

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record
House of Representatives
One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature
State of Maine

Volume I

First Regular Session

December 2, 1998 – May 12, 1999

ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
 3rd Legislative Day
 Thursday, January 7, 1999

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

Prayer by Father Lionel Chouinard, St. Augustine Church, Augusta.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, David J. Simmons, M.D., Calais.

The Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 18)

STATE OF MAINE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

January 6, 1999

To the Speaker of the House in the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature:

I, DAN A. GWADOSKY, Secretary of State, in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Maine, having tabulated the returns of the votes cast for Governor at the General Election held on the third day of November in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight;

REPORT AS FOLLOWS; that Angus S. King Jr., having received a plurality of the votes cast, appears to have been elected Governor of the State of Maine:

CLARKE (UNENROLLED)

ANDROSCOGGIN	1512	4.7%
AROOSTOOK	1100	4.9%
CUMBERLAND	1798	1.9%
FRANKLIN	306	3.0%
HANCOCK	823	4.6%
KENNEBEC	1529	4.1%
KNOX	487	3.6%
LINCOLN	388	2.8%
OXFORD	676	3.9%
PENOBSCOT	2516	5.5%
PISCATAQUIS	378	5.7%
SAGADAHOC	367	3.0%
SOMERSET	729	4.6%
WALDO	677	5.8%
WASHINGTON	714	6.5%
YORK	1293	2.3%
TOTAL:	15293	3.6%

CONNOLLY (DEMOCRAT)

ANDROSCOGGIN	3939	12.3%
AROOSTOOK	3090	13.7%
CUMBERLAND	13222	13.7%
FRANKLIN	1316	13.0%
HANCOCK	1532	8.5%
KENNEBEC	4690	12.5%
KNOX	1174	8.6%
LINCOLN	1205	8.7%
OXFORD	2047	11.9%
PENOBSCOT	5486	11.9%
PISCATAQUIS	708	10.7%
SAGADAHOC	1148	9.5%
SOMERSET	1845	11.6%
WALDO	1090	9.4%
WASHINGTON	1416	12.9%

YORK	6598	11.9%
TOTAL:	50506	12.0%

KING (UNENROLLED)

ANDROSCOGGIN	20036	62.4%
AROOSTOOK	11609	51.3%
CUMBERLAND	59664	61.6%
FRANKLIN	6211	61.4%
HANCOCK	9666	53.5%
KENNEBEC	22221	59.1%
KNOX	8301	60.7%
LINCOLN	8627	62.1%
OXFORD	10818	62.9%
PENOBSCOT	23107	50.1%
PISCATAQUIS	3313	50.2%
SAGADAHOC	7807	64.4%
SOMERSET	8596	54.0%
WALDO	5954	51.2%
WASHINGTON	4926	44.9%
YORK	35916	64.7%
TOTAL:	246772	58.6%

LAMARCHE (UNENROLLED)

ANDROSCOGGIN	1399	4.4%
AROOSTOOK	1543	6.8%
CUMBERLAND	5555	5.7%
FRANKLIN	589	5.8%
HANCOCK	2408	13.3%
KENNEBEC	2802	7.5%
KNOX	1163	8.5%
LINCOLN	994	7.2%
OXFORD	815	4.7%
PENOBSCOT	4173	9.0%
PISCATAQUIS	446	6.8%
SAGADAHOC	821	6.8%
SOMERSET	1208	7.6%
WALDO	1444	12.4%
WASHINGTON	999	9.1%
YORK	2363	4.3%
TOTAL:	28722	6.8%

LONGLEY (REPUBLICAN)

ANDROSCOGGIN	5248	16.3%
AROOSTOOK	5274	23.3%
CUMBERLAND	16583	17.1%
FRANKLIN	1686	16.7%
HANCOCK	3646	20.2%
KENNEBEC	6349	16.9%
KNOX	2548	18.6%
LINCOLN	2672	19.2%
OXFORD	2843	16.5%
PENOBSCOT	10863	23.5%
PISCATAQUIS	1752	26.6%
SAGADAHOC	1979	16.3%
SOMERSET	3534	22.2%
WALDO	2468	21.2%
WASHINGTON	2909	26.5%
YORK	9362	16.9%
TOTAL:	79716	18.9%

I, DAN A. GWADOSKY, Secretary of State, hereby certify that the foregoing report is a true tabulation of the votes cast for Governor at the General Election, as reported to me on the returns from the cities, towns and plantations of the State.

S/DAN A. GWADOSKY
 Secretary of State

READ and with accompanying papers **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: (S.P. 26)

**THE SENATE OF MAINE
3 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333**

December 21, 1998
Mark W. Lawrence
President of the Senate
119th Legislature
G. Steven Rowe
Speaker of the House
119th Legislature

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

On December 21, 1998, fifteen bills were received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to the Joint Standing Committees on December 21, 1998, as follows:

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Bill "An Act to Amend the Animal Trespass Definition" (S.P. 11) (L.D. 9) (Sponsored by Senator FERGUSON of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Representatives WINSOR of Norway, CAMERON of Rumford).

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Bill "An Act to Transfer Funds from the Service Retirement Benefit Reserve to the Maine State Retirement System in Order to Fund the Modification of Retirement Laws for Certain Law Enforcement Personnel" (S.P. 12) (L.D. 1) (Sponsored by Senator MICHAUD of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Representative KNEELAND of Easton, Senators CAREY of Kennebec, MURRAY of Penobscot, PARADIS of Aroostook, Representative McALEVEY of Waterboro).

Banking and Insurance

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Application of Insurance Fraud Prevention Laws" (Emergency) (S.P. 13) (L.D. 2) (Sponsored by Senator LAFOUNTAIN of York).

Business and Economic Development

Bill "An Act to Exempt Business Brokers and Mergers and Acquisitions Specialists from the Real Estate Brokerage Laws" (S.P. 15) (L.D. 11) (Sponsored by Senator ABROMSON of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Senators KIEFFER of Aroostook, MACKINNON of York, NUTTING of Androscoggin, Representatives CIANCHETTE of South Portland, ETNIER of Harpswell, NORBERT of Portland).

Health and Human Services

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Sale of Tobacco from Vending Machines" (S.P. 14) (L.D. 10) (Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset).

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Bill "An Act to Allow Hunting from Motor Vehicles for Persons Limited in Their Ability to Walk" (S.P. 16) (L.D. 8) (Sponsored by Senator LIBBY of York) (Cosponsored by Representatives CAMPBELL of Holden, SAVAGE of Buxton, SCHNEIDER of Durham).

