

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

Volume II

First Regular Session

May 13, 1999 – June 19, 1999

Second Regular Session

January 5, 2000 – March 22, 2000

ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
3rd Legislative Day
Monday, January 24, 2000

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

Prayer by Reverend Michele Ewers, West Scarborough United Methodist Church, Scarborough.

National Anthem by Mary Sargent, Raymond.
Pledge of Allegiance.

At this point, a message came from the Senate, borne by Senator Pingree of Knox of that Body, proposing a Joint Convention of both branches of the Legislature to be held in the Hall of the House at 6:30 in the evening for the purpose of extending to His Excellency, Governor Angus S. King, Jr., an invitation to attend the Convention and to make such communication as pleases him.

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

Doctor of the day, Judy Chamberlain, M.D., Brunswick.

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

The Journal of Wednesday, January 12, 2000 was read and approved.

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

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

Recognizing:

Adam Levesque, of Farmingdale, a member of Boy Scout Troop #603, who has attained the high honor and distinction of Eagle Scout, and in extending our congratulations and best wishes to him on this achievement;

(SLS 355)

On **OBJECTION** of Representative WATSON of Farmingdale, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

Recognizing:

Paul Levesque, of Farmingdale, a member of Boy Scout Troop #603, who has attained the high honor and distinction of Eagle Scout, and in extending our congratulations and best wishes to him on this achievement;

(SLS 356)

On **OBJECTION** of Representative WATSON of Farmingdale, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Farmingdale, Representative Watson.

Representative **WATSON**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. It gives me great pleasure this afternoon to have Adam and Paul Levesque here who have already received their highest honors, the Boy Scouts of America can bestow upon its members, the Eagle Scout Award. It was a double pleasure for me that both of the brothers received their Eagle Scout Award at the same time.

I have known the Levesque family personally for a number of years and certainly can attest that these two boys really were very deserving of this special award for their leadership abilities and certainly their community involvement in special projects that they achieved in order to qualify for the Eagle Scout Award. I just want to thank them very much for having attained this goal. On behalf of the House of Representatives, I would like to take this opportunity to present them with their sentiments.

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

Representative **MARTIN**: Mr. Speaker, Members of the House. I just want to say a couple of words. I have known the Levesque family for a long time. Their grandfather happened to be a member of this body serving as Majority Floor Leader of the House in 1964 or 1965 when the Democrats took over in the so-called Goldwater Landslide. He was the Majority Floor Leader during that period and that is when I entered the Legislature. I am very pleased to see both of them receive the award today.

PASSED in concurrence.

Recognizing:

Frank Kelly, of Lewiston, on the occasion of his retirement from the Lewiston City Council. A member of the council since 1994 and president since 1996, Mr. Kelly also served on the Ordinance Committee, Lewiston Mill Redevelopment Corporation, and Lewiston/Auburn Economic Growth Council and as a South Park Industrial Park director. We extend our congratulations and best wishes for a successful future;

(HLS 940)

Presented by Representative MENDROS of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Senator BERUBE of Androscoggin, Representative BOUFFARD of Lewiston, Representative COTE of Lewiston, Representative MAILHOT of Lewiston, Representative O'BRIEN of Lewiston, Senator DOUGLASS of Androscoggin.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative MENDROS of Lewiston, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

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

Recognizing:

Richard Albert, of Lewiston, on the occasion of his retirement from the Lewiston City Council. A member of the council since 1996, Mr. Albert also served on the Ordinance Committee, Finance Committee, Lake Auburn Watershed Committee, Lewiston Mill Redevelopment Corporation and as a School Committee Representative. We extend our congratulations and best wishes for a successful future;

(HLS 941)

Presented by Representative MENDROS of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Senator BERUBE of Androscoggin,
Representative BOUFFARD of Lewiston, Representative COTE
of Lewiston, Representative MAILHOT of Lewiston,
Representative O'BRIEN of Lewiston, Senator DOUGLASS of
Androscoggin.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative MENDROS of Lewiston,
was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

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

Recognizing:

Scott Lynch, of Lewiston, on the occasion of his retirement
from the Lewiston City Council. A member of the council since
1996, Mr. Lynch also served on the Ordinance Committee and
the Lewiston/Auburn Economic Growth Council and as an
Assistant City Attorney and a school committee chair. We
extend our congratulations and best wishes for a successful
future;

(HLS 942)

Presented by Representative MENDROS of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Senator BERUBE of Androscoggin,
Representative BOUFFARD of Lewiston, Representative COTE
of Lewiston, Representative MAILHOT of Lewiston,
Representative O'BRIEN of Lewiston, Senator DOUGLASS of
Androscoggin.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative MENDROS of Lewiston,
was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

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

Recognizing:

Barry Putnam, of Lewiston, on the occasion of his retirement
from the Lewiston City Council. A member of the council since
1994, Mr. Putnam also served on the Ordinance Committee,
Finance Committee, E-911 Committee, Lewiston/Auburn Airport
Committee and the AVCOG/General Assembly. We extend our
congratulations and best wishes for a successful future;

(HLS 943)

Presented by Representative MENDROS of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Senator BERUBE of Androscoggin, Senator
DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, Representative MAILHOT of
Lewiston, Representative BOUFFARD of Lewiston,
Representative COTE of Lewiston, Representative O'BRIEN of
Lewiston.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative MENDROS of Lewiston,
was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

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

Representative **MENDROS**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and
Gentlemen of the House. These four men we are honoring today
form the core of our city council for the past four years, along
with the past Representative, the late George Ricker, James
Beggert, Pauline Gray and current councilors James Carignan,
Paul Samson and our current council president, Joyce Bilodeau.
They saw us through some tough times in 1995 when they came
into office. Lewiston was in some pretty tough economic times.
We had a huge deficit to deal with. They held the line on taxes
strongly for three years. They made us a pro-business city.
They made businesses want to start moving back to Lewiston.

They developed a pride in the people of Lewiston. They moved
us forward from tough times into the very prosperous times that
we are in now. The first two year were hard work holding taxes
and creating that pro-business feeling that panned out into a
successful Bates Mill Project that now houses close to 1,000
employees in a part of the city that was not working at all. It was
an eye sore. People's Bank has moved in there and many other
businesses have moved into that area revitalizing the downtown.
It helps to solve the problem of sprawl that we are all talking
about now. They were visionaries. They started that four years
ago and started moving people back to the downtown and
working on their own.

Other things this council did is they never broke down into
factions. They never had faction votes. They met, they worked
and they deliberated. They did the hard work. They somehow
found that balance between moving a city forward and protecting
the rights of the property owners and the taxpayers. They truly
are the last of a breed. I think they could be a model for all of us
on how they work to understand that everyone has the same
goals and we just have different ways of getting there and to try
to work to actually get with those goals. I guess it is very much
like the ancient Greeks and their city elders that lead with
wisdom. We were fortunate enough to have these men lead our
city with wisdom.

I am going to just say a little bit about each one. As you all
know, I could go on. I am only going to say one thing about each
one of them as a favor to my colleagues. Frank Kelly, he was
our council president for four years. He led the council through
tough times. What I could say about Frank is I probably voted
for him three times to be my councilor. They say you can't fight
City Hall. I felt that with Frank as my councilor I never needed to
fight City Hall. Richard Albert is known amongst his peers as a
champion of the neighborhood homes and keeping the
neighborhood safe. People of the Pond Road and Grove Street
in Lewiston feel much safer with less traffic on the road and
heavy trucks driving by. He pioneered to keep those roads safe.
He is one man who can truly say that people in his ward can truly
sleep better at night because of his actions. Scott Lynch is
known to others on the council, they have said they will miss his
keep analytical mind breaking down, as you can see he is an
attorney, so people could understand how it will affect people
and how best to make it work. I am proud to have Scott as one
of my constituents, although he wasn't my councilor. He surely
will be a voice that is missed. Barry Putnam, who was said of
him by Frank Kelly the council president, he was the conscious
of the council. He looked into all the details and the fine print. It
is what most of us don't want to do, but we must do. He was
truly the conscious and he did that.

To all four of them, the two that are here today, I thank them
for being my councilors and moving my city forward. I was truly
honored to have you as a council. I salute you for the hard work
that you have done. Thank you.

PASSED and sent for concurrence.

In Memory of:

John L. Ross, of Limington, a veteran of World War II. He
was a staff sergeant in the Army Air Corps, a member of the 44th
and 320th Bomb Squadron and was a gunner who flew more
than 53 missions over France and Italy, surviving 3 plane
crashes. He received 3 Bronze Service Stars, an Air Medal with
one Oak Leaf Cluster, a Unit Citation and a Croix de Guerre. Mr.

Ross was a produce manager for A&P grocery stores. He retired as Gorham's postmaster. He was a past commander of the American Legion Post in Gorham. He will be greatly missed by his loving family and many friends;

(HLS 945)

Presented by Representative TOBIN of Windham.
Cosponsored by Senator O'GARA of Cumberland, Representative CLOUGH of Scarborough, Representative LABRECQUE of Gorham.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative TOBIN of Windham, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Windham, Representative Tobin.

Representative **TOBIN**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. John Ross was a friend. I knew him very well. John Ross was the postmaster of Gorham, while I worked in the post office in Windham. You could say that John and I worked together. I knew him very well. John Ross was a past commander of the Gorham American Legion Post. I am a past commander of the Gorham American Legion Post. You could say that John and I did our community service together. Of course, I knew John Ross very well. John Ross owned a summer home on Sebago Lake within walking distance of my summer home. You can say that John Ross and I vacationed together. I should have known him very well. John Ross and I worked together, served together, vacationed together and yes, ladies and gentlemen, on occasion we did party together. I should have known him very well. It was not until after his death that I learned that I knew John Ross not at all.

John Ross, like a lot of men and women was called upon to serve his country in a time of need. Like a lot of men and women, John Ross served to the best of his ability. He came home, got on with life and never mentioned what he had done. His friends had no idea what John had done during World War II. He was a member of the Army Air Corp. He was a gunner and rose to the rank of staff sergeant. He was attached to the 44th Bomber Squadron and the 320th Bomber Squadron. He flew 53 missions over Europe, but mostly over France and Italy. John Ross was awarded the 3 Bronze Service Stars, an Air Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, a Unit Citation and a Croix de Guerre.

I wish that I had known John Ross better, because I believe that, I and everyone in this chamber, owe John Ross and people like him a debt of gratitude. I would have rather known about this and been able to thank John Ross in person. By passing this Memorial we are saying, thank you John Ross for a job well done. God bless you and may you rest in peace. Thank you Mr. Speaker for allowing me to pay a debt of gratitude to a great American. Thank you.

ADOPTED and sent for concurrence.

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Resolution: (S.P. 926)

JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO MAINTAIN THE MONUMENTS AT GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

WE, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the Second Regular Session, most respectfully present and

petition the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States as follows:

WHEREAS, the United States has a history that reveals the proud tradition and heritage of the American people; and

WHEREAS, battlefield sites where significant military engagements happened are some of the nation's most important historical sites; and

WHEREAS, Gettysburg was the site of one of the largest battles in the history of the United States and that battle is considered a turning point for the country in the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, President Lincoln, in giving his now famous Gettysburg Address dedicating the national cemetery that is located in Gettysburg, acknowledged that he could not adequately dedicate or consecrate the cemetery because "the brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract"; and

WHEREAS, Gettysburg National Military Park, created shortly after the battle and funded largely by private donations and various states that belonged to the Union forces, covers thousands of acres and contains hundreds of monuments commemorating the battle; and

WHEREAS, the National Park Service lacks sufficient funds to adequately maintain and care for the grounds and monuments and is accepting donations to help preserve the park's monuments; and

WHEREAS, the commitment to preserve and maintain the monuments and grounds of Gettysburg National Military Park is a measure of how we value this nation and its people; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, your Memorialists, respectfully urge and request that the United States Congress appropriate funds to adequately maintain and preserve the grounds and monuments of Gettysburg National Military Park; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this Memorial, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the United States, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

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

READ and **ADOPTED** in concurrence.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 278)

119TH MAINE LEGISLATURE

December 13, 1999

Honorable Angus S. King, Jr.

