.

Now, I am just wondering if we are going to get out of one area of problems only to put it into another area of problems, because I don't know how many prosecutions that have been made because of violation of this infringement on a person's right to vote the way he chooses in an absentee ballot, but I certainly don't think that this is going to be the answer to the problem.

I still don't know whether somebody wants to put a party label on this document — I have never heard of it, but certainly if we are going to be together trying to give a better chance of all the people to vote, should they be disabled or should they become sick, this is certainly not the vehicle to help these people have the right to vote the way they want to. Now, I don't know of any person that goes to vote that anybody else needs to hold their hand to vote one way or the other, and I don't know that

there has been too much pressure by any individual in the past that say that you have got to vote on your absentee ballot the way I would like you to vote. So those things have certainly been pointed out, that this is an area of problem, that people are not voting the way they want to, but are being pressured into voting the way somebody else wants them to.

So I don't think this is a vehicle that is going to help more people on election day or a few days before the election because of illness or because of disability or other reasons; that this is going to give them a better chance of voting the way they want to. I think people have got minds of their own, and no matter who brings the ballot to them, as long as they get a ballot — that is the important thing there, as long as they get a ballot. With this document I feel that somebody would not be able to receive a ballot because of the cumbersome way in which one clerk would have to designate someone else if he is too busy, or else deliver it personally. I don't think this is the right type of legislation to give added people the right to vote.

Mr. Curtis of Bowdoinham asked for a vote on the motion.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Norway, Mr. Henley.

Mr. HENLEY: I would like to speak just briefly on this, seeing as it came out of my committee and I'm one of the signers that it ought to pass.

I thoroughly endorse my friend, Mr. Ross', statement. I cannot add much to it. It is felt that anything that we can do to simplify the absentee ballot process is certainly a help. I think a lot of us felt that sometimes the other person assisting in the absentee ballot was sort of a fifth wheel. The privilege could very well be abused and undoubtedly was by both parties.

I agree with my friend, Mr. Ross, when he states that if the mailed absentee ballot is good enough for the million or so voters in the Armed Forces who do not have to be witnessed I don't know why

it isn't good enough for everyone else.

Again, I will also repeat that it is as good for one party as the other, and it seems like a simplification of the process. It may complicate it a very little bit for the clerk, but it is one of the clerk's responsibilities, along with all the other lines; so I don't know why it shouldn't be locally.

I certainly hope that when the division is taken that you will support Mr. Ross in passing L. D. 1233 in its new form.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross.

Mr. ROSS: Just very briefly, in answer to a question by Mr. Levesque from Madawaska, he said that this would be putting a burden on the clerks. The clerks have been canvassed. The majority of the city and town clerks in the State of Maine favor this type of legislation because they realize the abuses that have been going on at the present time.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Mexico, Mr. Fraser.

Mr. FRASER: I would like an interpretation of these last three days. Does this mean the last three business days, or the last three days? On election, on Tuesday, the last three days would be Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Mexico, Mr. Fraser, poses a question through the Chair to anyone who may answer if they choose.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross.

Mr. ROSS: In answer to that question, it should be business days, and that will have to be included in the amendment.

The SPEAKER: Does the gentleman consider his question answered?

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Winslow, Mr. Carter.

Mr. CARTER: In answer to my good colleague from Bath, Mr. Ross, I would like to state that in regards to the poll that was conducted by the Secretary of State's office, it is my understanding that there are 490 communities in this

State, but only a very small percentage were polled on this question.

Now, some of the proponents of this bill state that it would make it much simpler for our citizens to vote by absentee ballot. I sat on that committee and I signed the "Ought not to pass" Report because I don't agree with them, and I would like to briefly state one basic reason why not.

The proponents of this bill would have us roll the clock back and return to the old system that has proven itself to offer only barriers and to impose unnecessary hardships or to make it unnecessarily difficult for the older citizens to vote. The only argument that they have presented to persuade some members of the Election Committee was that there are all types of abuses and infractions of the law by both political parties and, therefore, this law should be repealed or changed.

Ladies and gentlemen of the House, I submit to you that repeal or change of this law is not the solution to the problem. The solution in my mind is very simple. Let the town or city clerks and the registrar of voters who claim they know of actual infractions under the current law, let them perform their duties of their office according to the laws and enforce the penalties provided for by the current laws for those few who would violate them. Burying their heads in the sands like an ostrich and appearing oblivious to what goes on around them solves nothing, but quite to the contrary makes them in my mind equally guilty of violating those very same laws.

