

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
7th Legislative Day
Tuesday, February 22, 2000

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

Prayer by the Reverend Lawrence B. Wiles, Belgrade Bible Church.

National Anthem by Milford Middle School Concert Band.
Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Bruce Bates, D.O., Scarborough.

The Journal of Friday, February 18, 2000 was read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 331)

119TH MAINE LEGISLATURE

January 19, 2000

Terrence MacTaggart, Chancellor
University of Maine System
107 Maine Avenue
Bangor, Maine 04401

Dear Chancellor MacTaggart:

We are pleased to invite you to address a Joint Session of the 119th Maine Legislature on Tuesday, February 22, 2000 at 11:00 a.m. concerning the State of the University of Maine System and any other matters that you may care to bring to our attention.

On the same day, following your address, John Fitzsimmons, President, of the Maine Technical College System will be addressing the Joint Session.

We look forward to seeing you then. Best wishes.

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. 332)

**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
107 MAINE AVENUE
BANGOR, MAINE 04401-4380**

January 28, 2000

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

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

It is with exceptional pleasure that I accept your invitation to address a Joint Session of the 119th Maine Legislature on Tuesday, February 22, 2000, at 11:00 a.m.

I consider this a distinct privilege, and I look forward to reporting on the State of the University of Maine System.

Thank you and best wishes.

Sincerely,

S/Terrence J. MacTaggart
Chancellor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 333)

119TH MAINE LEGISLATURE

January 19, 2000

John Fitzsimmons, President
Maine Technical College System
131 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Fitzsimmons:

We are pleased to invite you to address a Joint Session of the 119th Maine Legislature on Tuesday, February 22, 2000 concerning the State of the Maine Technical College System and any other matters that you may care to bring to our attention. We will begin the Joint Session at 11:00 a.m. with an address from Chancellor MacTaggart. You will address the Legislature directly following the Chancellor.

We look forward to seeing you then. Best wishes.

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. 334)

**MAINE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
323 STATE STREET
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330-7131**

January 24, 2000

The Honorable Mark W. Lawrence
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
The Honorable G. Steven Rowe
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Thank you for your letter of January 19, 2000, inviting me to address a Joint Session of the 119th Maine Legislature on February 22nd. On behalf of Maine's Technical College employees and students, it is with great pride that I accept your kind invitation. I look forward to sharing with you my thoughts on the "state" of the Maine's Technical College System.

Thank you again for your invitation.

Sincerely yours,

S/John Fitzsimmons
President

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 335)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

February 14, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence
President of the Senate

Honorable G. Steven Rowe
Speaker of the House of Representatives

119th Maine Legislature
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to the Government Evaluation Act, Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, chapter 35, we submit the findings and recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government with respect to the State Claims Commission. The committee has concluded that the State Claims Commission is operating in accordance with its statutory authority. Although the committee is satisfied that the State Claims Commission is conducting its work in accordance with its duties under the law, the committee is concerned that large highway projects that may be undertaken by the State in the future, such as the widening of the Maine Turnpike, the East-West Highway or the completion of Interstate-95 in Aroostook County, could significantly increase the workload of the commission. The committee recommends that the commission closely monitor its workload with respect to such additional potential endeavors and apprise both the Governor and the Legislature of any significant increase in the number of cases presented to the commission. The committee, however, recommends no changes in commission composition, staff or mission at this time.

Attached please find a copy of the committee's full report on the State Claims Commission.

Sincerely,
S/Sen. Peggy Pendleton
Senate Chair
S/Rep. Douglas Ahearne
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 336)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

February 14, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence
President of the Senate

Honorable G. Steven Rowe
Speaker of the House of Representatives

119th Maine Legislature
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to the Government Evaluation Act, Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, chapter 35, we submit the findings and recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government with respect to the State Civil Service Appeals Board.

The committee has concluded that the State Civil Service Appeals Board is operating in accordance with its statutory authority. The committee encourages the board to continue with its efforts to establish protocols that will assist both current and

future members of the board in conducting the board's business in a timely, but fair, manner.