Governor of Maine

1 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Governor King:

We are pleased to invite you to address a Joint Session of the 119th Maine Legislature on Monday, January 24, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. to deliver the annual State-of-the-State address.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Sincerely,

S/Mark W. Lawrence

President of the Senate

S/G. Steven Rowe

Speaker of the House

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 279)

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333**

January 3, 2000

The Honorable Mark W. Lawrence
President of the Senate
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333
The Honorable G. Steven Rowe
Speaker of the House
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

It is with pleasure that I accept your invitation to address a Joint Session of the 119th Maine Legislature on January 24, 2000 at 7:00 p.m. to deliver the State-of-the-State address.

I look forward to working with the 119th Legislature during its Second Regular Session and to seeing everyone on the 24th.

Sincerely,

S/Angus S. King, Jr.

Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 280)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

January 12, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate
Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House
119th Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice has voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 266 An Act to Require Records Checks for Persons Providing Direct Care to Clients of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services
- L.D. 1095 An Act to Expand the Geographic Availability of the Supervised Community Confinement Program
- L.D. 1583 An Act to Amend the Definition of Sex Offender and to Require Sheriffs to Notify the State Bureau of Identification of a Sex Offender's Release from Jail for Purposes of Registration and Notification
- L.D. 1803 An Act to Revoke Probation and Require Incarceration for Repeated Domestic Abuse

We have also notified the sponsors and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Robert E. Murray, Jr.

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Edward J. Povich

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 281)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR**

January 12, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate
Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House
119th Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Labor has voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 1908 An Act to Establish as an Employee Any Person Who Collects Signatures on Petitions for Direct Initiative or People's Veto Legislation for Any Person, Firm or Organization that Contracts, Subcontracts or Agrees to Collect the Signatures for Anything of Value

L.D. 2194 An Act Regarding Doing Business with Burma
We have also notified the sponsors and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Neria R. Douglass

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Pamela H. Hatch

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 282)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

January 12, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate
Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House
119th Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs has voted unanimously to report the following bill out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 1201 An Act to Require Licensing Fees of Tobacco Products Manufacturers

We have also notified the sponsor and cosponsors of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Beverly C. Daggett

Senate Chair

S/Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr.

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 283)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES**

**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL
AND FINANCIAL REGULATION
BUREAU OF BANKING
36 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0036**

January 12, 2000
Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate
Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House
119th Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

January 15, 2000
The Honorable G. Steven Rowe
Speaker of the House
Maine House of Representatives
State House Station 2
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:
Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources has voted unanimously to report the following bill out "Ought Not to Pass":
L.D. 2228 An Act to Provide for Alternative Treatment of Biomedical Waste

Dear Speaker Rowe:
In accordance with Title 9-B MRSA § 217, as amended, I am submitting to the members of the Maine House and Senate a report entitled "The Status of Maine's Financial Institutions." Over the course of the past year, Maine financial institutions and credit unions have displayed solid performance, based on key capital, earnings and asset quality indicators. Industry consolidation continued to occur in Maine, although at a relatively moderate pace, as organizations sold branches and engaged in merger activities motivated by common goals of expanding market share and increasing efficiency. During this time, Maine institutions also continued to expand into closely-related activities such as insurance agency and securities business, taking advantage of broadened state authority to engage in those lines of business.

We have also notified the sponsor and cosponsors of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,
S/Sen. Sharon Anglin Treat
Senate Chair
S/Rep. John L. Martin
House Chair

As we enter the new century, there will be new challenges and opportunities for the financial services industry. With the passage of federal financial modernization, or the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999, several long-standing barriers between the various providers of financial services have been removed. One of the major effects of this Act was the repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act, which prohibited banks from affiliating with insurance and securities firms. It is expected that, as competition intensifies, Maine institutions will continue to seek ways to take advantage of the new opportunities provided under both state and federal law through development of expanded products and services and utilization of modern delivery systems capable of reaching a global marketplace.

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 284)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

January 12, 2000
Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate
Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House
119th Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

The much advertised Y2K or Year 2000 issue - the ability of computers to handle reference dates beyond December 31, 1999 - which required a concerted effort and substantial commitment of human resources over the past several years, has passed its initial test. During the rollover period, 12/31/99 to 1/4/00, the regulators kept vigilant watch over the industry and only a few minor problems were reported in some parts of the country. Maine financial institutions and credit unions weathered the century date change with "business as usual." While it is still possible that Y2K disruptions will occur over the next few months, the experience of the rollover weekend clearly suggests that such disruptions, if any, will be minor, sporadic, and easily remedied.

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:
Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation has voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 222 An Act to Alter the Firefighter License Plate
- L.D. 265 An Act to Provide for License Plates in Support of Domestic Violence Prevention Programs
- L.D. 311 An Act to Create a Registration Plate for Members of the Maine Snowmobile Association
- L.D. 321 An Act to Create a License Plate for Veterans Who Served in Iwo Jima, Normandy or Desert Storm
- L.D. 1633 An Act to Create a Transporter License Plate for Light Trailers

We have also notified the sponsors and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,
S/Sen. William B. O'Gara
Senate Chair
S/Rep. Joseph M. Jabar, Sr.
House Chair

Copies of this report have been distributed to the Office of the Clerk of the House of Representatives in order to provide one copy for each member of the House. The report will also be available in electronic format on the Maine Bureau of Banking's World Wide Web Home Page at "<http://www.MaineBankingReg.org>."

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 285)

Very truly yours,
S/Howard R. Gray, Jr.
Superintendent

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 286)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL
AFFAIRS**

January 12, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate

Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House

119th Maine Legislature

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs has voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 135 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$25,000,000 to Help Increase Fish Production at the State Hatcheries
- L.D. 191 An Act to Provide Equitable Treatment of Visitor Information Centers
- L.D. 269 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Repair and Renovation of Schools
- L.D. 271 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$25,000,000 to Build or Rehabilitate Regional Psychiatric Facilities
- L.D. 1191 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$5,000,000 to Promote the Cranberry Industry
- L.D. 1238 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$10,000,000 for Historic Preservation
- L.D. 1590 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of \$10,000,000 to Support the Construction of the Gulf of Maine Aquarium

We have also notified the sponsors and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Michael H. Michaud

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Elizabeth Townsend

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 287)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL
AFFAIRS**

January 18, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate

Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House

119th Maine Legislature

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs has voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 35 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Create Affordable Housing
- L.D. 1453 An Act to Expand the Homestead Exemption Program Based Upon the Level of Funds in a Homestead Tax Relief Fund
- L.D. 1662 An Act to Protect the Public's Health through State-funded Rabies Testing

We have also notified the sponsors and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Michael H. Michaud

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Elizabeth Townsend

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 288)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

January 12, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate

Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House

119th Maine Legislature

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development has voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 168 An Act to License Home Inspectors
- L.D. 1147 An Act to Decriminalize Resource Protection Violations by Seafood Dealers
- L.D. 2060 An Act to License Home Building Contractors
- L.D. 2163 An Act to Require Contractor Registration

We have also notified the sponsors and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Carol A. Kontos

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Gary O'Neal

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 289)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

January 18, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate

Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House

119th Maine Legislature

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1941 An Act Regarding Involuntary Commitment for Substance Abuse

L.D. 2226 An Act Relating to Remedies for Unlawful Housing Discrimination

We have also notified the sponsors and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Susan W. Longley

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Richard H. Thompson

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 290)

STATE OF MAINE

**ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

January 18, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate

Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House

119th Maine Legislature

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs has voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 151 An Act to Prohibit Mandatory Maine National Guard Membership

L.D. 1035 An Act to Require Maine's Off-track Betting Facilities to Promote Maine Racing

L.D. 2133 Resolve, Directing the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices to Simplify the Reporting Form for Candidates

L.D. 2141 An Act to Remove the Limit on the Amount of Complimentary Wine that a Wine Retailer may Receive Annually

L.D. 2183 An Act to Clarify Provisions of the Laws Administered by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices

L.D. 2195 An Act to Allow a Specialty Wine Store to Provide Free Wine Samples

We have also notified the sponsors and cosponsors of each bill listed of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Beverly C. Daggett

Senate Chair

S/Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr.

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 291)

STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

January 18, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate

Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House

119th Maine Legislature

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation has voted unanimously to report the following bill out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 2035 An Act to Clarify That Sales Catalogs and Fliers are Exempt from Sales Tax when Purchased for Redistribution at No Charge

We have also notified the sponsor and cosponsors of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Richard P. Ruhlin

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Kenneth T. Gagnon

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 292)

STATE OF MAINE

**ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND INSURANCE**

January 18, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence, President of the Senate

Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker of the House

119th Maine Legislature

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Banking and Insurance has voted unanimously to report the following bill out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 2138 An Act to Permit the Transfer of Liabilities by a Member of a Workers' Compensation Group Self-insurer

We have also notified the sponsor and cosponsors of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain III

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Jane W. Saxl

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 293)

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

**COMMITTEE TO ESTABLISH A MEMORIAL
DEDICATED TO THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS**

January 20, 2000

The Honorable Mark Lawrence, President

Maine Senate

The Honorable G. Steven Rowe, Speaker

Maine House of Representatives

State House

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to Resolves 1999, chapter 83, the Committee to is pleased to submit its final report including recommended legislation. Copies of the report have been transmitted to the Legislative Council. Copies of the report have been placed on file with the Law and Legislative Reference Library.

Sincerely,

S/Rep. Robert W. Duplessie, Chair

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

The Following Communication: (S.P. 953)

119TH MAINE LEGISLATURE

January 12, 2000

Senator Marge Kil Kelly

Representative Matthew Dunlap

Chairpersons

Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

119th Legislature

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Senator Kil Kelly and Representative Dunlap:

Please be advised that Governor Angus S. King, Jr. has nominated F. Paul Frinsko of Gorham for appointment as a member of the Atlantic Salmon Board.

Pursuant to Public Law 1999, Chapter 401, this nomination will require review by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and confirmation by the Senate.

Sincerely,

S/Mark W. Lawrence

President of the Senate

S/G. Steven Rowe

Speaker of the House

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE.**

READ and **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** in concurrence.

The Following Communication: (S.P. 954)

119TH MAINE LEGISLATURE

January 11, 2000

Senator Carol Kontos

Representative Gary O'Neal

Chairpersons

Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development

119th Legislature

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Senator Kontos and Representative O'Neal:

Please be advised that Governor Angus S. King, Jr. has nominated Charles J. Spies III of Topsham as the Chief Executive Officer of the Finance Authority of Maine.

Pursuant to Title 10, M.R.S.A., §972, this nomination will require review by the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development and confirmation by the Senate.

Sincerely,

S/Mark W. Lawrence

President of the Senate

S/G. Steven Rowe

Speaker of the House

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

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

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

The following Bills and Resolve 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 Create a State-sponsored Voluntary Logger Certification Program"

(H.P. 1792) (L.D. 2512)

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne.

Cosponsored by Senator DOUGLASS of Androscoggin and Representatives: DUGAY of Cherryfield, GILLIS of Danforth, GOODWIN of Pembroke, SAMSON of Jay, TRACY of Rome, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, Senator: MILLS of Somerset.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Bill "An Act to Provide Funding to Wild Blueberry Growers to Develop Alternative Water Sources"

(H.P. 1779) (L.D. 2493)

Presented by Representative TRACY of Rome.

Cosponsored by President LAWRENCE of York and Representatives: KNEELAND of Easton, MURPHY of Kennebunk, Speaker ROWE of Portland, SAXL of Portland, TESSIER of Fairfield, Senators: GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock, KIEFFER of Aroostook, MICHAUD of Penobscot.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** suggested.

