

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**LEGISLATIVE RECORD**

OF THE

***One Hundred and Eleventh  
Legislature***

OF THE

**STATE OF MAINE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

**January 4, 1984 to April 25, 1984**

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**HOUSE**

Monday, March 5, 1984

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

Prayer by Father Renald LaBarre, St. Philip's Catholic Church, Auburn.

National Anthem by Hall Dale High School Band, Farmingdale.

The Journal of Friday, March 2, 1984 was read and approved.

**Papers from the Senate**

The following Communication:  
THE SENATE OF MAINE  
Augusta

March 2, 1984

The Honorable John L. Martin  
Speaker of the House  
111th Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333  
Dear Speaker Martin:

In accordance with Joint Rule 38, please be advised that the Senate today confirmed, upon the recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, the Governor's nominations of Sandra K. Brennan of Houlton, Cheryl Kelly of St. Francis, Lawrence J. Keddy of South Windham, and Harold W. Higgins of Belfast as Humane Society Representatives; Raynor I. Crosman of Corinna, Jesse Harriman, Jr. of Richmond, Bradford Tait of North Whitefield, and Donald W. Buzzell of Fryeburg as Agriculture Representatives.

Sincerely,  
Joy J. O'Brien  
Secretary of the Senate

Was read and ordered placed on file.

The following Communication:  
THE SENATE OF MAINE  
Augusta

March 2, 1984

The Honorable John L. Martin  
Speaker of the House  
111th Legislature  
Augusta, Maine 04333  
Dear Speaker Martin:

In accordance with Joint Rule 38, please be advised that the Senate today confirmed, upon the recommendation of the Joint Standing Committee on State Government, the Governor's nomination of Kathleen A. Boland of Hallowell for appointment as the Executive Director of the Maine State Housing Authority.

Ms. Boland is replacing Sharon Mitchell Lunner.

Sincerely,  
Joy J. O'Brien  
Secretary of the Senate

Was read and ordered placed on file.

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Eligibility Provisions for Accident and Sickness or Health Insurance Program for State Employees" (S. P. 803) (L. D. 2151)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on Business Legislation and Ordered Printed.

Was referred to the Committee on Business Legislation in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Providing for the Abandonment of the State-owned Dam on Dead River, Androscoggin County" (S. P. 804) (L. D. 2152)

Bill "An Act to Replace the Regional Refuse Disposal District Enabling Act" (Emergency) (S. P. 809) (L. D. 2155)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and Ordered Printed.

Were referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Allow Certain Fish and Wildlife Offenses to be Treated as Civil Violations" (S. P. 806) (L. D. 2154)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife and Ordered Printed.

(The Committee on Reference of Bills had suggested reference to the Committee on Judiciary)

Was referred to the Committee on Fisheries and Wildlife in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Allow the Department of Transportation to Assume Responsibility for 100% of the Maintenance and Operation Costs of the Carleton Bridge Between Bath and Woolwich and to Allocate and Appropriate the Funds Necessary to Assume this Additional Responsibility" (Emergency) (S. P. 811) (L. D. 2160)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on Transportation and Ordered Printed.

Was referred to the Committee on Transportation in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Providing for Maintenance of Certain Roads in Baxter State Park" (Emergency) (S. P. 805) (L. D. 2153)

Came from the Senate, referred to the Committee on Transportation and Ordered Printed.

(The Committee on Reference of Bills had suggested reference to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources)

Was referred to the Committee on Transportation in concurrence.

**Reports of Committees**  
**Unanimous Leave to Withdraw**

Report of the Committee on Business Legislation reporting "Leave to Withdraw" on Bill "An Act Concerning Examinations for Licensed Practical Nurses" (S. P. 739) (L. D. 2042)

Was placed in the Legislative Files without further action pursuant to Joint Rule 15 in concurrence.

**Non-Concurrent Matter**

Bill "An Act Concerning the Use or Disposition of Fort Gorges in Casco Bay" (H. P. 1520) (L. D. 2002) which was passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-481) in the House on February 28, 1984.

Came from the Senate passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-481) and Senate Amendment "B" (S-294) in non-concurrence.

The House voted to recede and concur.

**Non-Concurrent Matter**

Bill "An Act to Amend the Cessation of Employment Law" (H. P. 1450) (L. D. 1902) which was passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-482) in the House on February 27, 1984.

Came from the Senate, passed to be engrossed as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-482) as amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-295) thereto in non-concurrence.

On motion of Representative Beaulieu of Portland, the House voted to recede and concur.