The committee also restates a recommendation made by the Committee on Audit and Program Review in its 1989 review of the board. This recommendation suggested a separate activity within the Commissioner of Administrative and Financial Services' appropriation account be established for the State Civil Service Appeals Board and that board funding be transferred to the commissioner's account from the Bureau of Human Resources. This would establish a more autonomous relationship between the State Civil Service Appeals Board and the Bureau of Human Resources, which is always the defendant in reclassification appeals made to the board.

Attached please find a copy of the committee's full report on the State Civil Service Appeals Board.

Sincerely,
S/Sen. Peggy Pendleton
Senate Chair
S/Rep. Douglas Ahearne
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 337)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND NINETEENTH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

February 14, 2000

Honorable Mark W. Lawrence
President of the Senate

Honorable G. Steven Rowe
Speaker of the House of Representatives

119th Maine Legislature
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Dear President Lawrence and Speaker Rowe:

Pursuant to the Government Evaluation Act, Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, chapter 35, we submit the findings and recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government with respect to the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority.

The committee has concluded that the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority is operating in accordance with its statutory authority. We are recommending no administrative or statutory changes at this time.

Attached please find a copy of the committee's full report on the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority.

Sincerely,
S/Sen. Peggy Pendleton
Senate Chair
S/Rep. Douglas Ahearne
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 338)

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

February 15, 2000

The Honorable Mark W. Lawrence

President of the Senate
The Honorable G. Steven Rowe
Speaker of the House of Representatives
119th Maine Legislature
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

Pursuant to Title 3 Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 35, we are pleased to submit the findings of the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources from the review and evaluation of the Lobster Advisory Council under the State Government Evaluation Act. In its review, the committee found that the Council is operating within its statutory authority. However, the committee does make one request in its report for additional information relating to the Lobster Fund.

Sincerely,

S/Senator Jill M. Goldthwait

Senate Chair

S/Representative David M. Etnier

House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 339)

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

February 10, 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 bill out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 2210 An Act to Encourage Expanded Use of Maine's Port Facilities

We have also notified the sponsor and cosponsors 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. 340)

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

February 11, 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. 1990 An Act to Require Economic and Taking Impact Analyses to Protect Individual Rights

L.D. 2314 An Act to Clarify the Maine Human Rights Act Concerning Compensatory and Punitive Damages

L.D. 2474 An Act to Allow the Court Discretion in Providing Information to Parents or Custodians of a Child Removed from Their Home by the Department of Human Services

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. 341)

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

February 11, 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. 2459 An Act to Promote the Economic Security of Maine Citizens

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. 342)

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

February 10, 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. 2024 An Act to Establish the Local Option Tax on
Liquor, Meals and Lodging

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. 343)

STATE OF MAINE

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

February 15, 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. 2328 An Act Concerning the Rules of the Maine
Veterans' Memorial Cemetery

L.D. 2371 An Act to Allow a State Agency to Accept a
Donated Item and Conduct a Raffle to Benefit
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Projects

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: (S.C. 511)

SENATE OF MAINE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

3 STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

February 18, 2000

The Honorable G. Steven Rowe

Speaker of the House

119th Maine Legislature

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Rowe:

In accordance with Joint Rule 506, please be advised that the
Senate today confirmed, upon the recommendation of the Joint
Standing Committee on Natural Resources, the nominations of
Horace Hildreth, Jr. of Falmouth and Richard A. Fortier of
Caribou for reappointment to the Outdoor Heritage Fund Board.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,
S/Joy J. O'Brien

Secretary of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative
from Bridgton, Representative Waterhouse who wishes the
address the House on the Record.