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Correct Errors and Inconsistencies in the Laws of Maine" (Emergency) (S.P. 18) (L.D. 3) (Submitted pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 94).

Labor

Bill "An Act to Protect Pensions of Teachers and Public Employees in a Fashion Consistent with Federal ERISA Standards" (S.P. 17) (L.D. 14) (Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset) (Cosponsored by Representatives JOY of Crystal, BUCK of Yarmouth, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, WINSOR of Norway).

Bill "An Act to Exempt Owners of Amusement Parks from Paying Overtime" (S.P. 19) (L.D. 15) (Sponsored by Senator PENDLETON of Cumberland) (By Request).

State and Local Government

Bill "An Act to Change the Selection Process of the Oxford County Budget Committee" (S.P. 20) (L.D. 12) (Sponsored by Senator FERGUSON of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Representatives BRYANT of Dixfield, CAMERON of Rumford, WINSOR of Norway).

Bill "An Act to Designate the First Saturday of Each October as Firefighter's Recognition Day" (S.P. 21) (L.D. 13) (Sponsored by Senator LIBBY of York) (Cosponsored by Representative McALEVEY of Waterboro, Senator MACKINNON of York, Representatives BERRY of Livermore, CAMPBELL of Holden).

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Sales Tax on Electricity Used in Agriculture and Aquaculture" (S.P. 23) (L.D. 4) (Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset).

Bill "An Act to Permit Retailers to Retain a 1% Service Fee for Collection of Sales Tax Revenue" (S.P. 24) (L.D. 5) (Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset).

Bill "An Act to Repeal the Sales Tax on Horses" (S.P. 22) (L.D. 6) (Sponsored by Senator LIBBY of York).

Transportation

Resolve, to Change the Name of the Ridlonville Bridge between Rumford and Mexico to the Veterans Bridge (S.P. 25) (L.D. 7) (Sponsored by Senator FERGUSON of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Representative BRYANT of Dixfield, Senator CASSIDY of Washington, Representative CAMERON of Rumford).

Sincerely,
S/Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate
S/Joseph W. Mayo
Clerk of the House

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE** in concurrence.

The Following Communication: (S.P. 28)

**THE SENATE OF MAINE
3 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333**

December 29, 1998
Mark W. Lawrence
President of the Senate
119th Legislature
G. Steven Rowe
Speaker of the House
119th Legislature

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

On December 29, 1998, one bill was received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, this bill was referred to the Joint Standing Committee as follows:

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Give the Probate Court Power to Order Child Support in Cases Involving Guardianship of a Minor" (S.P. 27) (L.D. 38) (Sponsored by Senator LAFOUNTAIN of York County.)
Sincerely,
S/Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate
S/Joseph W. Mayo
Clerk of the House

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE** in concurrence.

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

The following Bills and Resolves were received, and upon the recommendation of the Committee on Reference of Bills were **REFERRED** to the following Committees, ordered printed and sent for Concurrence:

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

Bill "An Act to Amend the Forest Practices Laws" (H.P. 37) (L.D. 51)

Presented by Representative FOSTER of Gray.
Cosponsored by Senator CASSIDY of Washington and Representatives: AHEARNE of Madawaska, GILLIS of Danforth, GOOLEY of Farmington, JOY of Crystal, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, STANLEY of Medway.

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act to Make Additional Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1999" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 36) (L.D. 50)

Presented by Representative TOWNSEND of Portland. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)
Cosponsored by Senator MICHAUD of Penobscot.

BANKING AND INSURANCE

Bill "An Act to Ensure Choice of Accredited Health Care Providers in Managed Care Programs"

(H.P. 55) (L.D. 69)

Presented by Representative McALEVEY of Waterboro.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, BROOKS of Winterport, CHICK of Lebanon, LOVETT of Scarborough, MAYO of Bath, TOBIN of Dexter, Senators: PARADIS of Aroostook, RAND of Cumberland.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act to Change the Date a Child Starts School"

(H.P. 45) (L.D. 59)

Presented by Representative GAGNE of Buckfield.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, DESMOND of Mapleton, JACOBS of Turner, LABRECQUE of Gorham, MAILHOT of Lewiston, WATSON of Farmingdale.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Bill "An Act to Change Reporting Requirements of Certain HIV Test Results"

(H.P. 43) (L.D. 57)

Presented by Representative SHIELDS of Auburn.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Composition of the Maine HIV Advisory Committee"

(H.P. 44) (L.D. 58)

Presented by Representative SHIELDS of Auburn.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

Bill "An Act to Permit the Sale of Moose Bones" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 46) (L.D. 60)

Presented by Representative FULLER of Manchester.
Cosponsored by Senator CAREY of Kennebec and Representative: CLARK of Millinocket.

Bill "An Act to Establish Licensing Requirements for Boat Operators"

(H.P. 52) (L.D. 66)

Presented by Representative BOLDUC of Auburn. (BY REQUEST)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Length of Probation for Domestic Violence from one Year to 2 Years"

(H.P. 51) (L.D. 65)

Presented by Representative TOBIN of Dexter.
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: FRECHETTE of Biddeford, McALEVEY of Waterboro, O'BRIEN of Augusta, PEAVEY of Woolwich, POVICH of Ellsworth.

Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested.

On motion of Representative THOMPSON of Naples, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act to Clarify Referendum Wording"

(H.P. 41) (L.D. 55)

Presented by Representative SHIELDS of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Representative BOLDUC of Auburn.

Bill "An Act Regarding Commercial Beano Halls"

(H.P. 57) (L.D. 71)

Presented by Representative LABRECQUE of Gorham.
Cosponsored by Senator DAGGETT of Kennebec and Representatives: CHIZMAR of Lisbon, CLOUGH of Scarborough, GAGNE of Buckfield, TESSIER of Fairfield, TRUE of Fryeburg, TUTTLE of Sanford, Senator: FERGUSON of Oxford.

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Resolve, to Authorize the Knox County Commissioners to Borrow Not More Than \$600,000 to Build the Knox County Communications Center (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 40) (L.D. 54)

Presented by Representative SAVAGE of Union.

Cosponsored by Representatives: McNEIL of Rockland, PIEH of Bremen, POWERS of Rockport, SKOGLUND of St. George, Senator: PINGREE of Knox.

Bill "An Act to Require That Municipal Map and Lot Numbers Be on Deeds prior to Recording"

(H.P. 53) (L.D. 67)

Presented by Representative WINSOR of Norway.
Cosponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset and Representatives: ANDREWS of York, PLOWMAN of Hampden, SCHNEIDER of Durham, Senator: FERGUSON of Oxford.