**Petitions, Bills and Resolves**  
**Requiring Reference**

The following Bill was received and, upon recommendation of the Committee on Reference of Bills, was referred to the following Committee:

**Education**

Bill "An Act to Initiate Programs to Improve the Quality of Education in Maine Schools" (H. P. 1641) (Presented by Representative Higgins of Scarborough) (Cosponsors: Representatives Davis of Monmouth, Thompson of South Portland and Senator Gill of Cumberland) (Approved for introduction by the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 26)

Ordered Printed.  
Sent up for concurrence.

**Orders**

On motion of Representative McSweeney of Old Orchard Beach, the following Order:

ORDERED, that Representative Joseph C. Brannigan of Portland be excused February 28 and 29 due to illness.

Was read and passed.

**House Reports of Committees**  
**Unanimous Leave to Withdraw**

Representative Higgins from the Committee on Taxation on Bill "An Act to Establish an Income Tax Credit for In-home and Community Support Services Provided by Families" (H. P. 1551) (L. D. 2041) reporting "Leave to Withdraw"

Representative Jacques from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on Bill "An Act Relating to Hazardous Waste Management" (H. P. 1106) (L. D. 1459) reporting "Leave to Withdraw"

Were placed in the Legislative Files without further action pursuant to Joint Rule 15 and sent up for concurrence.

**Ought to Pass in New Draft/New Title**

Representative Soule from the Committee on Judiciary on Bill "An Act Relating to the Time of Penobscot Nation Trust Land Designation" (H. P. 1399) (L. D. 1822) reporting "Ought to Pass" in New Draft under New Title Bill "An Act Relating to the Time of Passamaquoddy Tribe Trust Land Designation" (H. P. 1644) (L. D. 2163).

Report was read and accepted. The New Draft given its first reading and assigned for second reading Tuesday, March 6, 1984.

**Consent Calendar****First Day**

In accordance with House Rule 49, the following items appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H. P. 1398) (L. D. 1821) Bill "An Act Relating to Penobscot Nation Trust Land Designation" Committee On Judiciary reporting "Ought to Pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-498).

(H. P. 1397) (L. D. 1820) RESOLVE, to Authorize the Conveyance of Certain Property to the Penobscot Nation Committee On Judiciary reporting "Ought to Pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-499).

There being no objections, the above items were ordered to appear on the Consent Calendar of Tuesday, March 6, 1984 under the listing of Second Day.

**Consent Calendar****Second Day**

In accordance with House Rule 49, the following item appeared on the Consent Calendar for the Second Day:

RESOLVE, Establishing a Food Policy for Maine (H. P. 1541) (L. D. 2028)

No objections having been noted at the end of the Second Legislative Day, the House Paper was Passed to be Engrossed and sent up for concurrence.

**Passed to Be Engrossed**

Bill "An Act Providing for the Termination of Stale or Abandoned Securities Registrations" (Emergency) (H. P. 1634) (L. D. 2157)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading, read the second time, Passed to be Engrossed, and sent up for concurrence.

**Tabled and Assigned**

Bill "An Act to Amend Certain Rules of the Emergency Medical Services" (S. P. 709) (L. D. 1955) (H. "A" H-491 to C. "A" S-290)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading and read the second time.

On motion of Representative Nelson of Portland, tabled pending passage to be engrossed and tomorrow assigned.

#### Finally Passed Constitutional Amendment

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Limit the Life of Authorized Bonds (H. P. 1410) (L. D. 1832) (C. "A" H-483)

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Scarborough, Mr. Higgins.

Mr. HIGGINS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I was the sponsor of this Resolution and I thought perhaps it would be appropriate to speak just for a minute this morning on it before we have the final vote.

It was a unanimous report out of the Committee on State Government, but as a little background, many of you may recall the problem that we were in, a perceived problem that we were in, last year and a couple years ago when this particular change in the Constitution was originally proposed and it was adopted by the people. The language in the Constitution read that if the state issued some bonds, the people voted on bonds, that it was the intent of the legislature that within five years, if they were not sold, all those bonds were not sold, then the legislature would have to reauthorize those bonds within a two-year period. What happened, however, was that when the language was originally put in the Constitution, it said that if no bonds were sold which, as the Attorney General later ruled, meant that if the legislature voted and the people then in referendum voted for a \$10 million bond issue and four years later the treasury department or the department that was in charge of issuing the bonds sold \$1 million worth of that particular issue, then those bonds were alive for another five years. And I think it was clearly the legislative intent that that whole \$10 million had to be sold within that five year period and if not they had to come back to the legislature to do so.

This particular constitutional amendment addresses that problem. It makes it clear that unless all the bonds are sold within a five year period, they must come back to the legislature to be reauthorized.