Representative **WATERHOUSE**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and
Gentlemen of the House. I speak today as an individual member
of the Judiciary Committee, an individual member of this body
and an individual citizen. Most of all, I speak in defense of the
First Amendment right of free speech of Maine citizens and
indeed all citizens. Freedom of speech is fundamental in a free
society and it is a bedrock of our democracy. Political speech is
protected to such an extent that we find the following protection
for members of the Legislature in the Maine Constitution found in
Article 4, Part 4, Section 8. "No member shall be liable to
answer for anything spoken in debate in either House, in any
court or place elsewhere." Restrictions on governmental power
protect speech that some may find offensive. Our whole
constitutional heritage rebels at the thought of giving government
the power to control people's minds. The First Amendment was
intended to create a haven from politician's power lust, yet
government officials sometimes blatantly disregard constitutional
restrictions on their power to censor private citizens.

Ladies and gentlemen of the House, that is exactly what
happened to one of our citizens. For those of you who aren't
aware of the incident, as I was not aware until last Friday night, it
involves an episode reported by one Jim Brunelle in the *Portland
Press Herald* on Friday the 18th. The article started with these
words, "Officials E-mail was intimidation and it has no place in
Maine." John Reisman a Professor at the University of Maine
Machias had composed an E-mail and hit his reply all button,
which sent the message to a group of people. On Monday,
Valentine's Day, Reisman got a E-mail from Jeff Pidot, who
heads the Natural Resource Division of the Attorney General's
Office. Someone had forwarded the professor's E-mail to the
agency. This was the message from Mr. Pidot. "Of course you
are entitled to the free expression of the views, but the words
used in your E-mail are violent in both tone and content. The
words used are designed not to inform the debate nor even as
political rhetoric. These words are designed to strike fear in
people. Please bear this in mind."

Mr. Brunelle said this in his article. I asked the Attorney
General, Andrew Ketterer, about this. He readily backed his
deputy's action while discounting its significance as an intrusion
upon free speech. He said his office is frequently called upon to
play a peacekeepers role in civil rights cases getting people to
tone down their rhetoric before it reaches the hate crime level.
This is not a civil rights case. It is someone expressing strong
feelings in a political context. Still the AG was unimpressed with
the suggestion that a letter from his office might have a chilling
effect on Reisman or anyone else. "He is certainly free to say
anything he wants in his E-mail and send it to anyone," said
Ketterer. "That is the message from the Attorney General's
Office and I am the Attorney General." He is wrong, Pidot's
messages whose tone and content is intimidation. It says that
government is watching someone else's use of language and
that somebody had better be careful.

I agree with Mr. Brunelle that it is not the proper role of
government to judge what a citizen's choice of words is designed
to do or not to do. Mr. Pidot took it upon himself to what extent

rhetorical hyperbole can go and in doing so showed a blatant disregard for free speech and political expression. To make matters worse, our Attorney General supported this assault on free speech by saying on Maine Public Radio, "It was admirable that Mr. Pidot acted in a peacekeeping role." Mr. Pidot should be informed that Mr. Reisman's right to exercise free speech predates his affirmation of Mr. Reisman's right to do so. Second, he should be informed that it is not his job or any government official's job to instruct people in regard to the tone and content of their speech. Our Attorney General should be informed that his department's role is not or should not be to play a peacekeeper's role getting people to tone down their rhetoric.

We have free speech under the First Amendment to protect us from that kind of mettlesome government intrusion. We do not need the Department of Thought Police. In the words of another citizen, the Assistant AG has no legal basis for this admonition. The act of issuing the admonition by a government official is both chilling and frightening. It is a contradiction of our First Amendment rights.

I would suggest that Mr. Pidot should find other employment. At the very least I call on Mr. Pidot to apologize to Mr. Reisman. I call upon our Attorney General to apologize to Mr. Reisman, to apologize to the Legislature who put him in office and to the citizens of Maine for the assault on free speech. If that is not forthcoming, then I hope the men and women present in this House that are here in the 120th Legislature will remember this incident when they elect the next Attorney General of the State of Maine. Thank you.

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:

NATURAL RESOURCES

Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Importation of Milfoil into State Waters"

(H.P. 1843) (L.D. 2581)

Presented by Representative THOMPSON of Naples.
 Cosponsored by Senator TREAT of Kennebec and Representatives: ETNIER of Harpswell, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, Senator: BENOIT of Franklin.
 Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

ORDERS

On motion of Representative BRENNAN of Portland, the following Joint Order: (H.P. 1836)

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs report out, to the House, a bill, "An Act to Improve the Accountability of the Child Development Services System."