On motion of Representative PIEH of Bremen, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act to Ensure Adequate Funding of Adult Education" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1778) (L.D. 2492)

Presented by Representative TOWNSEND of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator MICHAUD of Penobscot and Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, MAILHOT of Lewiston, POWERS of Rockport, Speaker ROWE of Portland, SAXL of Portland, SHIAH of Bowdoinham, Senators: PENDLETON of Cumberland, RAND of Cumberland.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Bill "An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper

Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2000 and June 30, 2001" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1790) (L.D. 2510)

Presented by Representative TOWNSEND of Portland. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Cosponsored by Senator MICHAUD of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Enhance the Conservation of Atlantic Salmon" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1784) (L.D. 2504)

Presented by Representative DUGAY of Cherryfield.

Under suspension of the rules, cosponsored by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock and Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, CAMPBELL of Holden, DUNLAP of Old Town, ETNIER of Harpswell, GOODWIN of Pembroke, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, NASS of Acton, Speaker ROWE of Portland, SAXL of Portland, SHOREY of Calais, TOWNSEND of Portland, Senator: MICHAUD of Penobscot.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** suggested.

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

Bill "An Act to Establish the Applied Technology Center System"

(H.P. 1785) (L.D. 2506)

Presented by Representative TESSIER of Fairfield.

Under suspension of the rules, cosponsored by Senator DAGGETT of Kennebec and Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, CIANCHETTE of South Portland, CLOUGH of Scarborough, COLWELL of Gardiner, COWGER of Hallowell, DUGAY of Cherryfield, FRECHETTE of Biddeford, GAGNON of Waterville, GOODWIN of Pembroke, KNEELAND of Easton, MADORE of Augusta, MAILHOT of Lewiston, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MATTHEWS of Winslow, MURPHY of Kennebunk, MUSE of South Portland, O'NEAL of Limestone, O'NEIL of Saco, RICHARDSON of Brunswick, ROSEN of Bucksport, Speaker ROWE of Portland, SAXL of Bangor, SAXL of Portland, SHOREY of Calais, STANWOOD of Southwest Harbor, Senators: AMERO of Cumberland, KONTOS of Cumberland, President LAWRENCE of York, MILLS of Somerset, MITCHELL of Penobscot, PINGREE of Knox.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** suggested.

On motion of Representative SIROIS of Caribou, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Resolve, to Create a Commission to Study the Regulation of Firearms in Maine

(H.P. 1780) (L.D. 2494)

Presented by Representative MUSE of South Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator RAND of Cumberland and Representatives: ETNIER of Harpswell, GREEN of Monmouth, O'BRIEN of Augusta, SAXL of Portland, STEVENS of Orono,

TRIPP of Topsham, USHER of Westbrook, WATSON of Farmingdale.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Bill "An Act to Coordinate and Improve Access to Health Care for Women"

(H.P. 1781) (L.D. 2495)

Presented by Representative POWERS of Rockport.

Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox and Representatives: BRAGDON of Bangor, FULLER of Manchester, KANE of Saco, TESSIER of Fairfield, Senator: RAND of Cumberland.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Bill "An Act Regarding Discharges from Small Fish Hatcheries That Operated Prior to 1986"

(H.P. 1789) (L.D. 2509)

Presented by Representative BRYANT of Dixfield.

Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and Representatives: CLARK of Millinocket, DUNLAP of Old Town, GAGNE of Buckfield, MATTHEWS of Winslow, ROSEN of Bucksport, SAVAGE of Buxton, Senator: KIEFFER of Aroostook. Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** suggested.

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

JUDICIARY

Bill "An Act Concerning the Date by Which Land Must be Acquired by the Penobscot Nation"

(H.P. 1782) (L.D. 2499)

Presented by Representative LORING of the Penobscot Nation.

Cosponsored by Senator CATHCART of Penobscot and Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, BRYANT of Dixfield, LaVERDIERE of Wilton, SIROIS of Caribou, TUTTLE of Sanford, WHEELER of Eliot, Senators: DAGGETT of Kennebec, PINGREE of Knox.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Bill "An Act to Preserve the Integrity of Court-ordered Child Support Obligations"

(H.P. 1791) (L.D. 2511)

Presented by Representative LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

LABOR

Bill "An Act to Permit the Option of Retaining Health Insurance Coverage for Law Enforcement Personnel Who Have 25 Years of Creditable Service"

(H.P. 1777) (L.D. 2491)

Presented by Representative RICHARDSON of Brunswick.
Cosponsored by Senator RAND of Cumberland and
Representatives: COWGER of Hallowell, MAILHOT of Lewiston,
POVICH of Ellsworth, WILLIAMS of Orono.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council
pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act to Establish a Special Liquor License for Pool
Halls and Billiard Rooms" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1783) (L.D. 2503)

Presented by Representative McALEVEY of Waterboro.
Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of York and Representatives:
CAMPBELL of Holden, FISHER of Brewer, FRECHETTE of
Biddeford, LABRECQUE of Gorham, MENDROS of Lewiston,
TUTTLE of Sanford, USHER of Westbrook.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council
pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Bill "An Act to Establish a Commemorative Day Recognizing
Major-General Henry Knox" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1787) (L.D. 2507)

Presented by Representative SKOGLUND of St. George.
Cosponsored by Senator PINGREE of Knox and
Representatives: McNEIL of Rockland, PIEH of Bremen,
POWERS of Rockport, SAVAGE of Union, VOLENIK of Brooklin,
Senator: LONGLEY of Waldo.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council
pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

TAXATION

Bill "An Act to Amend the Elderly Low-cost Drug Program"
(EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1795) (L.D. 2518)

Presented by Representative DUDLEY of Portland.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council
pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Pursuant to Public Law

Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy

Representative DAVIDSON for the **Joint Standing
Committee on Utilities and Energy** pursuant to Public Law
1997, chapter 316, section 12 asks leave to report that the
accompanying Bill "An Act Relating to Electric Industry
Restructuring" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1788) (L.D. 2508)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **UTILITIES AND
ENERGY** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED**
to the Committee on **UTILITIES AND ENERGY** and ordered
printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 959)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and
Senate Adjourn the House does so until Tuesday, February 8,
2000 at 9 o'clock in the morning and the Senate does so until
Tuesday, February 8, 2000 at 10 o'clock in the morning.

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

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (S.P. 968)

119TH MAINE LEGISLATURE

January 20, 2000

Senator Sharon Treat

Representative John Martin

Chairpersons

Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources

119th Legislature

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Senator Treat and Representative Martin:

Please be advised that Governor Angus S. King, Jr. has
nominated Richard A. Fortier of Caribou and Horace Hildreth, Jr.
of Falmouth for reappointment as members of the Maine Outdoor
Heritage Fund Board.

Pursuant to Title 12, §7788, these nominations will require
review by the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources
and confirmation by the Senate.

Sincerely,

S/Mark W. Lawrence

President of the Senate

S/G. Steven Rowe

Speaker of the House

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **REFERRED** to the
Committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES**.

READ and **REFERRED** to the Committee on **NATURAL
RESOURCES** in concurrence.

The Following Communication: (S.P. 969)

119TH MAINE LEGISLATURE

January 20, 2000

Senator Susan Longley

Representative Richard Thompson

Chairpersons

Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary

119th Legislature

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Senator Longley and Representative Thompson:

Please be advised that Governor Angus S. King, Jr. has
nominated Alan P. Brigham of Windham for reappointment as a
member of the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission.

Pursuant to Title 30, M.R.S.A., §6212, this nomination will
require review by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary and
confirmation by the Senate.

Sincerely,

S/Mark W. Lawrence

President of the Senate

S/G. Steven Rowe

Speaker of the House

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **REFERRED** to the
Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

READ and **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** in concurrence.

The Following Communication: (S.P. 972)
119TH MAINE LEGISLATURE

January 21, 2000
Senator Beverly Daggett
Representative John Tuttle
Chairpersons
Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs
119th Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Senator Daggett and Representative Tuttle:
Please be advised that Governor Angus S. King, Jr. has nominated Michael E. Carpenter of Houlton for reappointment as a member of the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices.

Pursuant to Title 1, M.R.S.A., §1002, this nomination will require review by the Joint Standing Committee on Legal and Veterans Affairs and confirmation by the Senate.

Sincerely,
S/Mark W. Lawrence
President of the Senate
S/G. Steven Rowe
Speaker of the House

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

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Increase the Marketable Skills of University of Maine System Students"

(S.P. 960) (L.D. 2500)

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 Support the Maine Rural Development Council and its Community Capacity Building Work in Distressed Rural Areas in the State"

(S.P. 962) (L.D. 2502)

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 Provide Equal Access to Meeting the Needs of Students at Public Institutions of Higher Education"

(S.P. 966) (L.D. 2515)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Adopt Recommendations of the Department of Human Services and the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services and the Joint Advisory Committee on Select Services for the Elderly Related to the Mental Health Service Needs of the Elderly"

(S.P. 964) (L.D. 2513)

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 Increase Access to High-quality Jobs Through the Federal Workforce Investment Act" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 957) (L.D. 2498)

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 Clarify the Authority of State Environmental and Public Health Officials to Monitor and Regulate Nuclear Power Plant Decommissioning, Site Cleanup and Restoration Activities" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 955) (L.D. 2496)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Maine's Corporate Accountability Law"

(S.P. 961) (L.D. 2501)

Bill "An Act to Improve Standards for Public Assistance to Maine Employers"

(S.P. 967) (L.D. 2516)

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

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

Bill "An Act to Fund the Local and State Share of Minor Collector Road Reconstruction"

(S.P. 970) (L.D. 2517)

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

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Change of Committee

Report of the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Appropriate Funds to Match a Federal Department of Energy Research and Development Award"

(S.P. 882) (L.D. 2297)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**.

Came from the Senate with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT** in concurrence.

Report of the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** on Bill "An Act to Prevent Misuse of Mortuary Trust Funds"

(S.P. 922) (L.D. 2373)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BANKING AND INSURANCE**.

Came from the Senate with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BANKING AND INSURANCE**.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BANKING AND INSURANCE** in concurrence.

Report of the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** on Bill "An Act to Enhance Biomedical Research in Maine"

(S.P. 913) (L.D. 2365)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**.

Came from the Senate with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT** in concurrence.

CONSENT CALENDAR

First Day

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

(H.P. 175) (L.D. 253) Resolve, to Cable Televisé the Proceedings of the Legislature Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-771)**

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

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

The following Bill was received, and upon the recommendation of the Committee on Reference of Bills was **REFERRED** to the following Committee, ordered printed and sent for concurrence:

TRANSPORTATION

Bill "An Act to Promote Safe Mobility for Maine's Aging Population through Education and Community-based, Economically Sustainable Alternative Transportation"

(H.P. 1796) (L.D. 2521)

Presented by Speaker ROWE of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator PARADIS of Aroostook and Representatives: KANE of Saco, MURPHY of Kennebunk, Senator: AMERO of Cumberland.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

The House recessed until 5:30 p.m.

(After Recess)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

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

Bill "An Act to Enhance the Conservation of Atlantic Salmon" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1784) (L.D. 2504)

Which was **TABLED** by Representative TOWNSEND of Portland pending **REFERENCE**.

Under suspension of the rules, the Bill was given its **FIRST READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a committee.

Under further suspension of the rules, the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** and sent for concurrence. **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH**.

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Discriminatory Tax on the Electronic Filing of Prescription Drug Reimbursement"

(S.P. 929) (L.D. 2379)

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 Establish the Maine Coordinate System of 2000"

(S.P. 965) (L.D. 2514)

Committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES** suggested and ordered printed.

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

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

Bill "An Act to Target Public Assistance to Responsible Employers"

(S.P. 940) (L.D. 2390)

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

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

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Change of Committee

Representative **DUNLAP** from the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** on Bill "An Act to Decriminalize Certain Fish and Wildlife Statutes"

(H.P. 1266) (L.D. 1820)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

Sent for concurrence.