It does one other thing that was picked up as a deficiency in the existing language in the Constitution, and that is the question of—in order to reauthorize the bonds by legislative action, would it take a simple majority or the normal two-thirds. The Committee decided that since the original vote on that issue took two thirds, that the implication should be, and it is in this bill now, that a reauthorization of bonds would take a simple majority of both the House and the Senate in order to keep those bonds on the books, not the normal two-thirds that the original implementation would take.

I think this does a couple of things. I think it resolves a problem that was a very real one in the intent of the original constitutional amendment presented a couple years ago and it addresses how the legislature would act to a reauthorization, in what way, a simple majority or a two-thirds.

We presently have \$79 million worth of bonds out there that have been authorized by the people but have not yet been issued. I think it is a real concern and I think it is something that we in a simple fiscal management tool wanted to be constantly aware of. There is presently one particular bond issue that was authorized back in 1973 or 1974 that has not completely been sold yet. There is still a million dollars out there and I think the legislature said two or three years ago and they are saying again now, we would like to review that process and make sure that that one million dollars that is out there, if it is going to be issued or the potential exists for it to be issued, that we want

to look at it again and make sure that it is as high a priority now as it was ten years ago.

This particular piece of legislation, once it is adopted by the people, I think will do that and I would urge your support.

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on final passage. This being a Constitutional Amendment, it requires a two-thirds vote of all those present and voting. All those in favor will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

A vote of the House was taken.

122 having voted in the affirmative and none in the negative, the Resolution was finally passed.

Signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

#### Passed to Be Enacted Emergency Measure

An Act to Appropriate Funds to the Maine State Commission on the Arts and the Humanities for the Maine Touring Artists Program (S. P. 703) (L. D. 1941)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 109 voted in favor of the same and 10 against and accordingly the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

#### Emergency Measure

An Act to Appropriate to the Maine State Commission on the Arts and the Humanities Fund for the Management of the Percent for Art Act (S. P. 692) (L. D. 1924) (C. "A" S-291)

Was reported by the Committee on Engrossed Bills as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 102 voted in favor of the same and 13 against and accordingly the Bill was passed to be enacted, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

#### Emergency Measure Failed of Enactment

An Act To Amend the Liquor Laws to Permit the Sale of Beer and Wine at Outdoor Stadiums (S. P. 752) (L. D. 2055) (S. "A" S-287)

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

Representative Cox of Brewer requested a roll call vote on passage to be enacted.

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

The SPEAKER: The pending question is on passage to be enacted. This being an emergency measure, it requires a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House. All those in favor will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

#### Roll Call No. 371

YEA—Ainsworth, Andrews, Armstrong, Baker, Beaulieu, Bonney, Bott, Brannigan, Brown, D.N.; Callahan, Carroll, D.P.; Carroll, G.A.; Cashman, Chonko, Connolly, Cooper, Cote, Crouse, Diamond, Dillenback, Gauvreau, Hall, Handy, Hayden, Hickey, Joseph, Joyce, Kane, Kelleher, Kelly, Ketover, Kiesman, Kilcoyne, LaPlante, Lehoux, Lisnik, Macomber, Manning, Matthews, Z.E.; McCollister, McGowan, McSweeney, Melendy, Mills, Mitchell, J.; Murphy, E.M.; Murphy, T.W.; Murray, Norton, Paradis, P.E.; Perkins, Perry, Pouliot, Racine, Reeves, J.W.; Richard, Ridley, Roderick, Rolde, Rotondi, Salisbury, Soucy, Soule, Sproul, Stevens, Swazey, Tammara, Telow, Theriault, Wentworth, Willey, Mr. Speaker.

NAY—Allen, Anderson, Bell, Bost, Brodeur, Brown, A.K.; Cahill, Carrier, Clark, Conary, Conners, Cox, Crowley, Daggett, Davis, Day, Dexter, Drinkwater, Dudley, Erwin, Foster, Greenlaw, Higgins, L.M.; Holloway, Ingraham, Jackson, Jacques, Lebowitz, Locke, MacBride, MacEachern, Mahany, Martin, A.C.; Masterman,

Masterton, Matthews, K.L.; Maybury, Mayo, McHenry, McPherson, Michaud, Nelson, Paradis, E.J.; Parent, Pines, Randall, Robinson, Seavey, Sherburne, Smith, C.B.; Smith, C.W.; Stevenson, Stover, Strout, Vose, Walker, Webster, Weymouth, Zirkilton.

ABSENT—Benoit, Carter, Curtis, Gwadosky, Higgins, H. C.; Hobbins, Jalbert, Livesay, Martin, H. C.; Michael, Mitchell, E. H.; Moholland, Nadeau, Paul, Reeves, P.; Roberts, Scarpino, Small, Thompson, Tuttle.