READ and PASSED.
 Sent for concurrence.

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

In Memory of:

George Orestis, of Auburn, who was born in Nashua, New Hampshire. He was educated in the Lewiston schools and attended Bates College. Mr. Orestis led the Fenton Brothers Orchestra from 1929 to 1941 and worked with Rudy Vallee and the Music Corp. of America from 1939 to 1941. Mr. Orestis was a veteran of World War II and was a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. He was director of the Maine State Lottery under Governor Longley. He was very active in the Greek Orthodox Church, serving double terms on the executive councils of both the National Archdiocese and the New England Diocese, was twice awarded the Cross of St. Andrew, was the chair of the Building Fund that built the church of the Holy Trinity on Hogan Road, Lewiston and was the chanter at Holy Trinity for 22 years. In 1971, he was State of Maine Honoree of the conference of Christians and Jews and served for 10 years as trustee of Hellenic College in Brookline, Massachusetts. He served on the boards of many local institutions. He established the first Goodwill store in the Lewiston/Auburn area and was an active Kiwanian for many years. He will be remembered fondly by his family and friends;

(HLS 944)

Presented by Representative MENDROS of Lewiston.

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

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. I had the honor of knowing Mr. Orestis my entire life. We went to the same church growing up. He taught me how to shake hands. I remember as a kid he shook my hand and said, "Don't give me that dead fish." I remember campaigning I gave a good firm handshake and people complimented me on my handshake. After I was elected I thanked him and let him know that it was important. A lot of things he did to a lot of people were important. I can't even call him George. People called him that with familiarity, but I always called him Mr. Orestis because I just had so much respect for him. When you were around him you were in the presence of greatness. You just always knew when he spoke. Sometimes when you look around the chamber and someone will give a good speech and you will feel it and you will hear it when you are hearing someone speak. It was like that just about every time he spoke. He thought things through and he really cared about people. You get that feeling when there is a great person in the room. You are excited to see them. It is exciting just to see them. He took that one step further. He was truly a great man because he would come up to you, anyone in there, and he would know what you were doing. He would know about your life. He would ask you about important things. He really cared.

I tell the story about how after I was elected he came up to me and told me, you fulfilled the promise. I knew you were going places and you fulfilled by winning. It meant a lot to me and I

know he meant it to mean a lot to me. He did that with everyone. Everyone I talked to had a story like that about how Mr. Orestis came and really made them feel that they were the most important person in the world when he spoke with them. Coming from a great man like him that really meant a lot to everyone, the kids in the church. He would always be there as they were growing up by helping them along and encouraging them. He is going to be sorely missed by everyone in the state and certainly in Lewiston/Auburn and certainly in the Greek community. He was quite a guy. He always spoke whenever anyone passed away. He was always the one. He would come up and give the eulogy. He could always tell you some great story about that person no matter who it was to make that person be honored by the way a eulogy is meant to. Now he is gone and he leaves big shoes to fill everywhere. I just say to George, I know where you are and you are looking down us. Thank you for everything you did for everyone. Thank you from me personally.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Saco, Representative Kane.

Representative **KANE**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I had the privilege of working with George Orestis for several years in the 1960s when I was Director of the Tri-County Mental Health Center in Lewiston. He was my board president. George Orestis was the epitome of a true gentleman. He was kind, solicitous, caring, nurturing and never a negative word about anyone. George was always there to offer a helping hand. How often we met for breakfast or just coffee at the restaurant run by his wife Tony to talk not only about agency business, but about George's philosophy of life, which was always deeply spiritual. He lived his principles of faith, hope and charity.

It has been over 25 years since I left Lewiston. When I look back on those years, George Orestis stands out as one of the relationships that I continue to most treasure. As a body I am delighted to have this opportunity to join with my colleagues from the Lewiston Delegation in offering this sentiment. May he rest in peace. Thank you

ADOPTED and sent for concurrence.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEE
Ought to Pass**

Report of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2001"

(S.P. 950) (L.D. 2489)

Reporting **Ought to Pass**.

