

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 18th Legislative Day Thursday, February 25, 1999

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

Prayer by Reverend Marian E. Marks, Grace Lutheran Church, Auburn.

National Anthem by Cony High School Jazz Band, Augusta Cony High School Jazz Band, Augusta

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Ronnie Marrache, M.D., Waterville.

The Journal of Tuesday, February 23, 1999 was read and approved.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Enhance Equity Under the Maine Milk Pool Laws"

(S.P. 489) (L.D. 1474)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE**, **CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Conform Maine Law to Federal Law Regarding Long-term Care Insurance for Tax Purposes"

(S.P. 491) (L.D. 1476)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BANKING AND INSURANCE** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **BANKING AND INSURANCE** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Create the Business Advisory Commission on Quality Child Care Financing" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 486) (L.D. 1446)

Bill "An Act to Promote Maine's Family-friendly Business and Investment Strategies"

(S.P. 487) (L.D. 1447)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Denturists" (S.P. 497) (L.D. 1482)

Bill "An Act to Promote Parity on the Board of Licensure in Medicine and on the Board of Osteopathic Licensure"

(S.P. 498) (L.D. 1483) Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Set Aside a Portion of Juvenile Justice Block Grant Money for Quality Child and After-school Care Programs" (S.P. 483) (L.D. 1443) Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Ensure the Preservation of Maine's Commercial Racetracks"

(S.P. 479) (L.D. 1439)

Committee on AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY suggested and ordered printed.

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

On motion of Representative TUTTLE of Sanford, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

Bill "An Act to Promote Healthy Maine Families"

(S.P. 492) (L.D. 1477)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** in concurrence.

Resolve, to Require the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services to Contract for the Operation of a Stabilization Facility

(S.P. 493) (L.D. 1478)

Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Concerning the Distribution of Certain Fines and Forfeitures"

(S.P. 459) (L.D. 1334)

Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** suggested and ordered printed.

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Legislative Retirement System"

(S.P. 488) (L.D. 1448)

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 Legislators to Contribute to Health and Dental Premiums"

(S.P. 484) (L.D. 1444)

Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested and ordered printed.

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 Eliminate Health Insurance Benefits for Retired Legislators Elected in or After 1992"

(S.P. 485) (L.D. 1445) Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested and ordered printed.

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 Allow for Expeditious Improvements to Commercial Tracks"

(S.P. 478) (L.D. 1438)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Designate Civil Rights Day"

(S.P. 480) (L.D. 1440)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Reimburse the Town of Wallagrass for Property under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law"

(S.P. 481) (L.D. 1441)

Bill "An Act to Provide a State Income Tax Credit for Individual Contributions Made to Maine Charitable Organizations"

(S.P. 482) (L.D. 1442)

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Tree Growth Tax Law" (S.P. 490) (L.D. 1475)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Sales Tax Exemption for Prosthetic Devices"

(S.P. 494) (L.D. 1479)

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

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

Bill "An Act Relating to Electric Utility Rate Design" (S.P. 495) (L.D. 1480)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Contingency Reserve Fund Percentage for Consumer-owned Electric Utilities"

(S.P. 496) (L.D. 1481) Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **UTILITIES AND ENERGY** and ordered printed. **REFERRED** to the Committee on **UTILITIES AND ENERGY** in concurrence.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Allow the State to Initiate Default Proceedings in Order to Obtain Forfeited Assets When the Defendant Fails to Appear in a Court Proceeding"

(H.P. 964) (L.D. 1362)

REFERRED to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** in the House on February 18, 1999.

Came from the Senate **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

The House voted to RECEDE AND CONCUR.

Bill "An Act to Increase Harness Racing Opportunities" (H.P. 849) (L.D. 1183)

REFERRED to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE**, **CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** in the House on February 16, 1999.

Came from the Senate **REFERRED** to the Committees on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and **LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**. The House voted to **RECEDE AND CONCUR**.

Bill "An Act to Provide Preference to Farmers for Disaster Relief"

(H.P. 942) (L.D. 1339)

REFERRED to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE**, **CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** in the House on February 16, 1999.

Came from the Senate **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion of Representative PIEH of Bremen, **TABLED** pending **FURTHER CONSIDERATION** and later today assigned.

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 Authorizing the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission to Regulate Industrialized Farms within Unorganized and Deorganized Areas"

(H.P. 1066) (L.D. 1497)

Presented by Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake. Cosponsored by Senator: PARADIS of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act to Require Notice to Abutters Prior to Commercial Applications of Pesticides"

(H.P. 1088) (L.D. 1535)

Presented by Representative BULL of Freeport. Cosponsored by Representatives: GAGNE of Buckfield, McKEE of Wayne, MUSE of South Portland, SULLIVAN of Biddeford, Senators: ABROMSON of Cumberland, PINGREE of Knox, TREAT of Kennebec.