I submit to you again, ladies and gentlemen of the House, repeal or change is not the solution, but enforcement of the present laws is the only solution, and I urge you to join me in condemning these practices of looking the other way by some of our elected officials when a law is knowingly violated, and I would urge you to vote against this motion.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Chelsea, Mr. Shaw.

Mr. SHAW: I'd like to ask if anybody could answer, does this remove the notary on notarized signatures on the ballots?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Chelsea, Mr. Shaw, poses a question to any member who may answer. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Winslow, Mr. Carter.

Mr. CARTER: Yes, it does.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Chelsea, Mr. Shaw.

Mr. SHAW: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: As I remember, a few years ago, we had some trouble in Augusta on a liquor referendum. The people who presumably voted these ballots never even saw them, and when they started an investigation the only thing they had to work from was a notary's signature on the application, and through him, I understand, they were able to trace it down to the people who put in the application, who did the voting for the people who were supposed to be voting, and some of them were convicted, and I don't believe we should take the notary off the ballot. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Madawaska, Mr. Levesque.

Mr. LEVESQUE: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: Very, very briefly, I don't know that we are going to accomplish very much by this kind of an act here this morning because I can remember just a few years ago that I had a few calls to deliver some absentee ballots, and I told them that they they should direct their inquiry to the clerk of the municipality. So they said, well, they didn't know who the clerk was or how to get in touch with them because he had a part-time job and they didn't know just exactly where he could be reached; and I am not the one who goes around soliciting absentee ballots for no reason whatsoever. I have taken the policy of keeping away from them. If somebody is interested in them, let them procure a ballot enough ahead of time.

The problem has always been that the clerk is not a full-time

clerk, and this is from a good Republican clerk in our area, "I just don't have the time to go parading around the streets with absentee ballots one day before election day or one week before the election. I am just wondering, how many of these clerks feel the same way? They just don't have time to go parading around the streets delivering absentee ballots one day or five days before the election, and how many of these people that are going to request absentee ballots are going to be faced with the same answer when they request an absentee ballot?"

And for that reason I move the indefinite postponement of this bill and all its accompanying papers.

The SPEAKER: The pending question now before the House is the motion of the gentleman from Madawaska, Mr. Levesque, that both reports and bill be indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: During the debate I couldn't find the bill, I procured myself with a copy of the measure and I'm neither a notary public or a justice of the peace. I don't think I've ever had anybody vote absentee myself, and I don't intend to start now. But in any event, this thing reads that the clerk shall send by first class mail, it scratches out "or deliver," it scratches out "or to a 3rd person designated in the application or request." I mean this would make a full-time job of the clerks, and in my opinion I don't see any need of this bill, I don't see anything that's wrong with a third person delivering this ballot in the first place. I don't see any point, I can see where checking back over a few semesters, I can see where the absentee ballot might affect the gentleman from Bath, Mr. Ross, but I mean it doesn't affect me.

Now I don't think I care for private legislation. I certainly concur with the gentleman from Madawaska, Mr. Levesque.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Lund.

Mr. LUND: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: Feeling some sympathy for the gentleman from Bath at this point, I think that we have some duty to look at this legislation other than in a jocular light, and I think if each one of us will search our hearts and our conscience and our recollection, we can think of instances in which we have heard of people who become very enthusiastic over the rights of people to vote, and this comes right about at election time and it coincides with either their election or the election of somebody with whom they are closely associated.

I think it is time for us to look at it a little bit realistically, and I think we all know what happens in many many of the cases. I intend to cast no aspersions on those public-spirited citizens who are simply interested in helping people to vote. It is one of the practical facts of life, however, that if a political candidate or one of his workers carries a ballot to a person, makes the arrangements, there is a very natural temptation on the part of the person voting to favor the person who has thus helped him. And I would go further in saying that there may well be cases that you all have heard of, I know there are cases that I have heard of, in which the voter says to the person who has helped him, "I don't know all these people, can you give me any help on this?" And I would suggest to you that this is exactly the problem that gives rise to this bill.

When a person votes in the voting booth or the voting machine, the law very carefully circumscribes the act that takes place, and the law prohibits people from interfering with the almost secret electoral process. But in this particular situation of an absentee ballot, there is no practical way for the law to do this. And I would suggest that it does no good for us to say, let us enforce the law in this situation, because in these cases there are only two people there, the person voting, and the person who is interested in helping the person to vote, and perhaps to help him to vote in a certain way.