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

ORDERS

On motion of Representative **CAMPBELL** of Holden, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 1794) (Under suspension of the rules, cosponsored by Senator **GOLDTHWAIT** of Hancock and Representatives: **ANDREWS** of York, **BELANGER** of Caribou, **BRAGDON** of Bangor, **BUCK** of Yarmouth, **CLARK** of Millinocket, **CLOUGH** of Scarborough, **CROSS** of Dover-Foxcroft, **DAIGLE** of Arundel, **DUGAY** of Cherryfield, **DUNCAN** of Presque Isle, **GERRY** of Auburn, **GILLIS** of Danforth, **GOODWIN** of Pembroke, **HATCH** of Skowhegan, **JOY** of Crystal, **KNEELAND** of Easton, **LEMONT** of Kittery, **MACK** of Standish, **McALEVEY** of Waterboro, **McKENNEY** of Cumberland, **McNEIL** of Rockland, **MENDROS** of Lewiston, **MURPHY** of Kennebunk, **NASS** of Acton, **PINKHAM** of Lamoine, **ROSEN** of Bucksport, **SHERMAN** of Hodgdon, **SHIELDS** of Auburn, **SNOWE-MELLO** of Poland, **STANLEY** of Medway, **STEDMAN** of Hartland, **TUTTLE** of Sanford, **USHER** of Westbrook, **WHEELER** of Bridgewater, **WINSOR** of Norway, Senators: **ABROMSON** of Cumberland, **AMERO** of Cumberland, **BENNETT** of Oxford, **KIEFFER** of Aroostook, **MICHAUD** of Penobscot, **MILLS** of Somerset, **MITCHELL** of Penobscot, **O'GARA** of Cumberland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 214)

JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR BRUCE BABBITT, THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE WILLIAM DALEY AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO RECONSIDER THE METHOD TO PROTECT AND RESTORE THE ATLANTIC SALMON

WE, your Memorialists, the Members of the One Hundred and Nineteenth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the Second Regular Session, most respectfully present and petition the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior **Bruce Babbitt**, the Secretary of Commerce **William Daley** and the Congress of the United States as follows:

WHEREAS, the Federal Government, through the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service, has proposed to list the Atlantic salmon in 8 Maine rivers under the federal Endangered Species Act and has indicated a potential to include additional Maine rivers to the detriment of the agriculture, manufacturing, forest products and aquaculture industries of Maine on the basis of limited scientific evidence; and

WHEREAS, Maine is strongly committed to the restoration of the Atlantic salmon to its waters, as demonstrated through the development of a comprehensive and cooperative Salmon Conservation Plan, which was produced over the course of 3 years with input from federal officials, relevant state departments, local conservation groups, affected businesses, farmers and riverside residents; and

WHEREAS, since the area covered by these 8 rivers and other rivers that may be included in the listing in the future contains 1/3 of the human population of Maine and virtually all of the aquaculture industry, all of Maine will feel the impact of the naming of the Atlantic salmon to the Endangered Species List; and

WHEREAS, adding the Atlantic salmon to the Endangered Species List in order to help the return of the Atlantic salmon in significant numbers to Maine's waters compromises a promising partnership between Maine and the Federal Government, which has had a history of good faith; and

WHEREAS, there exist many significant threats to the Atlantic salmon that lie beyond the influence of Maine that also affect the prospects of long-term Atlantic salmon restoration to the rivers of Maine; and

WHEREAS, Maine is strongly committed to the restoration of the Atlantic salmon to its waters, has committed millions of dollars to its plan to produce this result and feels that the naming of the Atlantic salmon to the Endangered Species List is premature; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, your Memorialists, respectfully urge and request that the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior **Bruce Babbitt**, the Secretary of Commerce **William Daley** and the Congress of the United States reconsider the intent to include the Atlantic salmon on the Endangered Species List as it would benefit neither the Atlantic salmon nor the people of Maine and allow Maine to continue to execute its own comprehensive plan to restore the Atlantic salmon to its waters; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, to the Secretary of the Interior **Bruce Babbitt**, to the Secretary of Commerce **William Daley** and to each Member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

READ.

The **SPEAKER:** The Chair recognizes the Representative from Holden, Representative **Campbell**.

Representative **CAMPBELL:** Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I present this Resolution on behalf of our sister and brother citizens of northern, central, eastern and down east Maine. As you review the Resolution in your calendar under Orders, I apologize to you who had not gotten an opportunity to sign onto this, especially those of you who have come up to me in the last few days. The timing was crucial on this order. The federal hearings begin in Machias on January 29 on this very

important issue. It is important that we show support for all of the citizens of Maine.

I want to tell you just a little bit about how I came to sponsor this. For the second day in a row I sat at a table with an individual from Washington County, city manager of Eastport. In both occasions he handed me a letter. That letter spoke to the significance of this issue and its impact on the citizens of down east Maine. I want to share just a couple of paragraphs of that letter with you. It starts off with, "Washington County Native, the next endangered species." This is a letter that went to the delegation and the US Congress. It begins, "While one would like to believe that the government of our country continually looks out for our personal best interest, we often discover the special interests can devise ways to interfere with the basic right of survival of our citizens. Never have we seen such a threat to the lives and the livelihood of the people in Washington County as they are now experiencing with the proposal to list the Atlantic salmon as an endangered species." It goes on to talk about how economic development initiatives have raised the levels of aspirations in the county. They have been working together with different organizations and they talked about these gains have been accomplished by utilizing natural resources of the county as the economic base. It goes on to say, "We are deeply saddened that this hard work could go for naught in the lives of so many who demand so little could have their lives disrupted and or destroyed."

It goes on to talk about the natural resources. The Maine wild blueberries and how the new status as a health food is actually demanding that they must utilize new farming techniques as well as irrigation, which would be in jeopardy with the passage of this legislation of the listing. Aquaculture, we know how important that is and the logging industry with Georgia Pacific. It closes with, "Please make every effort to protect the people of Washington County, their right to exist in harmony with their environment and the survival of their fragile economy. Assure them that their lives will not be adversely affected by the high-handed approaches of our federal bureaucracies and their supporters." It is signed George "Bud" Finch, Eastport City Manager.

Let me talk a little bit about the Resolution. I won't go down through all the whereases, you can do that yourself. At the end, be it "Resolved, that we, your Memorialists, respectfully urge and request that the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, the Secretary of Commerce William Daley and the Congress of the United States reconsider the intent to include the Atlantic salmon on the Endangered Species List as it would benefit neither the Atlantic salmon nor the people of Maine and allow Maine to continue to execute its own comprehensive plan to restore the Atlantic salmon to its waters."

This is a very, very important issue to all of us, not just down east Maine. We, the citizens of Maine, rely on our natural resources. The slogan, the way Maine should be, is represented in the natural resources, the citizens of all those who will be affected by this. This is not to imply that the Atlantic salmon not be restored and protected, it completely does exactly that. We want to rely on the plan that everyone has participated in. Now that it is completely funded, we hope that you will support this. I would like to have you join me and the many cities, towns and organizations of eastern Maine who have passed similar Resolutions and send a unified message to the federal government that the listing is not the action necessary to best protect the salmon. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Old Town, Representative Dunlap.

Representative DUNLAP: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I, like my good friend from Holden, Representative Campbell, have some serious questions about the necessity of listing as either endangered or threatened. The species is salmo salar, the Atlantic salmon. When I go home to Old Town I get people who stop me on the street and they sort of hesitate and ask me whether or not I am in favor or not of the idea of listing salmon as endangered. Understanding the process, as I do, and having been involved, as I have been the last three years in issues pertaining to Atlantic salmon, I ask them the question, why don't you ask me whether I prefer the planet Saturn over the planet Jupiter, because my opinion has just about as much bearing on the arrangement of the heavens as it does on whether or not salmon are listed. This is now an entirely separate process. It is now moving forward under the offices of the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Interior. What we do here tonight has absolutely no bearing on whether or not that process goes forward.

In my endeavors in the last few years dealing with Atlantic salmon, we have worked very, very hard in the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Committee to secure funding with the help of the Appropriations Committee toward the issue of restoration and fulfillment of the goals of the Conservation Plan. We are nowhere near, even now, the target levels anticipated in 1995 for funding of the Salmon Conservation Plan. We still have a lot to do. We have a lot of ground to make up. We have put a tremendous amount more money into this than we had in previous years. In fact, we had better than quintupled it. With tonight's passage of Representative Dugay's bill, that figure is probably up to about ten times what we were funding just two years ago. I think that is a real legitimate start. I think we can lay out a lot of hope for people in down east Maine, but I don't think we can do it with a Joint Resolution memorializing Congress not to list the salmon. Congress doesn't really have much to do with it either.

I don't want to give people in down east Maine a false sense of security that by issuing forward a Joint Resolution memorializing Congress that somehow we are doing something to stop this process. We really are not. Nothing we do here tonight will stop that process. We will go forward and it will either stand or fall on its own merits. It is unfortunate that this issue has become so politicized and polarized and people are deathly afraid of what is going to happen. What is driving this debate is fear. Everyone is afraid of what is going to happen in two or three years if salmon are listed. They don't know. They have horror stories about the spotted owl or the snail darter. The fact of the matter is, we don't know what the federal government will recommend if they choose to list and at what level they choose to list. We have done an awful lot today with that passage of the bill, Representative Dugay's bill, about the conservation plan. We have done a lot in the past two years.

We should be working towards a partnership with the federal government to try to do something that we haven't discussed tonight, which is restoration of Atlantic salmon. If we do that, then we also can address the issues of agriculture and aquaculture. We should not be encouraging the fear that if salmon are listed that we are shutting down east Maine. We don't know that and I doubt that would really be the case. We can work with the federal government. We should be working with the federal government. We should not be acting in

opposition to the federal government. I am not in favor of listing, but neither do I favor this Joint Resolution. I don't think it does what it proposes to do. I don't think it will help the people of down east Maine and much like the opposition to listing itself, this Joint Resolution also will neither do anything to restore salmon nor do anything to help the people of down east Maine.

I think we should focus our efforts on issues that will actually move this particular debate forward in a proactive way to work on the environmental issues that surround the issues of Atlantic salmon and do what we can as a state. We are very limited to what we can do as a state. We can work on habitat issues. We can do some stocking issues. That is really it. Beyond that you have to rely on our federal government to negotiate with foreign countries, which are doing the off shore fishing and to work on reasonable regulations. Not to shut down our agricultural industries, but to work with them and help them. This can be a helpful process, not necessarily a hurtful one. I am trying to look at this in the best possible light. I think scientifically the merits of listing are very, very little. You have to remember that one hundred years ago we were stocking salmon, cut throat trout and wild humpback or Chinook salmon in the Dennys River. The genetic issues are very, very clouded and I am not sure that they can be resolved through Joint Resolutions.

I will be opposing this. Mr. Speaker, I ask that when the vote be taken, it be taken by the yeas and nays.

Representative DUNLAP of Old Town **REQUESTED** a roll call on **ADOPTION**.

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

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Calais, Representative Shorey.

Representative **SHOREY**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I would have to disagree with my good friend from Old Town. I believe this Resolution would do something. This Resolution would perhaps show the federal government that as the State of Maine, we are concerned about what is going on down east. Perhaps it won't sway every member of that committee, but what if it even nudged one person on that committee to say, maybe the State of Maine, their elected officials believe, through a Resolution, that this is the vehicle we have to show the federal government that we believe that this listing should not take place. The economic impact of an ESA listing of the Atlantic salmon would be devastating to the economy of Washington County. We are looking at a region where in boom economic times, everybody is having a wonderful growth of their economy, our economy is doing a little bit better too. Our unemployment level has dropped to 10 percent. We are still double digits. The listing would affect aquaculture, the cranberry industry, an industry that we voted as a Legislature to support last session. This would also affect the lumber and paper industries. These are the industries down east. These are the major employers. What if these are cut down? What are we looking at? Twenty-five percent unemployment, 30 percent, 40 percent unemployment. It doesn't just affect Washington County.