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$120,000,000 for Land Acquisition by the Land for Maine's Future Board"

(H.P. 1083) (L.D. 1530)

Presented by Representative SHIAH of Bowdoinham. Cosponsored by Senator RUHLIN of Penobscot and Representatives: DUNLAP of Old Town, McKEE of Wayne, SAXL of Bangor, SKOGLUND of St. George, TOWNSEND of Portland, Senators: RAND of Cumberland, TREAT of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$13,500,000 for the Repair and Upgrading of Roads in the Bangor Area Comprehensive Transportation System"

(H.P. 1084) (L.D. 1531)

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town.

Bill "An Act to Increase Reimbursement for Home Health Care Services"

(H.P. 1101) (L.D. 1548)

Presented by Representative ETNIER of Harpswell. Cosponsored by Representatives: QUINT of Portland, ROWE of Portland, STEVENS of Orono, TRIPP of Topsham.

BANKING AND INSURANCE

Bill "An Act Regarding Private Long-term Disability Insurance for Mental Illnesses"

(H.P. 1062) (L.D. 1493)

Presented by Representative PERRY of Bangor. Cosponsored by Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, DUNLAP of Old Town, JABAR of Waterville, QUINT of Portland, STANWOOD of Southwest Harbor, Senator: MURRAY of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Include Nontraditional Medical Alternatives under Health Insurance and Medicaid Coverage and to Allow the Patient to Choose the Method of Treatment"

(H.P. 1067) (L.D. 1498) Presented by Representative GERRY of Auburn.

Bill "An Act Concerning the Regulation of Certain Commercial Contracts of Insurance"

(H.P. 1068) (L.D. 1499) Presented by Representative O'NEIL of Saco.

Bill "An Act to Provide Equity in Reimbursement for Health Care Providers"

(H.P. 1080) (L.D. 1527)

Presented by Representative PERRY of Bangor. Cosponsored by Representatives: BOLDUC of Auburn, DUNLAP of Old Town, FISHER of Brewer, RINES of Wiscasset.

Bill "An Act to Extend Portability of Coverage to Persons Covered under College-sponsored Health Plans"

(H.P. 1094) (L.D. 1541) Presented by Representative NORBERT of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox and Representatives: COWGER of Hallowell, DUDLEY of Portland,

DUNLAP of Old Town, GREEN of Monmouth, SAXL of Bangor, STEVENS of Orono, WATSON of Farmingdale, WILLIAMS of Orono.

Bill "An Act to Encourage Payment of Certain Workers' Compensation Premiums Owed to a Previous Insurer"

(H.P. 1099) (L.D. 1546) Presented by Representative SAXL of Bangor.

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Bill "An Act Requiring Registration of Surveys in the Registry of Deeds"

(H.P. 1098) (L.D. 1545) Presented by Representative ETNIER of Harpswell. (BY REQUEST)

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act to Facilitate the Transfer of Education Records for Students Transferring to Another Public School"

(H.P. 1087) (L.D. 1534)

Presented by Representative WATSON of Farmingdale. Cosponsored by Senator PENDLETON of Cumberland and Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, BRENNAN of Portland, BULL of Freeport, GREEN of Monmouth, JABAR of Waterville, LOVETT of Scarborough, NASS of Acton, NORBERT of Portland.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Bill "An Act to Improve Medical Support for Children" (H.P. 1078) (L.D. 1525)

Presented by Representative FULLER of Manchester. Cosponsored by Representative: BRUNO of Raymond. Submitted by the Department of Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act to Preserve the Medicaid Home Health Benefit" (H.P. 1086) (L.D. 1533)

Presented by Representative FULLER of Manchester. Cosponsored by Senator HARRIMAN of Cumberland and Representatives: BRAGDON of Bangor, COLWELL of Gardiner, GREEN of Monmouth, KANE of Saco, WILLIAMS of Orono, Senators: MILLS of Somerset, PARADIS of Aroostook, PENDLETON of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Provide a Method of Compensation for Personal Injuries Caused by Side-stream Tobacco Smoke"

(H.P. 1104) (L.D. 1551) Presented by Representative McKENNEY of Cumberland. (BY REQUEST)

Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Study the Improvement of Public Water Supply Protection (H.P. 1103) (L.D. 1550)

Presented by Representative COWGER of Hallowell.

Cosponsored by Senator TREAT of Kennebec and Representatives: BULL of Freeport, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, McALEVEY of Waterboro, McKEE of Wayne, McKENNEY of Cumberland, SHIAH of Bowdoinham, TOBIN of Windham, Senator: KONTOS of Cumberland. Submitted by the Department of Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** suggested.

On motion of Representative KANE of Saco, the Resolve was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

Bill "An Act Regarding the Affiliation Definition Test for Rafting Companies"

(H.P. 1082) (L.D. 1529) Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town.

JUDICIARY

Bill "An Act to Grant Immunity to Medical Professionals Conducting Body Cavity Searches for Drugs"

(H.P. 1091) (L.D. 1538) Presented by Representative SCHNEIDER of Durham.

Bill "An Act to Protect the Riparian Rights of Owners of Rockweed, Seaweed and Other Assets on Intertidal Land"

(H.P. 1102) (L.D. 1549) Presented by Representative GOODWIN of Pembroke.