It may be that this bill is not perfect. It may be that there are some amendments that are needed, but I would earnestly hope that this House would not turn its back on what each one of us, I think, knows deep in our heart is a needed reform, and so I hope that you will vote against the motion for indefinite postponement.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question? The pending question is the motion of the gentleman from Madawaska, Mr. Levesque, that reports and bill on L. D. 1233 be indefinitely postponed. A vote has been requested. All those in favor of indefinite postponement will vote yes; those opposed will vote no. The Chair opens the vote.

A vote of the House was taken.

64 having voted in the affirmative and 65 having voted in the negative, the motion did not prevail.

The SPEAKER: Is it now the pleasure of the House to accept the Majority "Ought to pass" Report?

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker, is the motion as you have just presented it debatable?

The SPEAKER: The motion is debatable.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I'm certain that I don't want to belabor anything on Friday when everybody wants to go home, but I mean I'd like to say that I would go along with the gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Lund, that we shouldn't go in a jocular manner about matters, but there's got to be some levity somewhere along the line, and I can't help but make the comment that the gentleman today mentions, you know, let's vote with our hearts and consciences—last week he said let's vote with our heads.

I'm voting with both, and I say right here that, it says here, "the political parties in election, the ballots will be delivered by the applicant by persons who represent at least two political parties and who should be designated by the clerk." So what do I do? I

know the clerk, or say the clerk is the one that designates, so I mean all he's got to do is just designate somebody who's a Democrat and go get his kissing cousin and shift him into the Democratic party, and he's got it made. I don't see the practicality of this at all. I see that somewhere along the line there are some merits to it.

I'd like to bear in mind that one practice that I don't like that some town and city clerks do, and it is this: when they give a person, both an individual, a third party, both the application for a ballot and the ballot at the same time. And I know that's done and I don't like that practice; and I don't know about the legality of it, I'm assuming that it is not legal, I don't think it is as a matter of fact. In any event, I think this thing here is a perfect point for study, and I'm sure that there isn't any partisan basis on my thinking at all, and I think this, that there are some merits somewhere along the line, but there are some real glaring points in here that I don't think we have the time to go into now, and I'd like to suggest that we now, so that we can keep the voting alive, Mr. Speaker, not to kill time, but in the expediency of the situation, because it would be the better to get. I would suggest that on Mr. Levesque's motion to indefinitely postpone, that we vote by roll call, not because I want to put anybody on record, Mr. Speaker, merely because I just want to reopen the vote that's all.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would advise the gentleman and the House that the motion for indefinite postponement is no longer before the House, it having been declared and defeated. A roll call can be requested on the motion of the gentleman from Lincoln, Mr. Porter, that the House accept the Majority "Ought to pass" Report.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Cumberland, Mr. Richardson.

Mr. RICHARDSON: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: Solely in the interests of orderly pro-

cedure in the House, might I suggest that because amendments are to be offered, that we accept the Majority "Ought to pass" Report, give the bill its two readings now, and then at third reading the various amendments that are involved can be debated and you can take the action at that time. It seems to me, as I say, in the interests of orderly procedure in this House that we should permit the amendments to be brought forth and discussed. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Lewiston, Mr. Jalbert.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the gentleman from Cumberland, Mr. Richardson, a question, and I don't say this facetiously, I mean what I say. This bill here can go into a tremendous amount of study. I can think of at least six amendments my own self to a one-page bill. Now if we go into this procedure and every amendment is debated, then personally I think we would be here for a long time. I would prefer that we would accept the Minority "Ought not to pass" Report and then later on come up with a study. I think that is the proper thing, and for that purpose, Mr. Speaker, I now move a roll call on the acceptance of the "Ought to pass" Report, and I hope that you vote no.

The SPEAKER: Is the House ready for the question? The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Lincoln, Mr. Porter that the House accept the Majority "Ought to pass" Report. A roll call has been requested. For the Chair to order a roll call it must have the expressed desire of one fifth of the members present and voting. All of those desiring a roll call will vote yes; those opposed will vote no. The Chair opens the vote.

A vote of the House was taken.