This listing affects one-third of the people in the State of Maine. All areas contributing to the watershed that goes into these rivers would be affected. A lot of your constituents would be affected. They might not realize it yet, but when the listing comes through, if it comes through, they will be affected. They will be calling you and saying, why didn't you do something about it? Yes, we are funding Representative Dugay's bill. Thank you

very much. I think that is very, very important. We are also asking you as a House, a legislative body, to support a resolution saying we think this is a bad idea. It is based on bad science. It will hurt the economy of the State of Maine and we do not think it is the right thing to do. It also recognizes the fact that the federal government has not stood up to its end of the bargain, a bargain that it made with our Chief Executive. It has given us two years of a five-year plan. These two years are not enough to see the results of a plan. We need to demonstrate that the elected representatives of the people of the State of Maine are united in the opposition of this ill-conceived listing. I would ask you to vote for this Resolution because it will send a message that we, as a state, do not believe that the federal government should be able to come in here and tell us how to run our state. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Arundel, Representative Daigle.

Representative **DAIGLE**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. My district in York County is almost as far as you can get from Washington County and still be in this state. I feel that it is important for those of us in York County to support strongly the Resolution now before this body. I agree with the statements made earlier by my good friend from Old Town, Representative Dunlap, that we don't know what the federal government will do with listing. It is a very complicated issue and we are speculating on what might happen. What I think we do know is the way the federal government will go about it. The Endangered Species Act is one that works with what I call an intuitive process. Meaning that under that structure if you can think of something that might help the salmon or make a difference, you must do it. The alternative to that is a logical process. Intuitive ways to solve problems will probably get you there, but at an awful cost.

I had a car mechanic once that worked on my automobile in an intuitive process. Eventually after changing everything it did fix the problem, but it is a lousy way to approach it. Think of it in terms of health care. If you had a sick child and there was a federal program offering innovative ways to solve that health problem, but one of the consequences of listing this program was that any possible solution could be employed in this matter without parental control. If one doctor wanted to change the diet, it would happen. If one wanted to give a prescription, it would happen. That is similar to what happened with the Endangered Species Act. Under the terms of takings, any action, which may harm the species, is prohibited. You do not have to necessarily correlate your behavior in one area with the behavior anywhere else in this program. That is an intuitive approach. It will be very costly. As in my example with health care, the issue in many people's minds working on the solutions will not be to save the salmon, it will not be to save the people of Washington County or other parts of eastern Maine. It will be to see what happens when they try their experiments.

We have the resources here in the state to fund this program and to be in charge of our own fate in this matter. Another reason why I think it is very important for as many of us as possible to get behind this is that too often the people of eastern Maine feel left alone for good reason. The rest of us probably don't care as much as we ought to or at least express that as often as we ought to of their fate. A strong vote tonight in this House on the Resolution, I believe sends the most important message, not necessarily to the federal regulators, although I think it will, I want to send a message to the people up in eastern Maine to the people in York County do know what is going on.

We do care what is going on. We are going to continue to care. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Pembroke, Representative Goodwin.

Representative **GOODWIN**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I will be very brief. We have much to do tonight. On Saturday night, January 29, the people of Washington County are going to gather at the University of Maine, the Performing Art Center. We expect over 1,000 people there. We are going to express our wishes and make known to the folks there just exactly what we want. I would ask this House to support Washington County and support this order. I would like nothing better than to zerox a copy of my booklet tonight and take it to this meeting and tell the folks in Washington County the state is with us. I thank the Speaker and this body.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Rumford, Representative Cameron.

Representative **CAMERON**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I find myself firmly planted on the fence here tonight. I have heard two different aspects. When I say firmly planted on the fence, I guess the play is, I don't understand how either side of this issue is wrong. I don't understand how this can possibly do any harm. Maybe my good friend from Old Town is correct and it won't sway Congress and it won't sway Mr. Babbitt or the department. It cannot possibly hurt. To show the people of Washington County, as was said before, that we understand and we want to do everything that we can to help you is more important than any political issues that we can discuss here tonight. To say that this won't make any difference because sending memorials to Congress has no impact, I would ask you to look at our track record. We have sent a lot of memorials to Congress that had no impact and we knew when they left here they would have no impact. We sent them just the same, because the message was important to our constituents even if it wasn't heard loud and clear in Washington. I think this message is important that not only the people of Washington County hear, but I think it is important that this message is heard throughout the State of Maine. If you haven't had an opportunity to look at the watershed associated with these rivers down east, I urge you to take a look at them, because they have a far greater impact than just Washington County. They extend way over in western Maine where I live. It will have a greater impact than just the blueberry industry and the paper industry. It will impact tourism. We say we want tourism to grow in inland Maine, not just on the coast. It will have an impact. I ask you to please support the Resolution knowing full well that it may not be the solution, but it certainly can't hurt. It is important that we send the message to our constituents all over the State of Maine. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

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

Representative **MARTIN**: Mr. Speaker, Members of the House. I can't help in getting involved to some degree and the question as to whether or not this Resolution will have any impact. Let me just say that in my years in the Legislature and my having worked in Washington with Senator Muskie, I can guarantee you the Resolution in Washington will have no impact. Primarily because the members of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives will never see it. Primarily because it will go to some staff member who will never even pass it on unless they happen to be a member of Congress from

Maine, then they just might be able to get it as a result of one of us getting it to them. The actual impact in Washington is absolutely nil in my opinion and will have absolutely no impact on the President or the Secretary of the Interior. If what we are doing tonight is basically thinking we are going to have impact, you need to think about it as a feel good impact, making yourself and our self feel good because we are doing it. If what it was what we want to do, it is to send the message to the people in Washington County, Hancock County and Penobscot County that we are with them in this effort. That is another question, because in that sense we can feel and provide that we are willing to help them in that effort to do what it is that needs to be done. I would have rather that the Resolution had been drafted in that sense. In that sense, it would have meant that the people within the Legislature agree with what it is the people of Washington County are trying to do. We don't have that.

Let me really tell you where I really think the problem happens to lie. It lies with us for our inability in the past number of years in providing funds in order to fund the program that would have made the federal government not do what they are now doing. We can blame the feds all we want to, but we ought to look ourselves square in the face for not having appropriated the money, not giving the Atlantic Commission the money and the staff over the years. I stand here as one of those that is part of that. For those of you who have been here over the years, you are all involved. Tonight what we can do is to pass the legislation, which gives the money, which says that the State of Maine is willing to stand up and do something, which we should have been doing for the last number of years. That is where it lies, not in Resolutions, Memorials or anything. Those are things that we would like to have done, should have done or someone else should have done it. It is the fact that we didn't do what we should have done, someone else should have done it. It is the fact that we didn't do what we should have done. We didn't put the money where we know wish we had. That leaves us now with having to vote on this Resolution.

Let me just tell you that I am going to vote for it, but I also tell you that it doesn't make any difference how you vote. I think it is important that most of us, especially those of us who feel that we want to help Washington County, we ought to be voting for it. For those of you who happen to be opposed to what is being done with this Resolution, vote with us because it doesn't make any difference anyway. It is just going to make those of us in northern Maine feel better. That is really what it is. We ought not to kid ourselves, because the bottom line tonight is the money. We need the money to convince the feds that we have the ability in this state, the guts and the determination and the desire to stick with it, that we will carry this forward. That is the bottom line tonight, not this Resolution.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Holden, Representative Campbell.

Representative **CAMPBELL**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. We have had some eloquent dialog concerning this issue. A couple of things that have been mentioned, first, the impact that Representative Martin just spoke of. I will address that in a second. Let me talk to you a little bit about the drafting process. This was something, as I mentioned, that occurred and became my initiative simply because I was sitting at the table for the second time and I was handed a letter and it was a time to do something for those who really requested support. The drafting process began at the Legislative Council. The Legislative Council had to pass this Resolution. It was a

concept that began as a concept draft. I promised every one of the council members who would support this that we would be involved in a collaborative measure. As soon as I got the draft from the Reviser's Office, I immediately sent a copy to the Speaker of the House, the President of the Senate and the Executive Branch. I got back after due diligence to drafts from the Speaker. We incorporated many of the concepts, changed the words, removed some of the wherases and had similar input from the people on the second floor. I didn't get a response from the president of the other body. I apologize earlier for referring to him.

In terms of the impact, the impact is significant. As Representative Martin mentioned, no, it is not going to be circulated to the members of the Congress. It will get to the members of our delegation. It may not get to the Secretary of the Interior Babbitt, Secretary of Commerce Daley, but what it will do is it will be recorded at the public hearing, January 29. That is where it will have the impact. I am hearing some disturbing comments in the halls. This is not a partisan issue. I certainly hope we don't look at it that way. It is not a north south issue. It is not a two-Maine issue. This is an issue that affects all of us. I would hope as Representative Martin suggested that you would be inclined to support those of us from the other Maine. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Harpswell, Representative Etnier.

Representative **ETNIER**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I will be joining Representative Martin in supporting this Joint Resolution, but it is with great trepidation, because I don't believe all the words that are in it are accurate. The Representative from Eagle Lake is 100 percent correct. When I talk to my constituents about this issue, the first thing I tell them is men and women of my district, I have failed in my responsibility to adequately protect the Atlantic salmon because I have failed as the Representative from Eagle Lake has indicated, to adequately fund the conservation plan. I say I, the Legislature and I say everyone within this building has done so. I think we have been remiss. We have fiddled and it is now at the 11th hour and here we are. Had we been more aggressive, had we jumped on this in 1997 as we should have as a state, every man, woman and child who was concerned about this, I don't believe we would be standing here having this debate right now. This would be a mute point. We would be further along. We would hold our heads prouder and we wouldn't have to reinvent history to say that we have been strongly committed, because, ladies and gentlemen, I wish I could say that, but I know that is not the case from my perspective. I also concur with the good Representative from Eagle Lake and will be supporting his adoption of this, because I am deeply concerned about the listing process. I am deeply concerned about whether this listing will make any difference at all in the health of the salmon. I am deeply concerned about the aquaculture industry. I believe this will have a tremendous impact on them in terms of their ability to operate at a profit. They have a very hard time doing that now and any additional increased cost will perhaps put them over the edge. I am nowhere near as concerned about the forestry industry or the blueberry industry based on what I understand about the science of this. They have a right to be concerned as well. For those reasons and for the reason most strong that we acknowledge that we have failed in our task to back this plan up. Let's move on from here. Let's support our good friends from the eastern part of the state and do all we can

to avoid the listing. If and when it is listed, let us do all we can to help the businesses and the people in that neck of the woods to react effectively and quickly without any adverse or as minimal adverse impacts on their economies and their livelihoods. Thank you.

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

ROLL CALL NO. 420

YEA - Ahearne, Andrews, Bagley, Baker, Belanger, Berry DP, Berry RL, Bolduc, Bouffard, Bowles, Bragdon, Brennan, Brooks, Bruno, Bryant, Buck, Bumps, Cameron, Campbell, Carr, Chick, Chizmar, Cianchette, Clark, Clough, Collins, Colwell, Cote, Cowger, Cross, Daigle, Davidson, Davis, Desmond, Dugay, Duncan, Duplessie, Etnier, Fisher, Foster, Frechette, Fuller, Gagne, Gerry, Gillis, Glynn, Goodwin, Gooley, Green, Hatch, Heidrich, Honey, Jabar, Jacobs, Jodrey, Jones, Joy, Kane, Kasprzak, Kneeland, Labrecque, LaVerdiere, Lemoine, Lemont, Lindahl, Lovett, MacDougall, Mack, Madore, Mailhot, Martin, Marvin, Mayo, McAlevey, McDonough, McGlocklin, McKee, McKenney, McNeil, Mendros, Mitchell, Murphy E, Murphy T, Muse, Nass, Nutting, Peavey, Perkins, Pieh, Pinkham, Plowman, Povich, Quint, Richard, Richardson E, Richardson J, Rines, Rosen, Samson, Sanborn, Savage C, Savage W, Saxl JW, Saxl MV, Schneider, Sherman, Shields, Shorey, Sirois, Skoglund, Snowe-Mello, Stanley, Stanwood, Stedman, Sullivan, Thompson, Tobin D, Tobin J, Tracy, Trahan, Treadwell, Tripp, True, Tuttle, Usher, Volenik, Waterhouse, Watson, Weston, Wheeler EM, Wheeler GJ, Williams, Winsor, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Bull, Dudley, Dunlap, Norbert, O'Neil, Powers, Shiah, Stevens, Townsend, Twomey.