Bill "An Act to Amend Criminal Law Procedures Regarding Defendants Found Incompetent to Stand Trial"

(H.P. 1076) (L.D. 1523) Presented by Representative WINSOR of Norway.

Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: PEAVEY of Woolwich, SCHNEIDER of Durham.

Committee on JUDICIARY suggested.

On motion of Representative THOMPSON of Naples, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

Bill "An Act to Require More Timely Court-ordered Psychological Evaluations"

(H.P. 1092) (L.D. 1539)

Presented by Representative MacDOUGALL of North Berwick. Cosponsored by Representative: SNOWE-MELLO of Poland.

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.

LABOR

Resolve, to Modify the Retirement Laws for a Certain School Principal (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1100) (L.D. 1547)

Presented by Representative USHER of Westbrook. Cosponsored by Senator O'GARA of Cumberland and Representatives: BOLDUC of Auburn, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MUSE of South Portland, O'NEAL of Limestone, Senator: MICHAUD of Penobscot.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act to Study the Effectiveness of Harness Racing Promotions" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1097) (L.D. 1544) Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town.

MARINE RESOURCES

Resolve, to Establish a Task Force to Study Limited Entry in the Shrimp Fishery

(H.P. 1079) (L.D. 1526)

Presented by Representative ETNIER of Harpswell. Cosponsored by Senator: SMALL of Sagadahoc.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Resolve, to Regulate the Use, Operation and Type of Watercraft on Coastal Waters

(H.P. 1064) (L.D. 1495)

Presented by Representative BULL of Freeport. Cosponsored by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock and Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, HONEY of Boothbay, LEMONT of Kittery, PINKHAM of Lamoine, POWERS of Rockport, STANWOOD of Southwest Harbor, Senators: CASSIDY of Washington, KILKELLY of Lincoln.

Bill "An Act to Encourage Environmental Management Systems"

(H.P. 1072) (L.D. 1519)

Presented by Representative DAIGLE of Arundel. Cosponsored by Representative: MARTIN of Eagle Lake, Senator: LONGLEY of Waldo.

Bill "An Act Requiring Maine to Adopt the Federal Rules Regarding Universal Waste"

(H.P. 1073) (L.D. 1520)

Presented by Representative DAIGLE of Arundel.

Resolve, to Direct the Land and Water Resources Council to Develop a Report and Proposed Actions to Control Dioxin Emissions and Discharges

(H.P. 1089) (L.D. 1536)

Presented by Representative BULL of Freeport. Cosponsored by Senator TREAT of Kennebec and Representatives: BRYANT of Dixfield, CAMERON of Rumford, LORING of the Penobscot Nation, McKEE of Wayne, O'NEIL of Saco, POWERS of Rockport, SOCTOMAH of the Passamaguoddy Tribe.

Bill "An Act to Protect Maine Lakes and Ponds"

(H.P. 1090) (L.D. 1537)

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne. Cosponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin and Representatives: BULL of Freeport, CLARK of Millinocket, COWGER of Hallowell, ETNIER of Harpswell, MITCHELL of Vassalboro, SANBORN of Alton, SHIAH of Bowdoinham.

TAXATION

Bill "An Act to Ensure the Documentation of the Transfer of Ownership of Mobile and Modular Construction Homes"

(H.P. 1063) (L.D. 1494) Presented by Representative SAVAGE of Union. Cosponsored by Representatives: CROSS of Dover-Foxcroft, WHEELER of Bridgewater, WHEELER of Eliot.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Sales Tax Exemption for Sales to Volunteer Organizations that Raise Funds to Benefit Local Charities"

(H.P. 1071) (L.D. 1518)

Presented by Representative ETNIER of Harpswell. Cosponsored by Representative: JOY of Crystal, Senator: SMALL of Sagadahoc.

Bill "An Act to Provide an Income Tax Deduction for the Purchase of Alternative Energy Equipment"

(H.P. 1074) (L.D. 1521)

Presented by Representative GAGNE of Buckfield. Cosponsored by Senator FERGUSON of Oxford and Representatives: BOLDUC of Auburn, BULL of Freeport, JACOBS of Turner, McKEE of Wayne, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, SULLIVAN of Biddeford, TWOMEY of Biddeford, VOLENIK of Brooklin.

Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Income Tax, Sales Tax and Corporate Income Tax and Replace Them with a Flat Transaction Tax"

(H.P. 1075) (L.D. 1522) Presented by Representative VOLENIK of Brooklin. Cosponsored by Representatives: BUCK of Yarmouth, DUGAY of Cherryfield, GOODWIN of Pembroke, GREEN of Monmouth, JACOBS of Turner, MENDROS of Lewiston, TWOMEY of

Bill "An Act to Include the Income of a Lessee for the Purpose of Determining Eligibility in Farm and Open Space Tax Laws"

(H.P. 1077) (L.D. 1524)

Presented by Representative JONES of Pittsfield.