More than one fifth of the members present having expressed a desire for a roll call, a roll call was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on the motion of the gentleman from Lincoln, Mr. Porter, that the House accept the Majority "Ought to pass" in new

draft Report on Bill "An Act relating to Delivery of Absentee Ballots," House Paper 1064, L. D. 1233. If you are in favor of accepting the Majority "Ought to pass" Report you will vote yes; if opposed you will vote no. The Chair opens the vote.

ROLL CALL

YEA — Baker, Barnes, Benson, Berman, Birt, Bragdon, Brown, Buckley, Bunker, Chandler, Chick, Donaghy, Durgin, Erickson, Clark, C. H.; Crosby, Cushing, Evans, Farnham, Finemore, Gilbert, Hall, Hanson, Hardy, Haskell, Hawkens, Henley, Heselton, Hichens, Huber, Immonen, J a m e s o n, Johnston, Kelley, R. P.; Lee, Lewin, Lewis, Lincoln, Lund, Marstaller, McNally, Millett, Mosher, Noyes, Page, Payson, M. W.; Porter, Pratt, Quimby, Rand, Richardson, G. A.; Richardson, H. L.; Rideout, Ross, Scott, C. F.; Scott, G. W.; Snow, S o u l a s, Stillings, Susi, T h o m p s o n, Trask, Tyndale, Watson, Waxman, White, Wight, Williams, Wood.

NAY — Bedard, Bernier, Binnette, Bourgoin, Brennan, Burnham, Carey, C a r r i e r, Carter, Casey, Corson, Cote, Cottrell, Couture, Crommett, Croteau, Curtis, Dam, Drigotas, Dudley, Dyar, Emery, Eustis, Fecteau, Fortier, A. J.; Fortier, M.; Fraser, Gaudreau, Gauthier, Giroux, Hewes, Hunter, Jalbert, Kelleher, Kelley, K. F.; Kayte, Kilroy, Laberge, Lawry, Lebel, Leibowitz, LePage, Levesque, MacPhail, M a r q u i s, Martin, McTeague, Meisner, Mills, Mitchell, Morgan, Nadeau, Norris, Ouellette, Rocheleau, S a n t o r o, Shaw, Sheltra, Starbird, Tanguay, Temple, Vincent, Wheeler.

ABSENT — Allen, Boudreau, Clark, H. G.; Coffey, Cox, Cummings, Curran, D'Alfonso, Danton, Dennett, Faucher, Foster, Good, Harriman, Jutras, M c K i n n o n, Moreshead, Sahagian.

Yes, 69; No, 63; Absent 18.

The SPEAKER: Sixty-nine having voted in the affirmative and sixty-three having voted in the negative, the motion does prevail.

Thereupon, the New Draft was given its two several readings and assigned for the third reading the next legislative day.

Mr. Richardson of Cumberland was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. RICHARDSON: Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: You have just had distributed to you a so-called print-out, which indicates the distribution of monies under a proposed plan which will be outlined in Report A of the Committees on Appropriations and Education, who, as you know, in response to a joint order, have been looking into this question of whether or not this Legislature can at this time take some action to minimize the impact that reevaluation has had upon communities all over the State of Maine.

This is, I believe, compromise 5A. There were six or more proposed distributions discussed by the Committees. We have made a real effort to get this to you today in order that you can have this information available to you over the weekend, in order to give it some consideration. As part of this, in view of the hour, I am going to ask the Republican members of the House to remain for a very brief caucus after the session in order to discuss this subsidy measure.

Mr. Starbird of Kingman Township was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. STARBIRD: Mr. Speaker, in the form of a question I would like to inquire from Mr. Richardson of Cumberland or anyone else who can answer, what do the letters CSD mean in back of several of the items on the print-out?

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Stonington, Mr. Richardson, who may answer the question.

Mr. STONINGTON: If you will look at the back two pages, I think you will find these are the federal funds that these various towns receive.

(Off Record Remarks)

Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I think that

it would be very helpful if someone would explain these last two pages, and I think that before we leave we ought to be satisfied at least that what we bring home will have some substance of knowledge within ourselves; and I think these last two pages are very important, and I wonder if the House Chairman of Education would be kind enough to explain it to us, or anything else that might pertain to 685.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Stonington, Mr. Richardson, may answer the question.