Bill "An Act to Require That a Certified Copy of Municipal Ordinances Be Recorded in the County Registry of Deeds"

(H.P. 54) (L.D. 68)

Presented by Representative WINSOR of Norway.
Cosponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset and Representatives: ANDREWS of York, PLOWMAN of Hampden, SCHNEIDER of Durham, Senator: FERGUSON of Oxford.

TAXATION

Bill "An Act to Repeal the Snack Tax"

(H.P. 42) (L.D. 56)

Presented by Representative LABRECQUE of Gorham.
Cosponsored by Representatives CLOUGH of Scarborough, GLYNN of South Portland, KASPRZAK of Newport, MACK of Standish, WHEELER of Eliot, Senator MacKINNON of York and Representatives: GERRY of Auburn, MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth, MURPHY of Berwick.

Bill "An Act to Exempt from the Sales Tax Nonprofit Organizations That Provide Assistance to Children with Dyslexia"

(H.P. 48) (L.D. 62)

Presented by Representative TREADWELL of Carmel.
Cosponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Penobscot and Representatives: BUCK of Yarmouth, JONES of Pittsfield, RICHARDSON of Greenville.

Bill "An Act to Exempt Leased Equipment from Sales Tax"

(H.P. 49) (L.D. 63)

Presented by Representative BRUNO of Raymond.
Cosponsored by Representative MAYO of Bath and Representatives: BUCK of Yarmouth, CAMERON of Rumford, LEMONT of Kittery, MURPHY of Berwick, NUTTING of Oakland, SCHNEIDER of Durham.

TRANSPORTATION

Bill "An Act to Expand the Number of Lights Firefighters May Use on Their Motor Vehicles"

(H.P. 38) (L.D. 52)

Presented by Representative JONES of Pittsfield.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, RICHARDSON of Greenville, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, STEDMAN of Hartland, TREADWELL of Carmel.

Resolve, Requiring the State to Reimburse Towns for the Construction of Salt and Sand Storage Facilities

(H.P. 39) (L.D. 53)

Presented by Representative RINES of Wiscasset.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, BUMPS of China, CIANCHETTE of South Portland, GREEN of Monmouth, HONEY of Boothbay, PIEH of Bremen, SAVAGE of Union, Senator: KILKELLY of Lincoln.

Bill "An Act to Decriminalize Failure to Register a Motor Vehicle"

(H.P. 47) (L.D. 61)

Presented by Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska.

Bill "An Act to Enact the Railroad Trespass Prevention Act"

(H.P. 56) (L.D. 70)

Presented by Representative LINDAHL of Northport.

Cosponsored by Senator O'GARA of Cumberland.

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

Bill "An Act to Amend the Mexico Water District Charter"

(H.P. 50) (L.D. 64)

Presented by Representative BRYANT of Dixfield.

Cosponsored by Senator FERGUSON of Oxford.

At this point, a message came from the Senate, borne by Senator Pingree of Knox of that body, proposing a Convention of both branches of the Legislature to be held at 6:30 o'clock in the evening at the Augusta Civic Center for the purpose of administering to the Honorable ANGUS S. KING, JR., Governor-elect, the oath required by the Constitution to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of his official duties.

Thereupon the House voted to concur in the proposal for a Joint Convention to be held at 6:30 o'clock in the evening at the Augusta Civic Center and the Speaker appointed Representative SAXL of Portland to convey this message to the Senate.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

Subsequently, Representative SAXL reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

The following items were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

On motion of Representative O'BRIEN of Augusta, the following Joint Order: (H.P. 58)

WHEREAS, the need for day-care services is common among parents who work outside their homes; and

WHEREAS, many state employees are among those parents who utilize day-care services for the care of their young children; and

WHEREAS, locating an on-site day-care center in the capitol complex where there is a large concentration of state employees would provide convenience and comfort to the employees, knowing that their children are being cared for within a short distance from their workplace; and

WHEREAS, plans are currently being made for major improvements and renovations to the capitol complex; and

WHEREAS, the renovation of the capitol complex is an integral part of the plan to establish an on-site day-care center; now, therefore, be it

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Committee to Locate an On-site Day-care Center in the Capitol Complex is established as follows.

1. Committee established. The Committee to Locate an On-site Day-care Center in the Capitol Complex, referred to in this order as the "committee," is established.

2. Committee membership. The committee consists of 7 members as follows:

A. One member of the Senate who is familiar with the operation of a day-care center or has utilized day-care services, appointed by the President of the Senate;

B. One member of the House of Representatives who is familiar with the operation of a day-care center or has utilized day-care services, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

C. The Director of the Bureau of General Services or the director's designee;

D. The Director of the Bureau of Child and Family Services or the director's designee;

E. The Executive Director of the Maine State Employees Association or the executive director's designee; and

F. One representative of the employees of the Legislative Council and one representative of local day-care providers in the greater Augusta area, appointed jointly by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House. These 2 members must be selected from among applications submitted to the Executive Director of the Legislative Council.

3. Appointments; convening committee. All appointments must be made no later than 15 days following the effective date of this order. The Executive Director of the Legislative Council must be notified by all appointing authorities once the selections have been made. Within 7 days after appointment of all members, the Chair of the Legislative Council shall call and convene the first meeting of the committee. At its first meeting, the committee shall select a chair from among its legislative members.

4. Duties. The committee shall develop a plan for locating a day-care center in the capitol complex. This plan must include the number of children to be served; the financial needs involved in establishing and operating a day-care center in the capitol complex; the staffing and other support services necessary for the operation of a day-care center; and the desired location of the day-care center.

5. Staff assistance; consultant. The committee may request staffing assistance from the Legislative Council. The committee may also consult with other professionals who provide day-care services.

6. Expenses. Legislative members of the committee are entitled to receive the legislative per diem and reimbursement of necessary expenses for their attendance at authorized meetings of the committee.

7. Report. The committee shall submit its findings and plan, along with any necessary implementing legislation, to the First Regular Session of the 119th Legislature by May 14, 1999. If the committee requires an extension of time to make this report, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension.

READ.

On motion of Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska, the Joint Order was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and sent for concurrence.

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

An Act to Amend the State Compensation Commission Laws
(S.P. 29) (L.D. 43)

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. 120 voted in favor of the same and 17 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act to Clarify Laws Relating to the Acceptance of Gifts of Intellectual and Other Property by the State
(S.P. 30) (L.D. 44)

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. 137 voted in favor of the same and 1 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

By unanimous consent, all matters having been acted upon were **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 32)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the returns of votes for the Governor, given in the several cities, towns and plantations of the State for political years 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002, be referred to a Joint Select Committee of seven on the part of the Senate, with such as the House may join.