Biddeford, WHEELER of Eliot.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CAMPBELL of Holden, SULLIVAN of Biddeford.

Bill "An Act to Create a Historic Preservation Tax Credit" (H.P. 1093) (L.D. 1540)

Presented by Representative TRIPP of Topsham.

Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of York and Representatives: BERRY of Livermore, DAVIDSON of Brunswick, ETNIER of Harpswell, GREEN of Monmouth, SAXL of Portland, SHIAH of Bowdoinham, Senators: AMERO of Cumberland, HARRIMAN of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Extend the Property Tax Exemption to Veterans of the Berlin Crisis"

(H.P. 1095) (L.D. 1542)

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne. Cosponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin.

TRANSPORTATION

Bill "An Act to Create the Bicycle Safety Act"

(H.P. 1096) (L.D. 1543)

Presented by Representative BRENNAN of Portland. Cosponsored by Senator PARADIS of Aroostook and Representatives: McNEIL of Rockland, POWERS of Rockport, TOBIN of Dexter, USHER of Westbrook, WHEELER of Eliot, Senators: ABROMSON of Cumberland, GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock, O'GARA of Cumberland.

UTILITIES AND ENERGY

Bill "An Act to Amend the Charter of the Kennebunk Sewer District" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1065) (L.D. 1496) Presented by Representative MURPHY of Kennebunk. Cosponsored by Senator LaFOUNTAIN of York.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Trust Fund to Provide Statewide Assistance to Low-income Electric Consumers"

(H.P. 1069) (L.D. 1500)

Presented by Representative SAXL of Portland. Cosponsored by Senator KONTOS of Cumberland and Representatives: BERRY of Belmont, COLWELL of Gardiner, DAVIDSON of Brunswick, KNEELAND of Easton, LEMONT of Kittery, Senators: CAREY of Kennebec, MITCHELL of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act Concerning Liens Held by the Freeport Sewer District"

(H.P. 1085) (L.D. 1532)

Presented by Representative BULL of Freeport. Cosponsored by Senator: HARRIMAN of Cumberland.

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Bill "An Act to Provide Funds for Applied Research and Development Relevant to the Maine Economy"

(H.P. 1081) (L.D. 1528)

Presented by Representative ROSEN of Bucksport.

ORDERS

On motion of Representative SIROIS of Caribou, the following House Order: (H.O. 13)

ORDERED, that Representative John F. McDonough of Portland be excused February 11th for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Debra D. Plowman of Hampden be excused February 11th for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Paul L. Tessier of Fairfield be excused February 18th for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Richard H. Thompson of Naples be excused February 18th for personal reasons.

READ and PASSED.

On motion of Representative THOMPSON of Naples, the following House Order: (H.O. 14)

ORDERED, that the House Rules be amended by amending House Rule 401, subsection 13 to read:

13. Sponsor obtains signatures. A bill or resolve in final form that is ready for signature whose primary sponsor is a member of the House may be circulated for signatures only by the sponsor or cosponsors of that bill or resolve, except that legislation presented by a department, outside agency or the Governor may be circulated by agents of the department, the <u>outside agency or the Governor</u>. This does not preclude a bill or a resolve from being held for signature in the Office of the Speaker of the House, the offices of the minority or majority party or the Office of the Revisor of Statutes.

READ and **TABLED** ONE LEGISLATIVE DAY PURSUANT TO HOUSE RULE 524.

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

In accordance with House Rule 519 and Joint Rule 213, the following items:

In Memory of:

Ronald W. Green, who provided sound leadership to his State and Nation as a skipper of the Corsair Fleet during World War II, as Chief Warden and later as the Commissioner of the former Department of Sea and Shore Fisheries. Mr. Green was appointed commissioner by Governor Edmund S. Muskie and served in that capacity for 15 years under 3 governors. He served on numerous state boards and commissions and represented the State as a member of several national organizations, including the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Commission to which he was appointed by President John F. Kennedy. Mr. Green was also a member of the Washington Lodge 37 A.F. & A.M., the Kora Temple Shrine and the Mid-Coast Shrine Club and was an honorary member of Anah Temple. Mr. Green and his beloved wife, Evelyn Willis Green, resided in Owls Head;

(HLS 76)

Presented by Representative SKOGLUND of St. George. Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative SKOGLUND of St. George, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar. **READ.**

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from St. George, Representative Skoglund.

Representative SKOGLUND: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Former commissioner Ronald Green belonged to that generation that we are beginning to recognize as America's greatest generation. Persons of his generation grew up during the depression. They learned compassion. They learned thrift. They learned to look out for one another. They became adults during World War II. Many of them serving in perilous places. Collectively they beat back the greatest force of collective evil ever assembled in the history of the world. Individuals like Mr. Green who served during the war did not consider themselves heroic. They did their duty. They did not consider themselves heroes because they knew fear. We often hear that those who engaged in combat were hardened, but it has been my observation that those individuals, like Mr. Green, who saw real combat were softened by the experience. They were made more compassionate, made more aware of the vulnerability of human life. They returned from the war to build this country as we know it now. Most of them contributed greatly to their communities and to their state.