72 having voted in the affirmative and 59 having voted in the negative, the Bill failed of enactment.

Sent to the Senate.

#### Passed to Be Enacted

An Act to Amend Certain District Court Divisions and Districts (S. P. 653) (L. D. 1844)

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

#### Enactor Reconsidered

An Act to Increase Mileage Payments to Jurors (H. P. 1434) (L. D. 1879)

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

On motion of Representative Soule of Westport, under suspension of the rules the House reconsidered its action whereby the Bill was passed to be engrossed.

The same gentleman offered House Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" (H-493) was read by the Clerk and adopted.

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

An Act to Clarify the Power of the Supreme Judicial Court to Issue Rules for Probate Courts (H. P. 1468) (L. D. 1920)

An Act to Exempt Certain Materials that have no Insurable Value from Insurance Requirements (H. P. 1504) (L. D. 1980) (C. "A" H-480)

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

#### Finally Passed

Resolve, Providing Funds for Portrait of Honorable Lewis O. Barrows (S. P. 705) (L. D. 1952)

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Biddeford, Mr. Racine.

Mr. RACINE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: The reason I rise this morning on this bill is not because I object to the fact that the portrait of Governor Barrows — that there is no resemblance between a picture that was taken of him, and I am not objecting to the fact that we should not have a painting of the Governor in the hall. What I am getting to and objecting to is the fact that there is an amount of \$7,500 being appropriated to paint another picture and where I come from, \$7,500 is a lot of money. We have a lot of people that are retired on fixed incomes, people that are on Social Security, and they make less than \$7,500. I believe that this picture probably could be restored at a lesser amount and I feel that possibly the sum of \$1,000 to \$1,500 would be adequate to take care of this need.

On this basis, I would request that a roll call be taken so that the people in the State of Maine will know how we are voting and whether or not we are concerned about how we are spending the taxpayers' money.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Kelleher.

Mr. KELLEHER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: The questions and observations that were raised by the good gentleman from down in York County were also raised by members of the Appropriations Committee when we heard this bill.

I don't know how familiar the House is with the reasons that the bill was brought in but when the original painting was done of Governor Barrows it was not at all commissioned by the State of Maine. It was done by a group of pharmacists, as I understand it, and when the portrait was presented for approval, and somewhere in the law there is an agreement that the wife or the husband of the Governor, should it be male or female, has to approve it or has to give consent, that in the opinion of the Barrows' family, it did not reflect the image of the Governor and they rejected it.

The state, at that time, had not paid or supported the funding for that particular portrait so it never was officially hung, and when the bill came before the Appropriations Committee, we asked the question about the financing, was it somewhat inconsistent with paying for something before we saw it, and we were told and accepted it from the evidence that was given that it was a reasonable fee. It may not cost \$7,500, it may cost \$5,000 or \$4,000 because there will be artists bidding to do it but we had to set some kind of a figure and it appeared to us, at least, to be reasonable at the time.

I can appreciate the gentleman's concerns but, nevertheless, it will take someone with some talent to do the portrait of former Governor Barrows and we fully expect that the people of Maine, as they have in the past, will respond to what those costs are. Hopefully, it will be less than \$7,500 and it may be \$7,000 but, nevertheless, the amount of money that was affixed to the bill seemed appropriate.

I can appreciate his concerns but I would ask the House to support this bill this morning.

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

Mr. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to pose a question through the Chair to the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Kelleher. What was the cost of Governor Longley's portrait which was done somewhat in recent years?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Augusta, Mr. Hickey, has posed a question through the Chair to the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Kelleher, who may respond if he so desires.

The Chair recognizes that gentleman.

Mr. KELLEHER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I don't know the answer.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Webster.

Mr. WEBSTER: Mr. Speaker, I would like to pose a question through the Chair. Could someone here tell me what will happen to the existing painting that is now hung once we commission a new painting to be painted?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Webster, has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who may respond if they so desire.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Kelleher.

Mr. KELLEHER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: It is my understanding that it was never officially hung and it was not accepted because the Governor's widow rejected it. She thought it was an improper painting in describing her husband on canvas. To our knowledge, it was one that was never hung; in fact, a newspaperman came in the other day and was asking around, and he asked several legislators, and I happened to be one of them, if we knew where Lewis Barrows' picture was and we did not know and I don't know whether the Archives knows.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Stockton Springs, Mr. Crowley.

Mr. CROWLEY: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: We are all talking about a portrait, I would like to talk about the man for just a second, Governor Lewis O. Barrows.