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **PASSED**.

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 33)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that a Committee of three on the part of the Senate, with such as the House may join, be appointed to wait upon the Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., and inform him that he has been duly elected Governor of the State of Maine for the political years 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002.

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **PASSED**.

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

At this point the Speaker appointed the following members to the Joint Select Committee on the Gubernatorial Vote on the part of the House:

Representative TUTTLE of Sanford
Representative GAMACHE of Lewiston
Representative CHIZMAR of Lisbon
Representative FISHER of Brewer
Representative GAGNE of Buckfield

Representative LABRECQUE of Gorham
Representative MAYO of Bath
Representative PERKINS of Penobscot
Representative HEIDRICH of Oxford
Representative McKENNEY of Cumberland

At this point the Speaker appointed to the Committee to wait upon the Honorable ANGUS S. KING, JR., and inform him he had been duly elected Governor of the State of Maine for the political years 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002, the following members on the part of the House:

Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska
Representative BAGLEY of Machias
Representative RINES of Wiscasset
Representative McDONOUGH of Portland
Representative TWOMEY of Biddeford
Representative BUMPS of China
Representative KASPRZAK of Newport
Representative JODREY of Bethel
Representative RICHARDSON of Greenville
Representative GERRY of Auburn
Representative SOCTOMAH of the Passamaquoddy Tribe

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Appropriate \$50,000 for the Muskie Memorial Committee in Rumford"

(S.P. 35) (L.D. 45)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Definition of 'Traffick' in the Drug Laws"

(S.P. 38) (L.D. 48)

Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested and ordered printed.

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Drug Laws Related to Possession of a Firearm"

(S.P. 39) (L.D. 49)

Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested and ordered printed.

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Pertaining to Health Concerns in the Sale of Certain Personal Garments"

(S.P. 37) (L.D. 47)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **LABOR** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Require Special Identification of Motor Vehicles Driven by Holders of Driver's License Permits"

(S.P. 36) (L.D. 46)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** in concurrence.

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 31)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they do so until Monday, January 11, 1999, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **PASSED**.

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

Subsequently, Representative AHEARNE reported that the Committee had delivered the message with which it was charged.

On motion of Representative DESMOND of Mapleton, the House recessed until 6:15 p.m., at the Augusta Civic Center.

At this point, a Joint Convention was formed at the Augusta Civic Center.

Augusta Civic Center

Pre-Inaugural Concert by the Stratton Elementary School All Star Steel Drum Band.

The House was called to order by Speaker Rowe.

At this point, the Senate entered the Auditorium and a Joint Convention was formed.

In Convention

The President of the Senate, the Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, in the Chair.

The Convention was called to order by the Chairman.

On motion of Senator PINGREE of Knox, it was **ORDERED**, that a Committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, the Chief Justice of the Maine Superior Court, the Judges of the District Court, the Chief Judge of the Administrative Court and the Federal Judges, inviting them to attend the Convention which was convened for the purpose of administering to the Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., Governor-elect, the oaths required by the

Constitution to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of his official duties.

The Chair will appoint the following:

The Sen. from Franklin, Sen. BENOIT
The Rep. from Naples, Rep. THOMPSON
The Rep. from Freeport, Rep. BULL
The Rep. from Wilton, Rep. LAVERDIERE
The Rep. from Turner, Rep. JACOBS
The Rep. from Vassalboro, Rep. MITCHELL
The Rep. from Portland, Rep. NORBERT
The Rep. from Hampden, Rep. PLOWMAN
The Rep. from Augusta, Rep. MADORE
The Rep. from Bridgton, Rep. WATERHOUSE
The Rep. from Durham, Rep. SCHNEIDER

Subsequently, Senator BENOIT of Franklin, for the Committee, reported that the Committee had delivered the message with which it was charged and that the Honorable Members of the Judiciary would attend forthwith.

At this point, the National Guard escorted the Judiciary to their seats.

At this point, the Chair recognized Bishop Chilton Knudsen, Reverend Michael J. Seavey and Rabbi Paul F. Cohen.

At this point, the National Guard escorted former Governor Curtis to his seat.

At this point, the Chair recognized the members of the Governor's Cabinet and staff and 3 special state employees who the Governor had asked to join him on stage.

At this point, the Chair welcomed to the Joint Convention the members of the Governor's family. First Lady Mary Herman, Mrs. Stanley King, Mr. And Mrs. James Neff, Angus King III, Duncan King, James King, Benjamin Herman and Nicole Nickerson, Molly, Mrs. David Herman and Thomas Herman.

On motion of Senator RAND of Cumberland, it was ORDERED, that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., Governor-elect, and inform him that the two branches of the Legislature are in Convention assembled, ready to administer to him the oaths required by the Constitution to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of his official duties and receive such communication as he may be pleased to make.

The Chair will appoint the following:

The Sen. from Hancock, Sen. GOLDTHWAIT
The Sen. from Piscataquis, Sen. DAVIS
The Rep. from Madawaska, Rep. AHEARNE
The Rep. from Machias, Rep. BAGLEY
The Rep. from Wiscasset, Rep. RINES
The Rep. from Portland, Rep. McDONOUGH
The Rep. from Biddeford, Rep. TWOMEY
The Rep. from China, Rep. BUMPS
The Rep. from Newport, Rep. KASPRZAK
The Rep. from Bethel, Rep. JODREY

The Rep. from Greenville, Rep. RICHARDSON
The Rep. from Auburn, Rep. GERRY
The Rep. from the Passamaquoddy Tribe, Rep. SOCTOMAH
Subsequently, Senator Goldthwait of Hancock, for the Committee, reported that the Committee had delivered the message with which it was charged and that the Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., Governor-elect, will attend forthwith.

At this point, the Herald, Major John Mosher announced the procession and Governor-elect Angus S. King, Jr., escorted by Major General Earl L. Adams and Chief Justice Wathen, entered the Auditorium amid applause, the audience rising. Secretary of State, Dan Gwadosky, followed the procession.

The Pipes and Drums of the Waterworks Pub Band, Doug Anderson - Pipe Major, performed.

The Colors were presented by the Honor Guard, Maine National Guard.

The National Anthem, "Star Spangled Banner" was sung by Rebecca McCandless of Scarborough.

The Invocation was given by Bishop Chilton Knudsen.
A poem was read by Kate Barnes, Maine's Poet Laureate of Appleton, Maine.