With the passing of Mr. Green, we lose another member of America's greatest generation. I think we should pause and become aware of what we are losing. At a time like this, also, I am reminded how close we are as citizens of the State of Maine and how likely it is that our paths will cross pleasantly. I mentioned Commissioner Green to one of my acquaintances and he said, "Oh, yes. My father once pulled Commissioner Green out of Rockland Harbor when he slipped overboard." Mrs. Green served as secretary in the Superintendent's Office in Thomaston. One of those indispensable individuals who really knew what was going on and was pleased to help those who were unable to take care of their own forms and insurance papers. Mrs. Green was kind to me and kind to the Clerk of the House.

Our most solemn ceremonies like this one are made all the more meaningful by close personal connections. We pause to remember Ronald Green. I request that when the Legislature adjourns it do so today in honor and tribute to the memory and honor of Ronald Green of Owls Head.

ADOPTED and sent for concurrence.

Recognizing:

Brad Fuegen, of Wiscasset, a member of Boy Scout Troop #201, who has attained the high honor and distinction of Eagle Scout, and in extending our congratulations and best wishes to him:

(HLS 73)

Presented by Representative RINES of Wiscasset. Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative RINES of Wiscasset, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ and **PASSED** and sent for concurrence.

Recognizing:

Elijah McKay, of Gardiner, who won the 135-pound wrestling division at the 1999 Kennebec Valley Athletic Conference Tournament and who won first place at the 1999 State Class A Championship, and in extending our congratulations and best wishes to him on his achievements;

(SLS 45) On **OBJECTION** of Representative MURPHY of Kennebunk, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Kennebunk, Representative Murphy.

Representative **MURPHY**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. He is a member of our broader legislative family. When this award was presented at the other end of the hall yesterday, he was here, but his mother insisted that he couldn't miss a second day of school. He is the son of Lee Ann McKay, who works in our office. The reason I asked for this set aside is we take a great deal of pride in the accomplish of our broader legislative family, but also because I know his mother is listening. This is the beginning of a recognition of recognizing parents who provide the transportation, to lift the spirits when the loss has occurred, who are always in the stands providing the cheers and also provide the late meals because of practice or competition. We have a great deal of pride in Elijah's accomplishments. We wanted to draw attention to the fact that he is a member of our legislative family. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Gardiner, Representative Colwell.

Representative **COLWELL**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. The Minority Leader beat me to the punch on this one. I, too, would like to recognize Elijah McKay as a fine young man. I know his mother and his father. I have known them for a long time. They are fine people. We are also equally proud of the other two members of the Gardiner Wrestling Team, Travis Marquis and Jake Cotnoir. I won't ask the body to set those aside, but I just would like to say that in Gardiner we are very proud of our kids. We are very proud of our strong athletic tradition and our strong academic tradition. These kids are not here today. They are studying and training so that they will go on to the New England regionals representing our high school and our community in that very auspicious event. I would just like to echo what the Minority Leader said. In Gardiner we are very proud of these kids.

PASSED in concurrence.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE Ought to Pass

Report of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Restrict the Posting on the Internet of Personal Information About Public School Students"

(S.P. 93) (L.D. 232)

(H.P. 375) (L.D. 500)

Reporting Ought to Pass.

Came from the Senate with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A"** (S-8).

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED**. **SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-8) READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

The Bill READ ONCE and TOMORROW ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING.

Divided Report

Majority Report of the Committee on LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS reporting Ought Not to Pass on Bill "An Act to Establish an Administrative Procedure to Hear Polling Place Violation Complaints"

Signed: Senators:

FERGUSON of Oxford CAREY of Kennebec DAGGETT of Kennebec

Representatives:

LABRECQUE of Gorham MAYO of Bath FISHER of Brewer GAGNE of Buckfield TUTTLE of Sanford HEIDRICH of Oxford CHIZMAR of Lisbon PERKINS of Penobscot

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass** on same Bill.

Sianed:

READ.

Representative:

McKENNEY of Cumberland

On motion of Representative TUTTLE of Sanford, the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** and sent for concurrence.

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

The Chair laid before the House the following item which was **TABLED** earlier in today's session:

Bill "An Act to Ensure the Preservation of Maine's Commercial Racetracks"

(S.P. 479) (L.D. 1439)

Which was **TABLED** by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford pending **REFERENCE**.