Came from the Senate with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-491)**.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **READ ONCE**.

SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-491) READ by the Clerk and **ADOPTED** and **TOMORROW ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING**.

Divided Report

Eight Members of the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** report in Report "A" **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Sale of Items in Storage Owned by a 3rd Party"

Signed:

Senator:

KONTOS of Cumberland

Representatives:

CLOUGH of Scarborough

BOWLES of Sanford

MARVIN of Cape Elizabeth

O'NEAL of Limestone

SIROIS of Caribou

BOLDUC of Auburn

TRIPP of Topsham

One Member of the same Committee reports in Report "B" **Refer** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

SHOREY of Calais

One Member of the same Committee reports in Report "C" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-492)** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

MENDROS of Lewiston

Came from the Senate with the Report "A" - **OUGHT NOT TO PASS READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

READ.

On motion of Representative O'NEAL of Limestone, Report "A" **Ought Not to Pass** was **ACCEPTED** in concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-486)** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Low-emission Vehicle Program"

(S.P. 868) (L.D. 2278)

Signed:

Senators:

LIBBY of York

NUTTING of Androscoggin

TREAT of Kennebec

Representatives:

TOBIN of Windham

ETNIER of Harpswell

McKEE of Wayne

MARTIN of Eagle Lake

COWGER of Hallowell

DAIGLE of Arundel

DUPLESSIE of Westbrook

CAMERON of Rumford

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

JOY of Crystal

CLARK of Millinocket

Came from the Senate with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-486)**.

READ.

On motion of Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (S-486)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**. The Bill was assigned for **SECOND READING** Friday, February 25, 2000.

Majority Report of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-488)** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit State Government from Using Automated Telephone Answering Equipment During Business Hours" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 777) (L.D. 2176)

Signed:

Senators:

PENDLETON of Cumberland
GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock
DAVIS of Piscataquis

Representatives:

AHEARNE of Madawaska
BAGLEY of Machias
RINES of Wiscasset
McDONOUGH of Portland
TWOMEY of Biddeford
BUMPS of China
KASPRZAK of Newport
JODREY of Bethel
RICHARDSON of Greenville

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (S-489)** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

GERRY of Auburn

Came from the Senate with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-488)**.

READ.

On motion of Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (S-488)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**. The Bill was assigned for **SECOND READING** Friday, February 25, 2000.

Majority Report of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-485)** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Laws"

(S.P. 893) (L.D. 2312)

Signed:

Senators:

O'GARA of Cumberland
CASSIDY of Washington
PARADIS of Aroostook

Representatives:

FISHER of Brewer
COLLINS of Wells
SANBORN of Alton
CAMERON of Rumford
WHEELER of Eliot
LINDAHL of Northport
JABAR of Waterville

BOUFFARD of Lewiston

SAVAGE of Union

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

WHEELER of Bridgewater

Came from the Senate with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-485)**.

READ.

Representative JABAR of Waterville moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

On further motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending his motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report and later today assigned.

Majority Report of the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act to Appropriate Funds to Build the Capitol Park Connector Trail"

(H.P. 1642) (L.D. 2302)

Signed:

Senators:

MICHAUD of Penobscot
CATHCART of Penobscot
HARRIMAN of Cumberland

Representatives:

TOWNSEND of Portland
STEVENS of Orono
MAILHOT of Lewiston
KNEELAND of Easton
WINSOR of Norway
BRUNO of Raymond
NASS of Acton

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

Signed:

Representatives:

BERRY of Livermore
POWERS of Rockport
TESSIER of Fairfield

READ.

Representative TOWNSEND of Portland moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report.

On further motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending her motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report and later today assigned.