Mr. RICHARDSON: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen: CSD, I am sorry when Mr. Starbird asked me the question, these are districts which decline in money. But there is a plan to take care of them. The asterisks after the various amounts do indicate that those towns are receiving federal monies, and the last two pages, as Mr. Jalbert has requested, are the units receiving, and the amount of money that the various units with the asterisks—this is the federal money that these people receive. Under Public Law 874 we no longer can deduct the federal impact money as the State has been doing for a good many years. So this federal impact money must go to the towns and not be deducted from their subsidy. Thank you.

Mr. Binnette of Old Town was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. BINNETTE: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: I would like to ask Mr. Richardson in regards to those amounts that they have on the last page, whether those amounts will be added to the amounts that they have on the right hand column?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may answer the question.

Mr. RICHARDSON of Stonington: I believe that the last column indicates the amount, the total amount that the unit is receiving with their federal impact money.

Mr. Susi of Pittsfield was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. SUSI: I do have a question. I would like to know what factors were included in the formula which

was used in arriving at the '69 proposed A.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman may answer the question.

Mr. RICHARDSON of Stonington: Mr. Speaker, I do not have a copy of the bill before me. I don't know that I can answer this question without the bill in front of me, Representative Susi. There is a 90% provision that no town shall receive less than 90% of what it received in 1968. There is also an over receipt so that they won't go over 15% above the figure that they would have received in '69. The mill effort is 23-450 base pupil allowance—gee, think of it three times standard percent on hand-capped pupils. I think this covers the whole thing.

Mr. Carey of Waterville was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. CAREY: Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Stonington tells us that no community will get more than a 10% drop, he said that they will maintain at least 90% of what they had in 1968. Yet, by quick reference, I look at Boothbay Harbor, which was getting \$31,000, and it's now getting \$21,000, and I would say that this is a 33% drop.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Stonington, Mr. Richardson, who may answer the question.

Mr. RICHARDSON of Stonington: There is going to have to be some adjustment made on those which have dropped that much, Mr. Carey, and there is a plan whereby they will be taken care of.

Mr. Kelley of Southport was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. KELLEY: I am further confused about Boothbay Harbor, because over on page eight we're shown a completely different set of figures than we're shown on page one.

(Off Record Remarks)

Mr. Jalbert of Lewiston was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. JALBERT: Mr. Speaker, I might comment on this thing in substantiating the remarks of Mr. Richardson, who made a fine ex-

planation of the thing and said that this would be taken care of later on. It is very obvious that this is a first year proposition and the second year comes along, and I might say that I suggest this very humbly, if we are to go into committee as a whole, Mr. Speaker, which is an excellent idea, I wonder if it might not be in order if we would adjourn, then go in as a committee as a whole and probably have the experts here, like Asa Richardson, who might want to answer some questions. I am only making that as a suggestion.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would advise the gentleman and the House that we could not adjourn to go into the committee as a whole. If you moved to go into the committee as a whole, then you may elect your chairman prior to adjournment and be in a committee as a whole if it is the pleasure of the House.

Mr. Millett of Dixmont was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. MILLETT: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: The letters C.S.D. refers to a community school district, which may include only elementary or secondary, but not an entire program. We were given in the Education Committee the print-out yesterday containing slightly different figures for those units which have the letters C.S.D. after them. In checking this over, there is a definite decline in the figures presented for these six or seven units on the sheet you just received.

However, I think if you will turn to the third page from the back, you will find at the very bottom three community school districts listed by name, namely Boothbay Harbor C.S.D., Mount Desert Is-

land Regional High School, and Flanders Bay community school district. These are supplemental grants shown here, and if these were to be included with the original figures on the first and second pages you will find that there will not be any decrease below the 90% limit.

I know, in answer to questions relative to Boothbay Harbor, that in our initial sheet they would definitely increase from 26,000 to 39,000. So I believe that not only are they taken care of but they are listed separately due to the fact that they are community school districts.

Mr. Susi of Pittsfield was granted unanimous consent to address the House.

Mr. SUSI: Mr. Speaker and Members of the House: As an observation, we will soon all be leaving to go home and I don't think there is any subject that interests our people at home any more than what we have right in front of us, and time is running very short. I feel, personally, that if we can suspend the rules or take whatever other parliamentary action is required so that we could have an open discussion on this, so that we can have the best possible answers for our people this weekend while we're home on this, that it might save each of us a lot of embarrassment.

Mr. Richardson of Cumberland was granted permission to approach the rostrum.

(Off Record Remarks)

On motion of Mrs. Cummings of Newport,

Adjourned until Tuesday, March 25, at ten o'clock in the morning.