Subsequently, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

CONSENT CALENDAR

First Day

In accordance with House Rule 519, the following items appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H.P. 353) (L.D. 469) Bill "An Act Concerning the Requirement for Surety Bonds for County Treasurers, Sheriffs and Chief Deputies" Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 380) (L.D. 511) Bill "An Act to Increase the Amount Below Which Counties Do Not Need to Solicit Bids for Purchases" Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass**

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

ENACTORS Emergency Measure

An Act to Clarify the Application of Insurance Fraud Prevention Laws

(S.P. 13) (L.D. 2)

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. 135 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate. **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

Acts

An Act to Amend Maine's Insurance Laws Regarding Gifts and Rebates

(S.P. 46) (L.D. 117) An Act to Lower the Age of Consent for the Donation of Blood

(S.P. 55) (L.D. 125) An Act to Increase the Fee Charged by Bail Commissioners

(H.P. 122) (L.D. 153)

An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Maine Jobs Council

(H.P. 125) (L.D. 156)

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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following matters, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment Tuesday, February 23, 1999, have preference in the Orders of the Day and continue with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Bill "An Act to Include Fraudulent Billing by Attorneys under the Unfair Trade Practices Act"

(H.P. 1055) (L.D. 1486) (Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** suggested)

TABLED - February 23, 1999 (Till Later Today) by Representative O'NEAL of Limestone.

PENDING - REFERENCE.

On motion of Representative O'NEAL of Limestone, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Establish Fair Funding for Independent and 3rd-Party Legislators"

(H.P. 991) (L.D. 1389) (Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** suggested)

TABLED - February 23, 1999 (Till Later Today) by Representative SAXL of Portland.

PENDING - REFERENCE.

On motion of Representative SAXL of Portland, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

Bill "An Act to Repeal the Law Requiring Retailers to Post Motor Vehicle Fuel Prices"

(H.P. 339) (L.D. 455) TABLED - February 23, 1999 (Till Later Today) by Representative O'NEAL of Limestone.

PENDING - PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED.

Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake moved that the Bill be **COMMITTED** to the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Eagle Lake, Representative Martin.

Representative MARTIN: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. This bill attracted my attention about a week or so ago when I saw that it came out of committee as a unanimous Ought to Pass. It was in a leadership meeting that I raised the question with the chair of the committee as to what the bill did and what basically happened in the committee. What I discovered was it was a repeal of the law that had been enacted earlier. I will talk about that in a moment. There were a couple of people that were present and they were the representatives of C.N. Brown and the oil dealers. Apparently, in my opinion, in part, I suspect, because we are moving so quickly, the general public just did not have an opportunity to testify. I went back and looked at the history of the law. I discovered that it was introduced in 1988 by Representative Soucy of Kittery; Representative McPherson from Eliot; the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Black and the Senator from York, Senator Estes. Subsequently, it became law.

The purpose of it, basically, was to require that there be a sign above the tanks so that the price could be in large letters above the pump itself. The purpose of it was to describe the difference between full-service and mini-service. In case you haven't noticed when you go to the fuel up, the sign on the post contains the lowest price that the fuel is being provided for. I tend to know a little bit about this because I sell the product because I own a convenience store. This requires that if there are two prices, as you know, there is always the mini price, which is self-service and then the full-service price. What they put up above is the self-service price. The full-service price is normally what you get. All of sudden you are at the pump and you realize that you are now paying 10 cents a gallon more than what is on the post.

I understand what happened at the hearing. It was unanimous Ought to Pass. My initial thought was simply to try to kill the bill. I think there is a more important issue here. That is the issue of the public. This morning I made some calls to AAA and a number of other groups who, in my opinion, should have been there and were not. What I would like to do is to give an opportunity to the committee to hear testimony from those people so that they ought to have a chance to refer and see if there is a way to amend it.

Before I get off the subject, there is a cost. Remember that all of them have it now. The cost is for those who build new stations. The cost, by the way, is \$25 for each one of them. I checked. Since I sell the product, I called the dealer or the distributor. It is \$25 for each one. If you have two pumps, it is 6 times \$25. If you have diesel, you add another one on top of that. That is where it is. I am just concerned that if it is our job to represent the consumer and the general public, I think we ought to hear from them. I would hope today that the House would consider the possibility of returning this bill to committee for further review.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Limestone, Representative O'Neal.

Representative **O'NEAL:** Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise to oppose the pending motion and hope you will go on and vote for the unanimous Ought to Pass. I would like to share with you a few of the things that we discovered in this public hearing. The bill was sponsored by the industry, as stated before. It was talked about on cost, duplication and time constraints. There was no opposition to this bill. The previous speaker spoke that the public should have the right to be heard on this bill. I agree completely. This bill was published for two weeks as any other bill is in this body, as far as he indicated on AAA. I believe AAA has as large lobbying body as any group in this body that would be there to talk to you at all times. I really believe that if they were interested in the bill, they would have appeared. They did not.

I do not feel that this is a consumer bill. I feel that this is duplication. The price is indicated at the pump inside the glass. This is a federal regulation. The price, in my opinion, is also out by the road where most people who are looking for gas look at the price that is indicated. As far as the full-service and the selfservice, yes the price may be self-service up on the sign. Every tank that I have seen driving around Augusta the last few days, it is indicated that this is a full-service pump or this is a selfservice pump. We are trying to distinguish some of the things that are in opposition to this bill. The pricing is clearly displayed by the road, in most cases. That is an option.

