

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

***One Hundred and Eighth
Legislature***

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

Volume I

January 5, 1977 to May 25, 1977

KJ PRINTING
AUGUSTA, MAINE

SENATE

Wednesday, January 19, 1977

Senate called to order by the President.

Prayer by The Reverend Canon Roger S. Smith, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Augusta, Maine.

REV. SMITH: Let us pray. Oh God, the fountain of wisdom, whose will is good and gracious, and whose law is truth, we beseech Thee to guard and bless the Senators who are assembled here in this Legislature of the State, that they may enact such laws as shall please Thee, to the glory of Thy name and the welfare of the people of this State, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Reading of the Journal of yesterday.

(Off record remarks)

**Papers from the House
Joint Orders**

An Expression of Legislative Sentiment recognizing: The U.S.S. Elliot, In Memory of Maine Son, LCDR Arthur J. (Jack) Elliot, II, is being commissioned by the United States Navy. (H. P. 86)

Comes from the House, Read and Passed. Which was Read and Passed in concurrence.

Joint Resolution

A Joint Resolution in Memoriam: Whereas, the Legislature has learned with deep regret of the death of THE HONORABLE AUGUSTUS C. HEANSSLER of Deer Isle, who served in the 92nd and 93rd Legislatures, (H. P. 79)

Comes from the House, Read and Adopted. Which was Read and Adopted in concurrence.

House Papers

Bills, Resolves and Resolutions received from the House requiring Reference to Committees were acted upon in concurrence;

Bill, An Act to Appropriate Funds to the Legislative Apportionment Commission. (Emergency) (H. P. 94) (L. D. 106)

Comes from the House. Passed to be Engrossed without reference to Committee and Ordered Printed.

Under suspension of the rules, read twice and passed, to be engrossed without reference to Committee in concurrence.

Ordered sent forthwith.

Communications

January 12, 1977

Liquor Control Committee
108th Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333
Gentlemen:

Chapter 540, P.L. 1975, created the following types of licenses: Indoor Tennis Clubs, Indoor Ice Skating Clubs, and Golf Clubs.

In compliance with an Act of the Special Session of the 107th Legislature, Chapter 741 states in part: the State Liquor Commission shall evaluate the effectiveness of this law and make a written report to the 108th Legislature by January 15, 1977.

We have contacted the licensed premises and have determined that licensees are pleased with the law and have not experienced any problems enforcing the law. The atmosphere of this type of license is one that lends itself to the surroundings and is not considered a public drinking place or the type of place that the general public would frequent. Rather, the persons using these licensed premises are usually golfers or members of the Tennis Clubs.

Since October 1, 1975, the following licenses have been issued:

Golf Courses of Clubs	10	\$1,770.00
Ice Skating Clubs	4	1,525.00
Indoor Tennis Clubs	9	4,000.00

It is the recommendation of this office that

this type of license be continued. It not only brings additional revenue to the State but greatly enhances the operations of the many facilities.

Very truly yours,

Keith H. Ingraham

(S. P. 57)

Director

Which was Read and Ordered Placed on File. Sent down for concurrence.

Senate Papers

Mr. HUBER of Cumberland presented, Bill, "An Act Making Current Service Appropriations from the General Fund for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1978 and June 30, 1979." (Emergency) (S. P. 54)

Mr. HUBER of Cumberland presented, Bill, "An Act Making Additional Appropriations from the General Fund for the Current Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1977, and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government." (Emergency) (S. P. 56)

Which were referred to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Ordered Printed.

Sent down for Concurrence.

Mr. FARLEY of York, (Cosponsors: Mr. JACKSON of Cumberland and Mrs. SNOWE of Androscoggin) present,

RESOLVE, "Appropriating Funds to the Biddeford High School Band to Play at the Inauguration of President of the United States at Washington, D. C." (Emergency) (S. P. 55)

Mr. SPEERS: Mr. President, I move that Item 3-2, (S. P. 55), that the rules be suspended and that this Bill be given its first and second reading at this time, and be passed to be engrossed without reference to Committee and sent down for concurrence forthwith.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Senator from Kennebec, Mr. Speers, now moves that under suspension of the rules that this Bill without reference to Committee, be given its first reading at this time. Is it the pleasure of the Senate.

The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Mr. Hichens.

Mr. HICHENS: Mr. President, before we take action on this, could we have the amount given as to how much is going to be appropriated?

The PRESIDENT: The Senator from York, Mr. Hichens, poses a question through the Chair of any Senators who may care to answer. The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Mr. Farley.