An inspirational message was read by Reverend Michael J. Seavey.

Thereupon, the Governor-elect, Angus S. King, Jr., before the presiding officer of the Convention, the Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, in the presence of both branches of the Legislature and the Justices, took and subscribed the oaths required by the Constitution (Mother, Mrs. Stanley King, Sr., held the Bible) to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of his official duties.

I, ANGUS STANLEY KING, JR., DO SWEAR, THAT I WILL SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF THIS STATE, SO LONG AS I SHALL CONTINUE A CITIZEN THEREOF. SO HELP ME GOD.

I, ANGUS STANLEY KING, JR., DO SWEAR, THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITIES, THE DUTIES INCUMBENT ON ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MAINE, ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE STATE. SO HELP ME GOD.

The Chairman of the Convention then called upon the Secretary of State, Dan A. Gwadosky, to read the Proclamation.

PROCLAMATION

The vote given on the third day of November last, in the cities and towns and plantations of the State of Maine for Governor, the returns of which have been made to the Office of Secretary of State, having been examined and counted by the Legislature which has declared a plurality thereof was given to Angus S. King, Jr. and that he is duly elected and he, having in the presence of the two branches of the Legislature in Convention assembled, taken and subscribed the oaths required by him to discharge the duties of that office, I, therefore, declare

and make known to all persons in this state who are in the exercise of any public trust, as well as all good citizens thereof, that Angus S. King, Jr. is Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the State of Maine, and that due obedience should be rendered to all his acts and commands as such.

GOD SAVE THE STATE OF MAINE.

The Chairman of the Convention then presented the Honorable Governor of the great State of Maine, Angus Stanley King, Jr., to the Convention, amid applause, the audience rising. (FILM)

A little less than a year from now, at the end of a cold New England night, the sun's first rays will strike Eastport, Cadillac Mountain, and Mars Hill and a new millennium will come to Maine, and America.

The sun's warmth will spread east to west, from coastal Washington County to Portland, to the frozen fields of Aroostook, across the forests and mill towns of our central plateau, to the mountains and on to the border with New Hampshire and Quebec.

But for a few minutes, at least, the day, the decade, the century, the millennium itself, will belong to Maine.

Skeptics tell us it's only an arbitrary date--just one more turning of the mid-winter solstice, or even that the real beginning of the new century is a year ahead. But somehow, all those zeros in the date have an awesome, almost magical feel to them.

Normally, we're day-to-day creatures--feeding the kids, paying the bills, folding the laundry. But those zeros make us think, remember, speculate, hope. They force us to pause, to contemplate who and where we are, to imagine life a thousand years ago and a thousand years hence.

And still the millennium sun sweeps across Maine.

And where we are is at a kind of historical tipping point--one of those rare moments when things change, really change, and the old rules no longer apply. Here are some thousand-year-old rules, which have certainly applied in Maine: geography is destiny, and, if you remember your high school physics, work consists of moving a weight through a distance.

For our geography has largely determined who we are and what we do--the ocean, the forests, the fields--as we have drawn sustenance and value from the land and the sea. If you add tourism--which is, if you think about it, a natural resource-based industry--almost half the value created every year in Maine springs directly from the hand that geography dealt us. There are few states where this is still so true.

Paper, drumsticks, rolling pins, chairs, studs, whole houses made of logs--6 billion dollars worth from the woods. Potatoes, potatoes, potatoes, and now broccoli. Vegetables, milk, blueberries, cranberries--20, 000 jobs and a whole way of life from the land. And of course, lobsters, shrimp, salmon, sardines, flounder--alas, not so many cod--and the wonderful striped bass, maintain our connection to the sea.

And the millennium sun is coming to Maine.

And almost overnight, we find ourselves doing things without much regard to geography--suddenly Maine is fish and silicon chips, hardwood and software, the back forty and the back office. The lathe, the purse seine, the chainsaw, the harvester are still the tools of our trades, but so are the computer, the telephone, and eighty thousand miles of spun glass that links us to Calcutta as surely as Cornish and Concord.

For the first time, we are free--free to build on what nature gave us, but free as well to strike out into the world.

And if we're smart, we'll do both. We'd be foolish to turn our backs on the resources that have sustained us for so long and have built the unique character of our people. But while we continue to make paper, French fries, and fillets, we have to also find ways to unlock new value from the land and the sea.

For example, did you know that with the application of a layer of fiberglass and the right kind of glue, a beam of hemlock becomes as strong as steel? Maybe Millinocket can be the next Pittsburgh--fabricating the materials that will build America in the next century--generating good jobs without the soot.

Did you know that there are 1800 species of plants and animals in the gulf of Maine, and that we use less than 75? Maybe the cure for who-knows-what dread disease is out there in the plankton, the algae, or, as a joke on me, in the eel grass. The Gulf of Maine is as fertile as the plains of the mid-west--but we must learn how to plow and plant it in such a way as to tap its riches without depleting its life.

And why not a rebirth of agriculture? We sit next to a market of 50 million people and I think each of them should start their day with a blueberry muffin. And that rebirth is coming. This year, for example, in addition to all those potatoes, we'll ship a million cases of broccoli from Aroostook County. And the success of the new farmers' market in Portland has proven that if given a chance at freshness and Maine quality, people will come and buy.

But to really make it happen, it will take new technology, new markets, and new business skills. Our farmers must be as good at milking the consultants and the bankers as they are the cows.

And all the while the millennium sun is rising on Maine.

But what does this all mean? What difference will it make?

Like Robert Frost's road not taken in the woods, all the difference in the world. It will change the way we work--moving information through a wire will be as important as moving a log to the saw, and the secrets of a lobster's chemistry may be as important as its taste in my friend Patti Le Blanc's wonderful stew.

And, if we play our cards right, it will also make us richer--richer in options, richer in opportunities, and richer in just plain money. Because in our on-going struggle with this beautiful but tough country has built a people with a special character--and the qualities that make up that character will prove ever more valuable as the new century unfolds.

If character counts, this place is Fort Knox.

And finally, the millennium sun will warm our children, as well.

That's where it all starts; that's where we turn that mystical key that will unlock the opportunities before us. It starts with reading to them before they can talk; helping out in classrooms where some real heroes are transferring the stuff of civilization day by day; and just plain being there as parents, mentors, and friends--in the words of my church's birthday prayer to "strengthen them when they stand, comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful, and raise them up if they fall".

In the prayer, we're asking God to do all those things; wouldn't be a bad idea if we also did 'em ourselves.