I would like to take you back, for a moment, to the history that the good Representative referred to when the bill was passed. The problem is at the time there were two signs indicated because one was a cash price and the other was a credit price. That has changed. Cash and the credit price are the same now. Again, the cost of the signs, he mentioned \$25. I think he ought to check with somebody else, because the price quoted to me was \$23.80. He is paying too much for his signs. The inserts are another thing. They are another \$10. As I indicated before, the signs had the price that were over \$1. Now the people have had to go out and buy all new signs for the prices since they have gone under a \$1. When the industry came in, they spoke that this was hard for them because of somebody in some cases running these convenience stores with the pumps, they had only one clerk on duty. They had to run outside to change them. I realize it takes a short time to change them, but if you have customers in your store and you are doing it right, how much are you going to lose?

Again, this committee report was unanimous. We judged this on what we were presented and feel that if anyone that was interested, there was plenty of notification. I stand by the committee report and ask you to vote against the pending motion. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Tripp.

Representative **TRIPP**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. If you vote for the pending motion, you are second guessing the committee process. This committee, like all committees in this building, post public hearings on notices of legislation. This is a very clear posting. An Act to Repeal the Law Requiring Retailers to Post Motor Vehicle Fuel Prices. It is very clear. It is posted like any other public hearing. People can respond to that. They respond in your committees as well as in our committees. We received the information to make our judgment on. We made a unanimous committee report. I hope that you will stand with us on that report. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Mendros.

Representative MENDROS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I, too, rise in support of this committee report. I take my responsibilities as a State Representative very seriously. True, there was only one side that came to testify at the public hearing. I went home. I went to different gas station. Every gas station has the price listed on the pump The ones that have three prices, they are all listed. I tailed to people in my town, consumers, nobody had a problem with it. It is up on the big board. I asked around and looked for opposition to it because there wasn't any. I feel it is my responsibility when you are on a committee. There is always two sides to an issue. It is clear to me that the history behind this was that there was a cash price and a credit price. Often time, gas stations would list the big cash price, but when you look on the pump, there would be a different price for credit. That doesn't happen any more. That hasn't happened in a long time. Cash and credit is the same price now.

One more point that I would like to make is we talked about the costs of \$23.80 for the thing to put on the pump, plus another \$10 for an insert. We are talking \$34. You need three of those for every gas pump. That is \$100 per gas pump. We are talking about a nickel a gallon tax increase. This is a penny a gallon for the first 10,000 gallons that get pumped out of every gas pump that we are paying. It takes a long time to pump 10,000 gallons. It is a penny a gallon that we are looking at.

These are all the different reasons why I support our committee report. I think we put a lot of burdensome regulations on people in our state. It is a great opportunity to remove one that is no longer needed. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Westbrook, Representative Usher.

Representative **USHER**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. We did discuss this pretty thoroughly in committee. I knew it was going to be on the agenda for today. Last night I went down to see my good friend who runs the gas station. He says that there are many weeks that the gas price changes three or four times in a week. This takes one of my men to go out and change it every day that the price changes. It takes him away from his other duties. There are situations where there are only one attendant. That attendant has many other duties, the phone is ringing and running back and forth. There was a safety clause brought up to the committee. The extra cost and all those things were thoroughly discussed. We went through the notice situation in the paper. Everybody was aware that this bill was being handled. I think it was handled properly.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Scarborough, Representative Clough.

Representative **CLOUGH**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. 1, too, want to speak in support of this Ought to Pass decision that has been made by the committee. The statute is one that served its purpose at a time when it was necessary to have these signs. This is a regulation that has no function at the present time and I see no reason why we should continue to place this regulation on business. Last time I went to the gas station, there were seven pumps, three grades of gas. There are 21 of these signs. I would also remind everyone that we, on the committee, are all consumers ourselves. I think we can think like a consumer. When this bill was presented, it was hard for me to remember what this sign looked like until I was shown one because I haven't looked at it for years. I would urge that we defeat this motion to commit and support the bill.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Livermore, Representative Berry.

Representative **BERRY**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I guess I ought to apologize to the members of the House and to the members of the committee that I did not attend that hearing that day because I would have spoken against this bill. I do not like the bill. I did not like it as an amendment last year and I voted against it last year in the 118th. I think it is important for some of us. I guess we must have some older pumps in our town that are a little harder to spot right away. We have the numbers on the post outside, but sometimes it is confusing, the order on the pumps for myself. I guess I am vertically challenged. I guess I rise above some of those numbers. They are difficult for me to see.

It is convenient. It is a good consumer product to have that sign on top of that pump. It is clearly marked out which pump is going to dispense which priced product. If we do not support this motion, I certainly will move to Indefinitely Postpone the legislation at a later time. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Winslow, Representative Matthews.