ABSENT - Gagnon, Matthews, O'Brien JA, O'Brien LL, O'Neal, Perry, Tessier.

Yes, 134; No, 10; Absent, 7; Excused, 0.

134 having voted in the affirmative and 10 voted in the negative, with 7 being absent, the Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent for concurrence.

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

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

An Act to Enhance the Conservation of Atlantic Salmon

(H.P. 1784) (L.D. 2504)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed.

Representative TRACY of Rome **REQUESTED** a roll call on **ENACTMENT**.

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

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

Representative **MURPHY**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. When members of the Legislature speak with each other rather than to each other, many positive things can be accomplished. At a legislative leadership breakfast with the Governor we had talked about what could we do know, just at the point where we are receiving the budget, to be able to show that the dollar commitment matches the rhetoric commitment.

The proposal came forth to take this unanimous agreement on the funding for the commission and the watersheds and put it on a fast track. The press, the print and the TV has made much about the differences between the parties and regions of this state as we began to look and deal with the supplemental budget. That is a process that is going to take us the next two months before we bring that to conclusion. With this fast track proposal, we have an opportunity to make a statement that we are willing to come together as we just did in that Resolution to put the money commitment now into place and to remove that from the budget. I would urge your support of this fast-track proposal.

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

This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken.

ROLL CALL NO. 421

YEA - Ahearne, Andrews, Bagley, Baker, Belanger, Berry DP, Berry RL, Bolduc, Bouffard, Bowles, Bragdon, Brennan, Brooks, Bruno, Bryant, Buck, Bull, Bumps, Cameron, Campbell, Carr, Chick, Chizmar, Cianchette, Clark, Clough, Collins, Colwell, Cote, Cowger, Cross, Daigle, Davidson, Davis, Desmond, Dudley, Dugay, Duncan, Dunlap, Duplessie, Ethier, Fisher, Foster, Frechette, Fuller, Gagne, Gagnon, Gerry, Gillis, Glynn, Goodwin, Gooley, Green, Hatch, Heidrich, Honey, Jabar, Jacobs, Jodrey, Jones, Joy, Kane, Kasprzak, Kneeland, Labrecque, LaVerdiere, Lemoine, Lemont, Lindahl, Lovett, MacDougall, Mack, Mailhot, Martin, Marvin, Mayo, McAlevey, McDonough, McGlocklin, McKee, McKenney, McNeil, Mendros, Mitchell, Murphy E, Murphy T, Muse, Nass, Norbert, Nutting, O'Neil, Peavey, Perkins, Pieh, Pinkham, Plowman, Povich, Powers, Quint, Richard, Richardson E, Richardson J, Rines, Rosen, Samson, Sanborn, Savage C, Savage W, Saxl JW, Saxl MV, Schneider, Sherman, Shiah, Shields, Shorey, Sirois, Skoglund, Snowe-Mello, Stanley, Stanwood, Stedman, Stevens, Sullivan, Tessier, Thompson, Tobin D, Tobin J, Townsend, Tracy, Trahan, Treadwell, Tripp, True, Tuttle, Twomey, Usher, Volenik, Waterhouse, Watson, Weston, Wheeler EM, Wheeler GJ, Williams, Winsor, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - NONE.

ABSENT - Madore, Matthews, O'Brien JA, O'Brien LL, O'Neal, Perry.

Yes, 145; No, 0; Absent, 6; Excused, 0.

145 having voted in the affirmative and 0 voted in the negative, with 6 being absent, 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. 979)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice report out, to the Senate, a bill implementing the recommendations of the study group to review procedures and consider improvements in juvenile and adult probation services.

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

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 977)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development report out, to the Senate, a bill relating to consolidation of Maine's medical and osteopathic licensing boards.

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

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 978)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development report out, to the Senate, a bill relating to occupational and licensing boards and the Office of Licensing and Registration within the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation.

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

Bill "An Act to Amend Investment-related Provisions of the Maine Insurance Code"

(S.P. 974) (L.D. 2520)

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.

Resolve, to Improve Access to Technical Education and Ensure a Skilled Work Force

(S.P. 973) (L.D. 2519)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Support Child Care Education and Services" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 963) (L.D. 2505)

Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

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.

On motion of Representative THOMPSON of Naples, the following Joint Order: (H.P. 1786)

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary report out, to the House, a bill to implement the recommendations of the court unification task force convened pursuant to Resolve 1997, chapter 107.

READ and **PASSED**.
Sent for concurrence.

On motion of Representative MURPHY of Kennebunk, the following Joint Order: (H.P. 1793)

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Education report out, to the House, a bill concerning the system of requiring fingerprints from and seeking criminal history record information for educational personnel.

READ.

On motion of Representative MURPHY of Kennebunk, **TABLED** pending **PASSAGE** and specially assigned for Tuesday, February 8, 2000.

On motion of Representative SIROIS of Caribou, the following House Order: (H.O. 33)

ORDERED, that Representative Paul Volenik of Brooklin be excused January 12th for health reasons.

READ and **PASSED**.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Change of Committee

Representative TOWNSEND from the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Commission to Study Poverty Among Working Parents with Regard to State Earned Income Credit"

(H.P. 90) (L.D. 103)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION**.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION**.

Sent for concurrence.

Representative O'NEAL from the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Qualifications of Weighmasters"

(H.P. 848) (L.D. 1182)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**.

Sent for concurrence.

Representative O'NEAL from the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** on Bill "An Act to Create a Patent Program in Maine"

(H.P. 1690) (L.D. 2396)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the **JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**.

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. 1623) (L.D. 2270) Bill "An Act to Amend the Law Regarding Disability License Plates" Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1628) (L.D. 2275) Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Work Center Product and Services Set Aside" 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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following matter, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment Wednesday, January 12, 2000, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Bill "An Act to Encourage Energy Efficiency in Government Facilities"

(H.P. 1740) (L.D. 2446)

(Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested) **TABLED** - Wednesday, January 12, 2000 (Till Later Today) by Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska.

PENDING - REFERENCE.

On motion of Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **UTILITIES AND ENERGY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

IN CONVENTION

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

The Convention was called to order by the Chair.

On a motion by Senator Longley of Waldo, it was **ORDERED**, that a Committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable First Lady Mary Herman, honorable members of the Judiciary, the Constitutional Officers of the State of Maine, the State Auditor and members of the Governor's Cabinet and staff, inviting them to attend this Joint Convention.

The Order was read and passed.

The Chair appointed the following:

The Sen. from Hancock, Sen. Goldthwait

The Sen. from Piscataquis, Sen. Davis

The Rep. from Madawaska, Rep. Ahearn

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 we were charged and we are pleased to report that the First Lady, the honorable members of the Judiciary; the Constitutional Officers, the State Auditor and members of the Governor's Cabinet and staff will attend forthwith.

The Chair recognized in the House Gallery the First Lady of the State of Maine, Mary Herman.

On a motion by Senator Pingree of Knox, it was ORDERED that a Committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., Governor of the State of Maine, and extend to him an invitation to attend this Convention and make such communication as pleases him.

The Order was read and passed.

The Chair appointed the following:

The Sen. from Penobscot, Sen. Michaud

The Sen. from Penobscot, Sen. Cathcart

The Sen. from Cumberland, Sen. Harriman

The Rep. from Portland, Rep. Townsend

The Rep. from Orono, Rep. Stevens

The Rep. from Livermore, Rep. Berry

The Rep. from Lewiston, Rep. Mailhot

The Rep. from Rockport, Rep. Powers

The Rep. from Fairfield, Rep. Tessier

The Rep. from Easton, Rep. Kneeland

The Rep. from Norway, Rep. Winsor

The Rep. from Raymond, Rep. Bruno

The Rep. from Acton, Rep. Nass

Subsequently, Senator Michaud of Penobscot, for the Committee, reported that the Committee had delivered the message with which we were charged and are pleased to report that the Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., Governor of the State of Maine, will attend forthwith.

The Chair is pleased to welcome the Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., Governor of the State of Maine accompanied by the Honorable Daniel E. Wathen, Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court.

Governor Angus S. King, Jr., then addressed the Convention. Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Chief Justice, Honorable Members of the 119th Legislature, and Citizens of Maine:

Just a week ago, Maine, and all of us in this building, lost a great friend. Chuck Cianchette was an original – energetic, enthusiastic, creative, hard working, and loving. Wherever he was, things happened – in business, in politics, with the Boy Scouts, Camp Susan Curtis, or in just about any cause in his beloved Pittsfield. His agenda was always the common good as he saw it, and in many ways, he represented the best of Maine – positive and enthusiastic, creative and receptive to change, and deeply caring about his family and neighbors throughout the state.

His nephew Peter, of course, is a distinguished member of this body and many of us know and work with members of his family.

And so tonight, I want to dedicate this speech to Chuck and use his life to help us to understand where we are, and, more importantly, where we can be in the future.

The first thing anyone will tell you about Chuck is that he always saw the glass half full. Sure, he acknowledged problems, but his underlying attitude was positive I was at his memorial service on Saturday and the picture they had of him had a big grin. He believed in himself and the people around him and he was always ready to move on to solutions. And it's that attitude, I believe, that is the first and perhaps most important thing we can learn from Chuck – for once we learn, absorb, understand, believe – really believe – that we've got something special, something extraordinary going up here, that we can compete and excel, then everything else will come.

I've been working in and around social, cultural and economic issues affecting Maine for almost 30 years, pretty intensively for the past five, and I've become totally convinced that the key ingredient – more than tax incentives or highways, technology or even good schools – is that indefinable attitude that won't take no for an answer, that says yes to life and it's infinite possibilities.

So, how are we doing? What is the state of the state? Here are some answers Chuck would like:

Since 1995, we have added a net of 65,500 new jobs to the Maine economy; that's net additional jobs over and above the replacement of jobs lost due to the well-publicized layoffs that we've all lived through. This is a stunning number – it represents over a thousand new jobs every month, month in and month out, for five years. Cumulatively, it is equal to the entire population of the City of Portland; or looked at another way, it's as if we have added a facility equivalent to the lost G.H. Bass in Wilton, every week and a half for five years.

And it's not just happening in southern Maine. In the last year, for example, four of the counties that have historically lagged the state in growth – Hancock, Waldo, Franklin and Somerset -- experienced higher job growth than the state average. Here are some comparative unemployment rates – from January of 1994 to the fall of 1999 – Aroostook, 12.3% down to 4.1%; Penobscot, 7.8% down to 3.7%; and Washington, 12.5% down to 6.7%. Could there be better evidence that Maine – all of Maine -- is moving in the right direction?

Speaking of Washington County, I have an announcement to make – one that has been five years coming, and couldn't come at a better time. The ICT group, a world leader in telecommunications-based businesses, which currently has call centers in Oxford, Pittsfield, Wilton, and Lewiston, is opening a new center within the next 90 days – in Calais, Maine. One hundred and fifty jobs to start and an entirely new set of opportunities for the people of Washington County.

And as unemployment has dropped, pay has generally gone up. In my office is a picture of a sign in front of a Scarborough sandwich shop; "Now hiring, medical benefits, 401k plan, incentive program." I would submit that when sandwich shops are offering 401k plans, we're definitely moving in the right direction.

Our welfare rolls are at the lowest level in 30 years and those getting off the rolls are staying off. Our brand of welfare reform, which includes education, training, and other supports, is working. In education, we're flying.

Maine has the best K-12 system in America and our students continue to test at the top of the national class in all areas. In fact, just this past December the National Education

Goals Panel recognized Maine as the State with the highest performance in the nation in improving public education.

In higher education, we have lagged in the past and are below the New England average for college graduates, but quietly and steadily, we're moving up. In just the last two years, enrollment in the University System is up over 1,800 students, and by another 411 in the technical colleges.

