

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LEGISLATIVE RECORD**

OF THE

***One Hundred and Eighth  
Legislature***

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

**1978**

**Second Regular Session**

January 4, 1978 — April 6, 1978

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**Senate Confirmation Session**

June 14, 1978

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**First Special Session**

September 6, 1978 — September 15, 1978

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**Second Special Session**

October 18, 1978

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**Third Special Session**

December 6, 1978

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APPENDIX

**SENATE**

Thursday, September 7, 1978

Senate called to Order by the President.

Prayer by Father Valmont Gilbert, St. Augustine's Catholic Church, Augusta.

Father GILBERT: Let us pray.

Father, giver of all good things, the members of the Senate come to You this morning to ask for guidance. Assist them in their deliberations and give them the wisdom needed to work for the good of all Maine citizens. May those who elected them to this office of senator reap from the decisions which will be made during this special session called by the Governor to study government spending and the tax issue. Since it is not always possible for men to foresee the consequences of all human action send Your Spirit on all here present that whatever is decided will serve for the good of our society. This we ask in Faith.

Amen.

Reading of the Journal of yesterday.

**Orders**

On Motion of Mr. Speers of Kennebec: ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs report out all bills in its possession no later than 4 p.m. Thursday, September 7, 1978. (S. P. 776)

Which was Read.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Mr. Speers.

Mr. Speers: Mr. President, I believe this order reflects the desire of the vast majority of the Legislators gathered here for this Special Session. And that is that this Special Session be conducted as expeditiously as possible, that we consider all the matters that have been presented to us as quickly as possible and vote them one way or the other and to have the matters before us in order to do that.

I was very disappointed and expressed that disappointment yesterday that the Appropriations Committee retained two bills and has refused to report those bills out to both these Bodies for consideration. This order would order that Committee to report both of those bills to the full House and the full Senate for consideration, and I urge its passage and further move that it be sent forthwith to the House for concurrence.

Which was Passed. Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

**Second Readers**

The Committee on Bills in the Second Reading reported the following:

**Senate**

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Limit the Amount of Government Spending and Taxes which may be Made without Voter Approval. (S. P. 772) (L. D. 2209)

Which was Read a Second Time.

On Motion of Mr. Speers of Kennebec, Tabled pending passage to be engrossed.

(Off Record Remarks)

On Motion of Mr. Huber of Cumberland, Recessed until four o'clock in the afternoon.

**Recess**

**After Recess**

Senate called to order by the President.

Out of Order and Under Suspension of the Rules, the Senate voted to consider the following:

**Committee Report  
House  
Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs on,

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution to Require the Governing Body of State and Local Units of Government to Establish Reasonable Expenditure Limits for their Respective Units; to Provide Property Tax Relief by Requiring Property Tax Exemption on the First \$10,000 on an Owner's Principal Place of Residence; to Provide Property Tax Relief to Renters; and to Finance Property Tax Relief by Providing that a One Percent Sales and Use Tax shall be Collected by the State and Distributed to Local Governments. (H. P. 2344) (L. D. 2211)

Reports that the same Ought Not to Pass.

Signed:

Senators:

HUBER OF Cumberland  
MORRELL of Cumberland  
MERRILL of Cumberland

Representatives:

JALBERT of Lewiston  
GREENLAW of Stonington  
McBREAIRTY of Perham  
MORTON of Farmington  
CARTER of Winslow  
HIGGINS of Scarborough  
POST of Owl's Head  
PERKINS of Blue Hill  
PEARSON of Old Town

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject matter Reports that the same Ought to Pass as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-1233).

Signed:

Representative:

NAJARIAN of Portland

Comes from the House, the Majority Report Read and Accepted.

Which Reports were Read.

The PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Merrill.

Mr. MERRILL: I note that the final line on this report as it comes from the House the Majority Report Read and Accepted, I'd liked to compliment that Body on having done something and being unique in that regard.

On Motion of Mr. Huber of Cumberland, the Majority Ought to Pass Report Accepted in concurrence.

(Off Record Remarks)

On Motion of Mr. Huber of Cumberland, Adjourned until ten o'clock in the morning.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1978