The task before us, then, is to seize this moment, to welcome that warming millennium sun, to give our people the tools to reach out and make an extraordinary future their own.

And all the while, the millennium sun is rising on Maine. (FILM CONCLUDES)

Somewhere in here is Jeff Dobbs from Bar Harbor who made that absolutely stunning film. Jeff, thank you. I saw for the first time today at 1:00, by the way.

The task before us, then, is to seize this moment, to welcome that rising millennium sun, and to give our people the tools to reach out and make an extraordinary future their own.

There's a powerful assumption built into that sentence--the idea that we're in control of our own destiny, that we can make instead of just take, the future. Sure, we're part of the national and the global economy--what happens in Boston or Bangkok is going to make waves in Berwick or Brewer--but we can define our role, we can play on our own terms, and it's up to us to decide--to consciously decide--what those terms should be.

I don't want to gloss over this point, because everything else rests upon it. Our future as individuals, as a group of people, as a society, as a state, isn't written in the stars, and it hasn't been assigned to us by someone in Boston, Washington, or anywhere else. That's the wonderful, amazing thing about this country. We're in charge, and we have it within our power to decide who and what we want to be--and then to make it happen.

So who do we want to be; what's our vision of the good life in Maine, and how do we get there?

An old man in northern Maine summed it up pretty well for me during the campaign, "What we want up here is a nice place and the money to enjoy it." That is not bad. That takes in environmental protection, quality of life, and economics, all at the same time.

Let's start with money. We don't have enough of it.

We have too many people in poverty, too many people working in low wage, no benefit jobs, too many people under-employed, too many people working two and three jobs just to hang on, one paycheck away from disaster.

Except for a brief blip up in the eighties, we've been stuck in the lower third of the states in income for as long as anyone can remember.

And so the first challenge is economic--how to raise incomes--or, more accurately, how to support the private sector in raising incomes--across the state, and especially in those communities which so far have been left out of the boom in southern Maine.

The other part of the old man's formulation was "a nice place", which takes in a lot of territory. To me this means, as a start, clean air, clean water--getting rid of MTBE would be a nice idea (are you listening EPA? Are you out there?), and access, access to the woods, the streams, the mountains, the lakes, the ocean that make Maine one of the most extraordinary outdoor environments on earth.

But it goes further--this "nice place" idea includes a bunch of things that are wrapped up in the term "quality of life--like fifteen minutes being a bad traffic jam (I told them down in Boston that was the headline in the newspaper);--like being able to walk to the local library;--like having the postmistress know you by name;--like knowing your neighbors will take you in case of a natural disaster--like, you know, an ice storm, just to take a wild example;--(as a matter of fact, just knowing your neighbors are is something that a lot of people in this county can't say);--like feeling safe;--like being able to leave your car unlocked (of course in Brunswick we always lock our cars in the fall. I think there are other parts of Maine where you do, because if you don't, you go into the store and come back out in an hour, somebody will have filled it with zucchini. I hate it when that

happens. You gotta lock it in the fall);--like being able to see the stars and hear a cricket on the hearth.

So how do we get there, how do we increase the prosperity in every area of the state, and how do we, at the same time, maintain the values and quality of life that are so much a part of what this special place means to us?

Let's start with the jobs.

For the past five years, I've eaten, slept, and breathed economic development in every part of Maine.

I've celebrated plant openings in Fort Kent and South Portland; Winthrop, Brewer and Portage Lake, Trenton, Ellsworth, Caribou, Topsham, and points in between. Sounds like a railroad itinerary. Those were the highs. But there have been lows as well, in Bridgton, Wilton, Winslow. I will never forget a memorable day when I celebrated with a group of workers in Raymond the expansion of their factory and got in the car and went up to console workers in Wilton at G.H. Bass. I hope I never experience that again.

We've worked on everything from improving the regulatory climate to cutting taxes and holding down the cost of workers' comp, from offering job training and help with international trade, to putting on small business conferences, fixing the roads, and yes, trying to keep us in one area code. How about this? We are in heaven if we are in 207. We got to work on this. I don't want to get carried away on this.

And the one thing I've learned is that in the day-to day-effort to make jobs, create jobs, to help the private sector create jobs, there is no magic bullet, no single solution that will make it happen.

The truth is that you have to push on all the buttons all the time, and even then, it may not work, or sometimes something good happens for a reason nobody anticipated. I had a major businessman in my office who said he brought some business to Maine because he liked to drive a Harley and we didn't have a helmet law. Who would have thought of that as an economic development tool. In the day to day work there is no magic bullet, but in the long haul, there is a magic bullet; there is something we can do to make ourselves more valuable and therefore better paid. And that something is education.

For the old saying that the rich get richer and the poor get poorer isn't so true anymore; what is true is that the educated are getting richer and the uneducated are getting poorer. That is happening all over the world. That equation is constant and irrefutable.

A generation ago, Ireland was the poor relation of Europe--poor by any measure. But then they made a conscious decision. Man, that is the key phrase, "conscious decision" that this was going to change and that education was going to be how they did it.

Here is what they did. It is stunning. In 1965, a little over 30 years ago, total college enrollment in the whole country of Ireland was 18,500 people; today it is over 100,000 people. In 1981, they had 6,000 students in technical colleges; today, it's 30,000.

And over this period, their economy has exploded--7% growth a year (we feel good when we get 2%), an amazing 60% growth since 1990.

There is no earthly reason we can't do exactly the same thing in Maine.

In K-12 education, we're already on the way. A lot of people in Maine don't know it, but in the last couple of years our elementary and middle schools have been at the top of the class in the entire country in math, science, and reading. Fourth and

eighth graders in '96--first in the nation in math and science; fourth graders in '94--first in the nation in reading.

We're a leader in the country in high school completion; we're the first state in the country to have every school and library connected to the internet, and by this time next year, we will have begun the deployment of the nation's most advanced distance learning system. Every kid in every high school in Maine will have access to the best teachers and courses in every other high school.

That is distance learning and we're just getting rolling. Two years ago, the Legislature adopted the something called the Maine Learning Results, which are nothing more than high standards for our kids, our students, what they should know, Duke says I should say students, not kids, at each grade level--and we're testing to see if those standards are being met.

We are already among the best in America. I let you in on that little secret, but now I am going to surprise you. We're taking on the world. Remember I talked about the eighth graders who lead the nation in science; I forgot to mention that they were also second in the world in science. The only other country was Singapore. Second in the world and those eighth graders in math, who were first in the nation, they were in the top ten in the world. Not in New England, not in the US, in the whole world in math!