All of this speaks of an economy that's moving from heavy lifting to heavy thinking.

Over the last three years, we have made real strides under the leadership of President Lawrence and many of the members of this body to rectify Maine's low position in the funding of research and development. We've taken big steps with the funding of the University of Maine's Economic Improvement Fund at the rate of \$10 million every year, a \$20 million bond issue in 1998, the funding of the Maine Technology Institute to get applied research grants to Maine's businesses, and, with the crucial help of Senator Snowe, securing the opportunity to create a first-in-the-nation Ocean Observing System.

Already the returns are beginning to show. Two new sensor companies have been incubated, a new aquaculture venture has been launched, a new technique for freezing lobster has been created, and several patents are pending for new wood composites products.

Our environment – already one of the best in the world – is getting better.

We have cleaner air: In the mid-eighties, Maine averaged nine days of unhealthy air a year. In 1999, even with all the heat, we had one.

We have a cleaner marine environment: Over 100,000 acres of clam flats have been opened in the last five years and the value of the lobster catch is at an all-time high.

We have cleaner workplaces: As a result of the Toxic Use Reduction Act, which was re-authorized last year by this Legislature, we have seen a 57% reduction in toxic materials released, a 20% reduction in toxics used, and a 28% reduction in hazardous waste generated.

We have cleaner rivers: Dioxin levels in river fish have steadily declined as the nation's most stringent dioxin standards have been implemented ahead of schedule. Last summer, we removed Edwards Dam and the stretch of the Kennebec outside these windows, which couldn't attain a Class C designation before – for the first time in living memory, is up to Class B, and they're now catching stripers in Winslow.

We're improving our forests: The Forest Practices Act has been strengthened, and we have better information about the state of our forests than ever before, as well as clear benchmarks to guide future forest management. Most of Maine's large landowners – including the state itself – are voluntarily going through an outside audit of their forest practices.

We are preserving our natural heritage: Last year, the state acquired Scarborough Beach and 29 miles of shorefront on Moosehead Lake and the land bond that voters passed in November will ensure that the Maine we enjoy will be here for our kids, as well.

In health, there's some good news, too. Three years ago, I stood here and told you of my friend Henry Jones and the promise I had made him in the hospital in Washington to someday try to help keep kids off tobacco. Working together that year, we doubled the tax on cigarettes, and set in motion a

media campaign aimed at young people. I'm happy to report tonight that in the two years since that law became effective, tobacco consumption in Maine has dropped 16%, and, as I will mention later, this is just the start.

Financially, the state is in the best shape in a decade; Chuck would like this; he was, after all, a businessman. Virtually all of the gimmicks used to balance the budget in the early 90s have been eliminated, amazingly we've proven that the "temporary sales tax" increase really was temporary, as of July 1st, it will be gone for good, we're paying our bills on time, and our savings account, the rainy day fund, -- down to a few million dollars five years ago – is now at \$130 million. And I believe – as my budget makes clear – that we should continue to cut taxes and keep adding money to the rainy day fund while times are good.

The state's infrastructure – the vital connections that allow us to work, travel and communicate – is good and getting better. Thanks to the foresight and support of this and prior Legislatures – and the leadership of John Melrose and his colleagues at the DOT – we are in the midst of the most ambitious and far-reaching reconstruction of our highway, bridge and rail system in the history of the state.

There is hardly an area where work is not underway or being planned -- although I'm sure I'll hear from a few tomorrow – and the down payment on significantly improved rural arterials and east-west connections, and making passenger rail a real option is in the budget I have just put before you.

The three port strategy – a dream since the Administration of Governor Jim Longley a quarter century ago – will be a reality by the end of this year, as construction of major projects at Mack Point and the Port of Portland are added to our world class facility in Eastport.

And barely two months ago, the largest one-time infrastructure project in the history of the state of Maine was completed – without a dime of taxpayer money. I refer to not one but two natural gas pipelines connecting Maine and New England to the vast energy resources of western and eastern Canada.

It is impossible to overstate the significance of this project. For the first time, Maine is at the beginning of the energy supply pipeline instead of the end, and some of the benefits are already being felt. I told somebody that being at the beginning of the pipeline instead of the end is like being Texas without the rattlesnakes.

At this moment, in Bucksport, Veazie, Jay, Rumford, and Westbrook, clean, efficient gas-fired electrical generating plants are on-line or under construction, representing jobs, over a billion dollars in new tax base, and the reasonable likelihood of cheaper electricity for our homes and businesses.

Now, if I were making this speech 20 or even 10 years ago, this would be the end of the infrastructure discussion. But not now, not this year, not when we've all learned that in terms of communication – and doing business – a tiny strand of spun glass can be as important as the widest highway or longest bridge.

And here's some really good news – we already have what is probably the best telecommunications system in the country – 80,000 miles of fiber optics, the country's first fully digitally switched network, the first state to have 100% of our schools and libraries on-line, and the installation this coming year of the nation's most advanced interactive TV system in our high schools.

But it gets better, because I am announcing tonight that this winter, Maine really goes on-line.

To anyone who has waited for an Internet site to open or a file to download, the key is speed and the key to speed is something called bandwidth – the size of the “pipe” that carries the phenomenal resources of the Internet to our homes and businesses.

In the age of e-commerce, bandwidth is the essential commodity. Just as the roads and railroads defined economic opportunity a century ago, these wires or the lack of them – will spell the economic difference between businesses, towns, and states in the new century.

And tonight, we’re hitting the bandwidth jackpot.

First, Time Warner (now AOL-Time Warner) is extending their cable-based high speed internet service, called Roadrunner – now available only in the Portland area—to northern Maine. This means Presque Isle and New Sweden, Caribou and Limestone will have better Internet service than Boston or New York. I should mention that Time Warner’s Roadrunner in Portland has the highest penetration of customers of any city where they have deployed that system anywhere in the country. It says something about Maine and Maine people and our willingness to go online that we have that high percentage.

This will mark the first time Time Warner has deployed Roadrunner outside an urban area anywhere in the country. And it didn’t happen by accident – it took commitment from within the company and persistent local leadership—and that leadership, that advocacy for this region, came from a great guy named Barry

McCrum—who’s here with us tonight. Barry, congratulations and thanks for what you’ve done for the County.

But what about the rest of the state? Here’s the second part of our bandwidth bonanza -- Bell Atlantic, the folks who installed most of the fiber and those fast switches, will be bringing to Maine their own high speed Internet service over ordinary phone wires—called DSL -- within the next month. The service will be offered first in our major urban areas—Portland, Lewiston, Augusta, and Bangor, with further expansion to other areas of the state to follow. Ed Dinan, Vice President for Bell Atlantic in Maine, is here with us tonight.

I won’t dwell on the importance of the Internet—in education, entertainment, health care, and particularly in business—but there’s little doubt that these two announcements add up to a huge step for Maine, not into the middle of the pack, but to a position of real national leadership in access to technology.

But is the state of the state all good? Are the problems all well in hand? Of course not—we still lag the country in income and the strength of our economy is still unevenly distributed. Many of our citizens, because of age, geography, or—most likely—education, are shut out of many of the new opportunities and are left stranded while the rising economic tide lifts all boats but their own.

Health care costs are soaring, straining family and business pocketbooks and throwing more and more hard-working people into the ranks of the uninsured.

And as we grow and prosper, something special about Maine—our open spaces, vibrant towns, working waterfronts, the very qualities that define this special place, seem to be slipping away.

So how do we deal with these daunting challenges? How do we preserve the best of Maine and at the same time build a new,

more inclusive, more prosperous state? That is a real challenge, nobody has really ever successfully managed that before.

For an answer, let’s return for a moment to my friend Chuck Cianchette. Last year was Cianbro’s 50th anniversary and to celebrate, they commissioned a book to describe the history of the company. As you read the book – which is a great American story by the way, -- four first-generation brothers growing up in a small town, starting a business from a beat up old pick-up truck after returning from the war, and building it to one of the premier construction companies in the country – anyway, as you read the book, two qualities jump out as being responsible for the company’s amazing success – first, a creative, can do, open-to-change, willing to take risks attitude, and a deep, family-based concern for people. You read the book and you read how Chuck and his brother figured out ways to build bridges and do things that had never been done before.

Let’s talk first about being open to change. If there is any one quality essential to survival in today’s world, it is the willingness to adapt, to react, to adjust to constantly changing circumstances. It sounds odd to say it, but the only certainties today are death, taxes and change itself.

For we live in the period of fastest change in human history, and businesses and jobs which were secure a few years ago find themselves suddenly at risk – from new competitors, new technologies, and new ideas.

The question is whether we understand and then embrace this fact, welcome it, and bend it to our will, or whether we resist and move to the sideline and watch the future pass us by. That is a real choice.

So we are faced with a stark choice, a defining moment – whether we are going to look back or forward, whether Maine will lead – as our motto suggests we should – or lag, as this nation and the world enters a new century. For what is happening, right before our eyes, is a fundamental redefinition of the Maine economy. For the past hundred years, our fortunes have been pinned to two economic legs – natural resources – fish, farming, and wood fiber, -- and traditional manufacturing – shoes, textiles, and wood components.

Although they will continue to be important parts of our economy, the plain fact is that technology will steadily alter or replace more and more of these jobs. We simply have to understand that.

So Governor, what do we do? Do we just turn our backs on these industries and their people that have given so much to Maine over the years? Absolutely not; we continue to help them keep costs down by doing everything we can to control workers’ comp and health care costs, by constantly re-examining our regulatory system to ensure that we are being sensible and cost-effective; by defending them vigorously against well-intentioned but wrong-headed assaults from the Federal Government – such as is now occurring with the proposed endangered species listing down east; and by controlling taxes in every way we can, including continued commitment to the business equipment property tax program, the most powerful and proven effective stimulus to capital investment in modern Maine history.

Yes, we support these traditional industries, but at the same time we must set our face firmly to the future. And do you want to know what the future looks like?

It’s a company that sells information and service; that’s based in Maine, but has a world-wide reach; that rests upon the skills and innate capabilities of our people; that is growing fast and reacts to opportunities and changes in the market; that

depends upon high technology and fast connections; that requires more education but creates new opportunities for personal growth and professional challenge; that pays better than the old mill jobs and is easier on the back.

I've just described EnvisionNet, probably the greatest entrepreneurial success story in recent Maine history. Heather Blease, who is with us tonight, started with four people and an idea barely five years ago and is now closing in on over a thousand employees at three locations.

Her product? Information. Your Internet screen freezes up in Dubuque, San Francisco, or Portland; you dial an 800 number for Microsoft tech support and the phone rings in Winthrop, Maine. A knowledgeable and friendly voice talks you through the fix, and everybody's happy. You're back on-line; Microsoft has a happy customer, and Maine has another good job.

So how do we keep this happening?

First, we help our companies – new and old – find access to the capital and ideas they need to make their businesses grow in Maine. Two days from now, I will be hosting the first digital summit with some of the best minds in high tech – John Sculley, the former head of Apple and Bob Metcalfe, who invented some of the hardware that makes the Internet possible -- at Via, a global e-commerce strategy and communications firm based in Portland, but has branches in San Francisco and Zurich. Don't you love somebody in San Francisco reporting to Portland headquarters? These are people who have the know-how, along with a deep love of Maine, who've agreed to sit down and brainstorm on how Maine can best meet the challenges of the new economy.

Second, we train the people they need to make it work. This means continued support for the University, the technical colleges, and K-12 so we can build that supply of capable people. We also must maintain our support for flexible and cost-effective training programs, which can be tailored to meet the needs of individual businesses and individual workers.

I want to stop for a moment on the issue of training and mention a critical problem that we must make a special effort to address. This is a problem that is a nationwide problem and I don't think it is being adequately addressed anywhere in the country. I am not hearing the candidates who are nervously sitting in somewhere in Iowa tonight. I call it the stranded worker. In a single week several years ago, we lost almost 300 textile jobs when Eastland Woolens in Corinna closed; the same week, one of the larger employers in southern Maine added 300 computer-processing jobs. So on paper, there was no net loss – but tell that to the people in Corinna.