His son went to the University of Maine with me. In fact, we played football together, very close, he gave his life in World War II, which has nothing to do with this of course, as a hero with a Silver Star, the whole bit.

In my Junior year of college, I was having trouble making it with expenses so I made an appointment, because I knew the Governor's son, to have an interview with him and try to get a job where I was in real difficulty, so I came down and he said he might be able to help me get this job and I filled out application forms, etc., and by the time I hitchhiked back to the University of Maine at Orono, he had called the President Hauck up there, and made all the arrangements so I could complete my Junior year of college.

This man and his wife are just great Americans, beautiful people, and \$7,000 is absolutely nothing in relation to what they have done for this state.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Farmington, Mr. Webster.

Mr. WEBSTER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I only want to speak here on the Record because I had a constituent of mine call me this morning on this issue. It seems that there is a lady in Farmington who is now a widow whose husband painted this picture that was presented to the state. I would like to say on the Record that if at some point we can find the original painting, the one that was not accepted by the Governor's wife, I would hope that the Legislature would see that it was returned to the widow of my constituent. I wanted to say that on the Record so if we did find it, and since it wasn't accepted, I would think it would be appropriate that she might receive it.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Bangor, Mr. Kelleher.

Mr. KELLEHER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I was just told that the last picture that was painted, which I think was of Governor Longley, was over \$5,000.

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

Mr. HICKEY: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: I understand that the picture in contention is hanging in the lobby today and there is a blur across it and I concur with Representative Crowley. I knew the Governor and his family very well, they certainly did contribute a great deal to our state and are rightfully entitled to anything that we can give them.

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

Mr. McHENRY: Mr. Speaker, I would like to pose a question through the Chair.

Do these paintings go out on bid or is it commissioned?

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Madawaska, Mr. McHenry, has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who may respond if they so desire.

Representative Racine of Biddeford requested a roll call on final passage.

Less than one-fifth of the members present having expressed a desire for a roll call, a roll call was not ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will order a vote. The pending question before the House is final passage of the Resolve. Those in favor will vote yes; those opposed will vote no.

A vote of the House was taken.

121 having voted in the affirmative and 6 in the negative, the Resolve was finally passed, 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:

JOINT ORDER—Relative to Legislative Con-

duct (H. P. 1632) Read in House March 2.

Tabled—March 2, 1984 by Representative Mitchell of Vassalboro.

Pending—Passage.

On motion of Mrs. Mitchell of Vassalboro, retabled pending passage and tomorrow assigned.

#### Bills Held

Bill "An Act Relating to Signs for Farm Market Sales" (S. P. 768) (L. D. 2082)

—In Senate, Referred to the Committee on Agriculture.

—In House, Referred to the Committee on Business Legislation on March 2, 1984 in non-concurrence.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Canton, Mr. McCollister.

Mr. McCOLLISTER: Mr. Speaker, is the House in possession of L. D. 2082?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would answer in the affirmative, having been held at the gentleman's request.

Mr. McCOLLISTER: Mr. Speaker, I move that the House reconsider its action whereby this bill was referred to the Committee on Business Legislation and wish to speak to my motion.

The SPEAKER: The gentleman from Canton, Mr. McCollister, moves that the House reconsider its action whereby L. D. 2082 was referred to the Committee on Business Legislation.

The gentleman may proceed.

Mr. McCOLLISTER: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: Most farmers are concerned deeply when a bill affecting farmers ends up in some other committee. Most all bills relating to Agriculture are handled by a committee that they are comfortable with.

We are talking about people who work during the day on the farm. They must take time away from the production of income to come here. They feel comfortable with the Agriculture Committee. We deal with pesticides, we deal with milk regulations and it is conceivable that most of what the Committee on Agriculture handles could be given to Business Legislation and I would hope you would support me.

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

Mr. BRANNIGAN: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House: I certainly can understand the gentleman from Canton's concern about farm sign stands going to the Committee on Agriculture. However, it has been a long standing decision by this House that in this case the Business Legislation Committee would handle all of the so-called billboard laws that deal with both billboards and directional signs because we have signs for agriculture, for industries, for lobster shacks, campgrounds, many, many signs for many, many different parts of the things that we do here, if they were handled by each individual committee there would be no cohesive policy. Therefore, we have dealt with this issue, the agricultural sign issue along with all of the sign issues, continually year after year since I believe 1977, prior to my coming here, and I believe that we should continue. I hope you will not support the gentleman's motion.

Mr. McCollister of Canton requested permission to withdraw his motion to reconsider, which was granted.

#### (Off Record Remarks)

On motion of Mrs. Cote of Auburn,

Adjourned until nine o'clock tomorrow morning.