And this is the league we have to play in, my friends, for our kids peers, their competitors--and make no mistake about it--are in Peking and Paris as well as Portsmouth and Palo Alto.

And yes, all this will take money; in the budget I will be submitting tomorrow, the largest area of increase will be for education at all levels, will be for education. There will be some \$55 million in additional support for k-12 education.

But it can't be all about money. It has to also be about attitude and personal responsibility. The truth is that if our parents and our communities get more involved in our children's education--volunteering in the classroom, like Mary does once a week, going to parent-teacher conferences, mentoring, helping with the homework, setting higher expectations--and because the students have to do their part too. You can't push string up a hill. They have to do their part too. If they would watch less TV and play less Nintendo, we'd jump so far to the head of the class, nobody would catch us.

How about a simple one-for-one rule? Pretty straight forward. No TV until the homework's done, and no more than an hour of TV for each hour of homework. A straight forward rule. TV doesn't go on until the homework is done and you can't do the TV except in proportion to the amount of home work.

Hello college, goodbye Rugrats.

In k-12, we're into implementation; the Learning Results are the road map, we just have to follow it.

But in higher education, we have to be into innovation. Just as we're among the top of the states in graduation from high school, remember I mentioned that. That is the good news. The bad news is we are among the bottom of the states in students who keep going.

And that's a recipe for economic disaster--low incomes, low expectations, low opportunity. Here are the stark numbers--on average, a Maine person with a two year degree earns 25% more than a high school graduate and a college degree earns you 50% more--over a lifetime, I hope some young people are listening to this, a cool half a million bucks.

And what's true for people is true for states. We just got this data in the last few days. It absolutely blew me away. The five richest states in America happen to be the five states in America

with the most college graduates. A one to one correlation. If you look at the fifteen states in America with the highest incomes, 12 of them are also in the top 15 in college graduates. Lower educational attainment equals lower incomes; it's as simple as that.

And fixing it is doable. Here is the good news, today, about 60% of our kids go on to some form of higher education. Not bad, but not enough in this day and age. But do you know how many people we're talking about to raise this figure to 75%? Twenty-five hundred students! Twenty-five hundred students in the whole state of Maine get us up to 75%. That's less than twenty additional students per high school. Make it twenty-five and we lead the nation. This can be done, it must be done, and it will be done.

So what's missing? How do we do it? We have a great set of private colleges, a far-flung University system, seven technical colleges, a growing distance learning capability, a comprehensive system of adult ed, and an array of job training programs.

What's missing is the three C's, that is how I teach Benjamin. You have the three C's, the four P's or whatever. That is how you remember things. We got three C's that are missing--communication, coordination and cooperation. The bricks and mortar are here, the teachers are here, the courses are here, the students are here--we've just got to put the pieces together so that some form of higher education is a real option for every student leaving a Maine high school and for every worker in Maine who wants to go for it.

What's missing for our people is a low-cost, low-stress entry point into higher education. We're one of the few states in the country that doesn't have a true community college system. I had dinner with my sister tonight. She lives in Virginia. You can't swing a cat in Virginia without hitting a community college. That is an old saying I bet you haven't heard. We don't have one; but that's about to change.

Not by creating a new system, hiring more staff, or building new buildings. If we create a new system out of this folks, I am out of here. We can't do that. We have got to use effectively the considerable resources that we already have in place.

In an historic agreement finalized in the last thirty days, the University and the Technical Colleges have embarked upon the creation of just such a system. You may have seen it. There were a few stories during the holidays. This is real news. The system will offer anyone in Maine the opportunity to obtain a two-year degree for as little as twenty-five hundred dollars a year (and that's before any financial aid kicks in) at a site no more than 25 miles from their home. That's a two-year college degree for less than the cost of a good used car.

And at least equally important, and for those of you who have been involved in higher ed you know how important this is, at least equally important, this deal between the university and technical colleges says this, all the credits which make up this Associates' Degree will be fully transferable to the University--so that those students who get started, do well, and want to continue, can do so seamlessly and without a lot of back tracking and hassle.

For the first time, there will be a comprehensive course catalog, you know I would get to technology eventually--for all university and technical college offerings--on the internet. Type in where you live and what you're interested in, and up come the courses. Low cost, easy access, no excuses. Let's do it.

And if we can pull this off--after we pull this off--we will be able to offer the best educated, best trained, most flexible, and downright smartest work force on the planet.

And if we build smarter workers, they will come--the businesses, the jobs, the benefits, the salaries, the prosperity we seek. Oh yes, they will come.

But why settle for just what comes? Remember I said at the beginning, we don't just have to take this future, why settle for just what comes. How about the building of our own businesses, our own ideas, our own piece of the new millennium? We can and will do this too by dramatically ratcheting up our commitment to education's first cousin, Mr. President, research and development.

In the video, I referred to laminated wood products, marine technology and biotechnology, and new products and processes based upon our agricultural heritage. These and others we can't even dream of tonight will come from the labs and the factories and farms of Maine, if we make the commitment and stay the course.

It's no accident that the most dynamic economic growth areas in the country--Route 128 in Boston, Research Triangle in North Carolina, Silicon Valley in California--are clustered around centers of research and development. What about our own research triangle stretching from Orono, our flagship university campus, to Jackson Lab and the bio-tech centers growing on Mount Desert, to Portland's USM and Maine Med?

In Orono, I want to make it real for you, there is a small company with 29 employees (soon going to 40)--Sensor Research and Development. They do the most advanced work in the country in the field of sensor technology--to tell you what they make, they make as super sophisticated smoke (or anything else) alarms. They are up there cutting their throat up there with me saying they make smoke alarms. They do the technology that can sense the presence of gas or of smoke or of anything else you are concerned about in the atmosphere. This business spun out of the sensor lab at the University in Orono. Average salary--about \$45,000 a year.

Multiply this outfit by a thousand, my friends, and you get the idea of what I'm talking about here--and you've begun the reinvention of the Maine economy.

But is it all about money? No, but that's where it starts. The growth in our state's economy over the past six years, we have added 50,000 net new jobs has allowed us to do many things--starting with tax cuts of over three hundred million dollars a year. But that growth has also allowed us to help the elderly with the prescription drugs which are the salvation of their health and the bane of their pocketbooks. It has helped us to extend health insurance coverage to thousands of Maine kids, to help rebuild the lives of the most vulnerable among us. It all starts with a good job.