Mr. FARLEY: Mr. President and members of the Senate, I thank the Senator from Kennebec, Mr. Speers for the action taken on this bill to this point. I do feel there is an explanation due the members of this body, and I will at this time explain. The amount of the appropriation is \$2,500.00. Previously to this, this matter has been handled by the Executive Council. The 107th Legislature did away with the Executive Council so this action now falls on this body, and the body down at the other end of the hall for funding.

The last two inaugurations the Executive Council did appropriate \$8,000.00 at one time and \$5,000.00 for the other. The total cost of this is \$17,500.00. \$14,000.00 has been raised to this point by the members of Biddeford High School band selling candy, calendars and holding dances and so on. The band was selected by the Democratic State Committee to represent the State of Maine in Augusta, and I would hope that this would fill the explanation that Senator from York, Mr. Hichens has raised and the questions he asked.

I would hope that action would be taken on it today. I appreciate your support. Thank you very much.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Mr. Katz.

Mr. KATZ: I will preface my remarks by saying, I shall, of course, support the motion. But

Senator Farley brings out an interesting question that we should face. We no longer have the Executive Council, and the responsibility is on our shoulders and I suspect that as we meet these responsibilities in the future, there should be an orderly way of doing it, and this certainly is not one. I understand the pressure of time in this case.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Mr. Curtis.

Mr. CURTIS: Mr. President, I disagree that this is the necessary way in the future that this sort of appropriation needs to be handled, because the intent of the legislation which replaced the powers of the Executive Council was to provide that the Governor would have a discretionary fund of \$50,000.00 available through its regular appropriations procedures, so that the Governor by himself would have the authority to finance this type of expenditure.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Mr. Farley.

Mr. FARLEY: Mr. President and members of the Senate, I did get in touch with the Governor's office. To answer Senator Curtis, the Executive Council had a contingency fund of \$800,000.00. What we did was we cut from the Governor's contingency fund \$350,000.00, so there is a problem there that the Governor is, you know, we have taken half of the appropriation away from him. That was one of the reasons I wanted to put the bill in this form here.

Under suspension of the rules, read twice and passed, to be engrossed, without reference to Committee.

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Mr. PIERCE of Kennebec, presented, Bill, "An Act to Amend the Duties of the Commissioner of Educational and Cultural Services Relating to Bilingual Education." (S. P. 52)

Which was referred to the Committee on Education and Ordered Printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Mr. PIERCE of Kennebec, Presented, Bill, "An Act Relating to Expiration Date of Dance Licenses." (S. P. 50)

Mr. PIERCE of Kennebec, presented, "An Act Relating to Licensing of Theaters and Motion Picture Houses." (S. P. 51)

Mr. PIERCE of Kennebec presented, Bill, "An Act Relating to the Regulation of Games of Chance." (S. P. 53)

Which were referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Ordered Printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

(Off record remarks)

Orders of The Day
(Off record remarks)

Mr. PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes the Senator from Aroostook, Mr. Collins.

Mr. COLLINS: Mr. President, I request unanimous consent to address the Senate on the record.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Senator from Aroostook, Mr. Collins requests unanimous consent to address the Senate on the record. The Chair hears no objection, the Senator may proceed.

Mr. COLLINS: Mr. President, fellow Senators, yesterday there was an item on the calendar entitled, "an expression of Legislative sentiment recognizing the "Save Loring Committee," and over my left shoulder I heard the esteemed Minority Leader say, "what is the "Save Loring Committee?" So I should like to tell the Senate a little bit about the Save Loring Committee, because I suspect it may have some interest to you.

There was a big sign located in Limestone. It read: "Home of the biggest potatoes, biggest bombers and mightiest tankers." The sign is still at Loring Air Force Base, or still outside

Loring Air Force Base, in spite of the fact that on March 11, 1976, the Air Force announced a reduction of 83 per cent at that Base.

Shortly after that announcement the Save Loring Committee was formed, and along with the Congressional Delegation and the Governor's office, they have proceeded to work towards keeping Loring Air Force Base at its present capacity.

I am happy to say that today we have at least had a stay of execution, and I would like to bring to the attention of the Senate that this Base and this concern that we in Aroostook share, is one that you may also share, since we are advised that Loring Air Force Base contributes \$126 million to the economy of the State. Furthermore, if Loring Air Force Base were reduced, the reduction in State revenues from taxation would amount to \$7.2 million, so I would advise all of our good friends from south of Aroostook County that Loring is important to you also, and I hope that we shall continue our efforts, and I know that the Appropriations Committee will hear from us a little later again. Thank you.

(Off record remarks)

On motion of Mr. Huber of Cumberland,
Adjourned until 3:00 tomorrow afternoon.