Representative **MATTHEWS:** Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I rise to support the pending motion to refer this bill back to committee. I can tell you that I haven't heard an outcry from my business owners or from my consumers on this issue. I have some grave concerns as I think are very well articulated by the good gentleman from Eagle Lake. We have to be careful, I say this from some degree of experience of having served in this body and the other, in the legislation we pass. We have to sometimes take the time to make sure we do it right. I think that is what our constituents, the people who sent up down here, want us to do. To deliberate, to make the right decision and it is a lot harder if you go through the process and enact a bad law. With respect to the committee, they are all good friends of mine and people I respect. It is ultimately the people at home that are the committee that we have to serve, our constituents. I think this bill deserves a little further review. A little more consultation and discussion. That ultimately is what our forefathers intended by having us be here and deliberating and doing their business. I urge you to support the pending motion to refer this bill back to committee. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Chair ordered a division on the motion to **COMMIT** the Bill to the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**.

A vote of the House was taken. 48 voted in favor of the same and 87 against, the motion to **COMMIT** the Bill to the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FAILED**.

Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake **REQUESTED** a roll call on **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED**.

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

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Passage to be Engrossed. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 13

YEA - Andrews, Berry DP, Bolduc, Bouffard, Bowles, Bragdon, Buck, Bumps, Campbell, Carr, Chick, Chizmar, Cianchette, Clough, Collins, Colwell, Cote, Cowger, Cross, Daigle, Davidson, Davis, Desmond, Duncan, Etnier, Foster, Frechette, Gagne, Gillis, Glynn, Goodwin, Heidrich, Jacobs, Jones, Kasprzak, Kneeland, Labrecque, LaVerdiere, Lemont, Lindahl, MacDougall, Mack, Madore, Mailhot, Marvin, Mayo, McAlevey, McDonough, McKenney, Mendros, Murphy T, Nass, Norbert, Nutting, O'Brien, O'Neal, O'Neil, Peavey, Pinkham, Plowman, Povich, Powers, Richardson E, Savage C, Saxl MV, Schneider, Sherman, Shiah, Shields, Shorey, Sirois, Snowe-Mello, Stanwood, Stedman, Sullivan, Thompson, Tobin D, Tobin J, Trahan, Treadwell, Tripp, True, Tuttle, Usher, Waterhouse, Weston, Wheeler EM, Wheeler GJ, Williams, Winsor, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Ahearne, Bagley, Baker, Belanger, Berry RL, Brennan, Brooks, Bruno, Bryant, Bull, Cameron, Clark, Dudley, Dunlap, Duplessie, Fisher, Fuller, Gagnon, Gerry, Gooley, Green, Hatch, Honey, Kane, Lemoine, Martin, Matthews, McGlocklin, McKee, McNeil, Mitchell, Murphy E, Muse, Perkins, Perry, Pieh, Quint, Richardson J, Rines, Samson, Savage W, Skoglund, Stanley, Stevens, Tessier, Townsend, Tracy, Twomey, Volenik, Watson.

ABSENT - Dugay, Jabar, Jodrey, Joy, Lovett, Richard, Rosen, Sanborn, SaxI JW.

Yes, 91; No, 50; Absent, 9; Excused, 0.

91 having voted in the affirmative and 50 voted in the negative, with 9 being absent, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Providing for Regulation of the Uses of Surface Waters within or Affecting Passamaquoddy Territory"

(H.P. 898) (L.D. 1255) (Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** suggested) TABLED - February 23, 1999 (Till Later Today) by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town. PENDING - **REFERENCE**.

On motion of Representative DUNLAP of Old Town, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

JOINT ORDER - Relative to establishing a Commission to Study the Statewide Redemption of Returnable Containers

(H.P. 921) TABLED - February 23, 1999 (Till Later Today) by Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska. PENDING - **PASSAGE**.

On motion of Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska, the JOINT ORDER was **REFEREED** to the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority"

(H.P. 781) (L.D. 1104) (Committee on STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT suggested)

TABLED - February 23, 1999 (Till Later Today) by Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska.

PENDING - REFERENCE.

Representative THOMPSON of Naples, pursuant to House Rule 107, asked the chair to rule if the Bill was properly before the body.

Subsequently, the Bill was **TABLED** by the Speaker pending a Ruling of the Chair.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Authorizing the Renovation of the State Capitol Building and Other State Buildings"

(H.P. 823) (L.D. 1146) (Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested)

TABLED - February 23, 1999 (Till Later Today) by Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska.

PENDING - REFERENCE.

Representative THOMPSON of Naples, pursuant to House Rule 107, asked the chair to rule if the Bill was properly before the body.

Subsequently, the Bill was **TABLED** by the Speaker pending a Ruling of the Chair.

BILL HELD

JOINT ORDER - Relative to establishing a Commission to Examine the Adequacy of Services at the Veterans Administration Medical Center at Togus

(H.P. 1052)

- In House, **READ** and **PASSED**.

HELD at the Request of Representative TUTTLE of Sanford.

On motion of Representative TUTTLE of Sanford, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby the JOINT ORDER was **PASSED**.

On motion of the same Representative, the JOINT ORDER was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

The following item was taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

SENATE PAPERS The following Joint Order: (S.P. 499) **ORDERED**, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, March 2, 1999, at 10 o'clock in the morning.

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

On motion of Representative MAILHOT of Lewiston, the House adjourned at 12:34 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 2, 1999 pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 499).