Because of location and a lack of training, to a 55-year-old laid off textile worker in Corinna, those computer jobs in South Portland may as well have been on the moon.

If we're going to prepare our people – all our people – for this century, we've got to establish a path for our existing workers to upgrade their skills – or develop entirely new ones – in mid or late career as well as early on.

This move began last year with the inauguration of Maine's first ever Community College Partnerships – not new bricks and mortar, but an unprecedented collaboration between the Technical Colleges and the University – under the able leadership of Terry MacTaggart and John Fitzsimmons. This new system – aimed at making higher ed accessible and affordable – is off to a rousing start with 400 new students before it was even announced, and with a generous \$2 million gift from Bernie Osher of Biddeford and San Francisco matched with \$2

million proposed in my budget, Community College costs will come down even further.

But now we have to invite another player – Adult Ed – to the table and take the next step in a pilot project I call "Transition U.," an initiative designed specifically for mid-career workers who are – or are about to be – in transition and who are ready to trade the shuttle of the loom for the mouse of the computer.

And so tonight I'm calling upon the Maine Jobs Council and Val Landry of the Department of Labor, Duke Albanese at Education, Steve Levesque at DECD to work with the University, Adult Ed and Technical College Systems to create Transition U. – light on the bricks and mortar, guys, and no new bureaucracy, but a practical collaborative partnership with real results.

But, the state cannot do it all; employers must join us in investing in their people as well as their machines. Training is everybody's responsibility.

Another step toward the new economy is, of course, to maintain and expand where possible, our support for better education, at all levels. As I mentioned earlier, we are getting real, measurable results, but we can't for a moment let up.

My budget proposes an increase in GPA to 5% in the second year of the Biennium, meets a commitment to fund professional development, adds \$20 million for school renovation, provides a 5% increase for adult education for both years, and supports a collaborative effort to attract and retain capable educators.

The investments I have mentioned tonight in telecommunications, transportation and education are the foundation on which we are building a knowledge-based economy. But, our ace in the hole in terms of long-term economic prospects is the wonderful Maine environment – clean air and clean water, forest trails, mountains, lakes, the ocean, the New England village, viable downtowns; simply a great place to live, work and raise a family. This is our competitive advantage that we can't let slip through our fingers.

Let me tell you a story. An executive in Maine called me less than a week ago and said I am trying to recruit from San Francisco a very high-powered executive, one of the brightest people in the country. I really wanted to get him here. I talked to him on the phone. I told him Maine gets a little cold in the winter and gets a little dark in the afternoon in January. I want you to know what you are getting into. It isn't Boston. We don't have the Museum of Art and that kind of thing. We have our own, but not the one in Boston. The guy stopped him. He said, "You don't get it. If you were in Boston, I wouldn't be talking to you. It is Maine I want." We can't mess that up. If we turn into Boston, New Jersey or Connecticut, we have lost it. We have got to maintain what we have got.

But there are signs that we may be squandering this asset – congestion and commercial sprawl at the gateways to our spectacular natural resources; residential development leapfrogging to the headwaters of lakes, slowly turning them algae green; downtowns traded away for strip development at the next highway interchange. I was in one of our small towns this summer and I realized that it wasn't that there was no growth in that town, but the beautiful little town was a shell and two miles away on the road there was a whole new pseudo town built up of strip malls. Farms, woodlots and wildlife traded for large-lot subdivisions. These are some of the costs of sprawl, and unless we reverse course now – while there is still time – we will have lost something precious and irreplaceable about Maine.

But how do we do it? We need an approach that is at once generous and demanding of efficiency; at once respectful of the

freedom of choice and of holding people accountable for paying the costs of their choices; at once mindful of property rights and of legitimate public goals.

Fortunately, a package of ideas to implement such an approach is now taking form, thanks to the work of three groups that have been pursuing this problem on closely parallel tracks: the Legislature's Task Force on Smart Growth chaired by Senator Sharon Treat and Representative Ken Gagnon; a citizens' Smart Growth Forum sponsored by Eco-Eco and led by Ted Koffman from the College of the Atlantic; and my own cabinet subcommittee, chaired by Commissioner John Melrose. Their collective package might be called Smart Growth: the Competitive Advantage.

The Smart Growth initiatives include promoting investments in our downtowns and service center communities, and helping communities restore traditional neighborhoods. It also includes preserving our open rural spaces and promoting agriculture by reducing penalties on farmland under the Farm and Open Space Tax Act, eliminating the sales tax on electricity use in agriculture and aquaculture. Why should you not have a sales tax on manufacturing if you are making this, but you have a sales tax if you make a glass of milk. It doesn't make sense. We should equal that playing field this year. Finally, we should strengthen our Right to Farm law.

I strongly support this package, and will work hard with you this session and the next to implement it.

I have asked DEP Commissioner Martha Kirkpatrick to work with businesses and the environmental community to encourage innovation and to rethink our natural resource protection strategy with the goal of simultaneously expanding business opportunities and improving the environment through an initiative we're calling Smart Production.

But, as we embrace this transition to a new economy for Maine, as we reach out to the future, we can't leave our people behind. We need to do all we can to make sure all Maine people are safe, healthy and prepared to be full and active participants in our state's future.

Let's start with children. Due in large measure to the work of this Legislature and its predecessors, to our dedicated teachers. Someone asked me why are the Maine schools doing so well? The first answer is the teachers, dedicated teachers. I know, I have two kids in the public schools right now. Their teachers are wonderful. And to parents, and to a network of great community resources, Maine is now generally considered one of the best states in the country in which to raise a child. In fact, last summer, a child advocacy group in Washington said we were the best. And now comes new recognition and a new opportunity to build on the extraordinary network already in place for our kids.

Just today, I received a letter from one of my heroes, General Colin Powell informing us that we have been chosen by America's Promise as one of three model states in the nation for our work on behalf of children. Citing what he calls "some of the most impressive community mobilization work in the country," General Powell stated that, "a great deal of your work represents best practices" that other states can follow. That is a dream for me that people are going to come from around the country to see how we are doing it.

I am tonight accepting General Powell's offer – and Maine will be among the first states to make manifest America's Promise.

I don't have to tell anybody in this room or who is watching at home, one of our most difficult people problems affecting

children and adults is health care. After a few years in remission, inflation in the cost of health care has come roaring back, threatening our families and businesses, and even our state finances. Almost \$7 million of expenditures in the supplemental budget is to cover just the increased cost of health care for our state employee. Multiply that by every business in the state and you get an idea of the magnitude of the problem.

And neither I, nor anyone in this room, have the answer. I do have some ideas, however. The first, which I announced in December, is to create by Executive Order a Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care in Maine. Charged with presenting a detailed picture of Maine's current system – where are the costs? Where is the growth? Who pays? Where are the opportunities for savings and increased access? This bi-partisan group of Maine citizens will at least give us the data and the options necessary to inform our decisions at the next legislative session. I have asked Bob Woodbury, former President of the University of Southern Maine and Chancellor of the University of Maine System, to Chair the Commission. I have also asked Joe Carleton, a former member of the House of Representatives, to serve as a member. Both are here tonight, and I thank them for their willingness to serve. I will announce the other members of the Commission and sign the Executive Order later this week.

Outside the work of the Commission, however, is one fact too often ignored – a substantial portion of the health care bill in Maine – probably as high as one-third – that's over a billion dollars a year – is avoidable, because it relates to health care costs we bring on ourselves – through choices about the way we live.

We are in the midst of a slow motion epidemic in Maine, an epidemic we're causing, and only we can stop. Four chronic diseases – cardiovascular and lung disease, cancer, and diabetes – all related to smoking, lack of exercise and poor diet – kill 75% of Maine people. This tragically high figure accounts for us having the fourth highest death rate in the nation.

Starting this year, we can really get to work on this problem using the money received from the national tobacco settlement.

I propose that we use this money primarily for a Campaign for a Healthy Maine, an initiative which empowers state agencies, communities, schools, and health care providers to effectively address this chronic disease epidemic.

The first priority of this campaign must be the prevention and cessation of smoking in Maine, especially among our young people. In the long run, this will save us money – about \$60 million of our annual Medicaid budget goes to smoking-related illnesses. In addition, think of the lives and the suffering of Maine families it will save.

The second step in the campaign is to improve the overall health of Maine people by promoting prevention measures within our schools and our communities. If we made healthier choices, day to day, year to year, we could give ourselves what would amount to a three quarters of a billion dollar tax break – the equivalent of repealing the income tax completely. Did you ever think of it that way before?

And part of this campaign must be a significant allocation to alcohol and substance abuse prevention.

Further, I have asked Dr. Dora Mills – our wonderful and dynamic chief health officer – to convene later this year a world-class conference on health prevention strategies that work – and we'll get moving on making Maine a healthier state.

By the way, a year and a half ago, Mary gave me an ultimatum about exercise and now at least twice a week I face

some weightlifting and the dreaded treadmill – and I feel better than I have in 20 years. If I can get back into it after a no-exercise break that lasted almost 40 years, then just about anybody can.

And finally, on the subject of health, I am hopeful that in the near future I will be able to thank you for your help in approving a new psychiatric treatment center and investments in community mental health that will improve the delivery of these critical services and signal the end of a decade-old Consent Decree.

And one last people issue. I've introduced and acknowledged several people in the gallery tonight – Mary, Barry McCrum, Heather Blease, Ed Dinan and several others. But if you look up there once again, you'll see 12 empty seats, representing twelve people – 9 women and 3 children – who I can't introduce to you tonight.

For they are people in Maine who died last year – died as victims of domestic violence.

With all our progress in so many areas – jobs, education, the environment – for too many of our citizens, almost 4,000 reported in 1998 – mostly women and children – day to day life is a living hell of fear and intimidation, fear of the monstrous violence that takes place behind closed doors and is no respecter of geography or social position.

We can pass laws, add judges and DAs – and we will – but this scourge will not pass until we decide once and for all as a people that it is not acceptable, cool, cute, or a symbol of macho power to beat up on women or children.

I can't imagine anything less macho than a grown man hitting a kid.

If you think back 20 years, we came to a similar point with driving drunk and we toughened the laws, but we also just plain stopped tolerating it. It wasn't funny anymore.

And so tonight, let's start that process of change – first by committing ourselves to enforce the law – in my view, the rule should be zero tolerance – abuse of women and children in Maine will not be tolerated and will be prosecuted.

But laws can only be the start – the change has to be cultural – written in our hearts – that violence is unacceptable, especially in our homes, and we won't stand by and let it happen. We all have to get involved. It seems to me that one of the simple things you and I can do this session to send this message is to pass the pending bill that would prevent someone under a domestic violence protective order as a result of domestic violence from getting a permit to carry a concealed weapon.

This isn't gun control, it's common sense.

I'm also directing the Commissioners of Labor; Human Services; Education; Corrections; Mental Health Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services; and Public Safety to develop along with the Judicial Branch; the Attorney General; and the Commission on Domestic Abuse, a coordinated community response and report back to me and the 120th Legislature plans to attack what I today proclaim as Maine's Public Enemy Number 1 – violence against women and children.

And so, in the end, let me come back to Chuck. Positive, enthusiastic, full of common sense; ready to take risks and willing to dream; active and full of fun; and above all caring, as a dad, a neighbor, a friend.

We would do well to search for these qualities in ourselves – as people and as a state. For a million futures lay before us and the choice among them is completely in our hands.

None of us can be certain of exactly the right course, but if we steer by the chart of this one Maine life, we cannot and we will not fail.

Thank you and good night.

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 Chair declared the same dissolved.

The Senate then retired to its Chamber amid the applause of the House, the audience rising.

(After the joint Convention)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

On motion of Representative TOBIN of Windham, the House adjourned at 8:03 p.m., until 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 8, 2000 pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 959) and in honor and lasting tribute to John L. Ross, of Limington.