By the way, I am going to see if this microphone works, I think sometimes government forgets where this money comes from. I was in a plant a few weeks ago that had a huge banner out on the shop floor, that said "All the money around here comes from the customers". As soon as I saw it, a light went off. I made my own sign. How about this? It is not a bad thing to remind ourselves of from time to time, is it? I am going to stick this right down here behind you guys. By the way, I just realized how to deal with the Maine Senate. I watched them. They are all seated down here. If they give me a hard time, I am just going to send a bagpipe band to stand right in front of them and do the whole deal.

But there's a paradox buried in my old friend's line about a nice place and the money to enjoy it, a paradox in that that we ignore at our peril. The problem is that increasing prosperity comes with a price, a price often paid in terms of quality of life. Increasing prosperity, great, we want it, but it means more cars, more strip malls, more subdivisions where farms once stood, more empty stores downtown, higher prices for housing, independent small towns turning into bedroom suburbs, more noise and hassle in our lives. Who wants to be more prosperous if at the end of the process you look like New Jersey, see? Sorry, Governor Whitman.

How much does a fisherman gain if his income goes up a few thousand dollars but he can no longer afford to live by the sea? How much do any of us gain if we're richer in money and poorer in spirit, in the things that make Maine what it is, the special place that it is? How do we welcome the new century and yet retain the values of the old?

Here's an amazing fact--in the twenty years between 1970 and 1990, as much land went into development as had been developed in the entire prior 150-year history of the state, just in those 20 years

I got another way to look at it. Can I have this map? What I am going to show you is a map that starts in 1940 and shows the development of Maine through projected up to today, and then projected to 2050. Watch the red. See it? It am going to run it again. You really have to watch this twice. The red you see on this map are farms and fields disappearing, water access being lost, prosperity spreading, but something precious is slipping away.

Again, like becoming more prosperous, dealing with this issue is going to take some thought, some conscious decisions. And I don't have a definitive answer. But I do know that if we ignore this inevitable consequence of economic growth, we'll turn around in ten years or so and say, where did Maine go?

The trick is to deal with this issue--sprawl is the best term I know for it--in a way that is effective, but is not all bound up in new rules and regulations.

And so it's time, before it is too late, this is the quintessential before it is too late issue, because you can't undo it once the strip mall is there. It is time we begin a great public discussion of this issue--involving cities and towns, the state, and all our citizens--to find those answers that are uniquely ours--that respect private property, but at the same time protect what is so important to us about Maine.

Another aspect of this issue is the loss of access to Maine's special places--woodland trails, lakes, streams, the ocean--an issue brought into sharp focus by the land transactions of this past summer in northern Maine--when 15% of the state's entire land mass changed hands in the space of a few months.

The simple fact is that we must have to capacity to deal such opportunities on behalf of the people of Maine, and we don't have that capacity today. A decade ago, by an overwhelming majority, Maine voters in referendum established the Land for Maine's Future program and funded it by the passage of a thirty-five million-dollar bond issue. At that time the largest bond issue in the history of the State of Maine outside of transportation.

This has been one of the most successful state programs ever created; guided by a citizen board and engaging in only willing buyer-willing seller transactions. This isn't a land grab, nothing is being taken away here. I am a private property man. Willing buyer, willing seller, over 60,000 acres of prime sites--Mt. Kineo in Moosehead Lake, the bold coast at Cutler, the Kennebunk Plains, the Rapid River in Rangeley, Grand Lake

Stream--have been set aside for the people of Maine, their children, and their children's children forever. There is not much we can do around here that is forever. Setting aside those places is forever.

The time has come for us to renew this commitment, to do for our grandchildren what Percival Baxter did for us--by preserving those special places throughout Maine that so much define us as a people. If we don't, again, we'll turn around some day and wonder where Maine went.

If I've had a theme tonight, I hope I have, it's that we have many futures ahead, an array of futures out there in the new century, in the new millennium that's coming. None of them are assured, none of them have been assigned to us, and none of them are outside of our power to shape.

But the key element is the realization that we have this power, if we will but exercise it. We have the power, if we will but exercise it.

I'll leave you with a story which I've told so many times in this state that practically everybody has heard it. You are going to hear it again. If you've heard it, laugh appreciatively anyway. I am going to tell it because I think it perfectly fits this situation.

It's the story of the preacher in the flood. And the preacher is standing in the first floor of the house and the water comes up under the first floor windows and some friends came by in a rowboat.

"Get in", they said, "it's going to be a bad flood."

"Oh, no", the preacher answered, "I'm a righteous man. I don't need your help. The Lord is going to save me."

An hour or so later, the water was up to the second floor windows and this time a motorboat came by.

"Get in" they said, "it's getting worse."

"Oh, no" he said. "I'm a righteous man. I've kept the Commandments. I've gone to Sunday School all my life. I don't need your help. The Lord is going to save me."

How am I doing? You know, Billy Graham is getting older you know.

Finally, the preacher finds himself standing on the chimney. The water's up to here. A helicopter comes over, drops a rope.

The guy says, "grab the rope".

"Oh, no", he says. "I'm a righteous man. I don't need your help. The Lord is going to save me."

Well sure enough, a few minutes later, he finds himself looking in the face of Saint Peter, and he's furious.

"What happened?" he says. "What happened? I kept the Commandments all my life, went to Sunday School, always was a righteous man. What happened?"

Saint Peter said, "What do you mean, what happened? We sent two boats and a helicopter".

The point of the story is Grab The Rope. Don't wait for Augusta. Gods know, don't wait for it to come from Washington. Grab the rope--it's right out there in every town and city in Maine. Grab the rope because the other end of that rope is wrapped around our future.

But the critical step is to reach out, to dare, to act, to welcome that warming millennium sun, to grab that rope around the future and hold on for all we're worth.

Because you know what? It's going to be a great ride.

At the conclusion of the address, Benediction was given by Rabbi Paul F. Cohen.

The Governor then withdrew amid the applause of the Convention, the audience rising.

The purpose for which this Convention was assembled, having been accomplished, the Chairman declared the same dissolved.

At this point, Speaker Rowe resumed the Chair.

The Speaker appointed Representative SAXL of Portland to serve as Speaker Pro Tem.

The House then retired to its Chamber at the State House.

(After the Joint Convention)

After the Joint Convention and pursuant to House Rule 201, the Speaker appointed Representative SAXL of Portland to serve as Speaker Pro Tem.

In the House

Representative SAXL of Portland assumed the Chair.

The House was called to order by the Speaker Pro Tem.

On motion of Representative DUNLAP of Old Town, the House adjourned at 9:01 p.m., until 3:00 p.m., Monday, January 11, 1999 pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 31).