Majority Report of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-799)** on Bill "An Act to Allow Three Hunters to Hunt Deer Together"

(H.P. 704) (L.D. 971)

Signed:

Senators:

KILKELLY of Lincoln
KIEFFER of Aroostook
RUHLIN of Penobscot

Representatives:

PERKINS of Penobscot
CHICK of Lebanon
TRAHAN of Waldoboro
HONEY of Boothbay
TRUE of Fryeburg
CLARK of Millinocket
BRYANT of Dixfield
TRACY of Rome
COTE of Lewiston

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

DUNLAP of Old Town

READ.

On motion of Representative CLARK of Millinocket, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-799)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**. The Bill was assigned for **SECOND READING** Friday, February 25, 2000.

Majority Report of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended** by **Committee Amendment "A" (H-800)** on Bill "An Act to Clarify the Authority of Maine Game Wardens to Stop Motor Vehicles"

(H.P. 1627) (L.D. 2274)

Signed:

Senators:

KILKELLY of Lincoln
KIEFFER of Aroostook

Representatives:

CHICK of Lebanon
TRAHAN of Waldoboro
HONEY of Boothbay
DUNLAP of Old Town
TRUE of Fryeburg
CLARK of Millinocket
BRYANT of Dixfield
COTE of Lewiston

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senator:

RUHLIN of Penobscot

Representatives:

TRACY of Rome
PERKINS of Penobscot

READ.

Representative DUNLAP of Old Town moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

On further motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending his motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report and later today assigned.

Majority Report of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended** by **Committee Amendment "A" (H-793)** on Bill "An Act Regarding the Maintenance of Private Roads"

(H.P. 332) (L.D. 448)

Signed:

Senators:

PENDLETON of Cumberland
GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock
DAVIS of Piscataquis

Representatives:

AHEARNE of Madawaska
BAGLEY of Machias
RINES of Wiscasset
McDONOUGH of Portland
TWOMEY of Biddeford
BUMPS of China
JODREY of Bethel
RICHARDSON of Greenville

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

KASPRZAK of Newport

READ.

On motion of Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-793)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**. The Bill was assigned for **SECOND READING** Friday, February 25, 2000.

Majority Report of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Public Easements and the Discontinuance of Town Ways"

(H.P. 1288) (L.D. 1849)

Signed:

Senators:

PENDLETON of Cumberland
GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock
DAVIS of Piscataquis

Representatives:

AHEARNE of Madawaska
BAGLEY of Machias
RINES of Wiscasset
McDONOUGH of Portland
BUMPS of China
KASPRZAK of Newport
JODREY of Bethel
RICHARDSON of Greenville

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended** by **Committee Amendment "A" (H-792)** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

TWOMEY of Biddeford

READ.

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

Majority Report of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act to Establish a Commemorative Day Recognizing Major-General Henry Knox" (EMERGENCY)

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

Signed:

Senators:

PENDLETON of Cumberland
GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock
DAVIS of Piscataquis

Representatives:

BUMPS of China
KASPRZAK of Newport
JODREY of Bethel
RICHARDSON of Greenville

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

Signed:

Representatives:

AHEARNE of Madawaska
RINES of Wiscasset
McDONOUGH of Portland
TWOMEY of Biddeford
GERRY of Auburn
BAGLEY of Machias

READ.

Representative AHEARNE of Madawaska moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Minority **Ought to Pass** Report.

On further motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending his motion to **ACCEPT** the Minority **Ought to Pass** Report and later today assigned.

Majority Report of the Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-798)** on Bill "An Act to Return a Percentage of the Meals and Lodging Tax to the Municipality in Which Those Taxes were Levied"

(H.P. 799) (L.D. 1122)

Signed:

Senator:

DAGGETT of Kennebec

Representatives:

LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach
CIANCHETTE of South Portland
MURPHY of Berwick
COLWELL of Gardiner
LEMONT of Kittery
BUCK of Yarmouth

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senators:

RUHLIN of Penobscot
MILLS of Somerset

Representatives:

GAGNON of Waterville
STANLEY of Medway
DAVIDSON of Brunswick
GREEN of Monmouth

READ.

On motion of Representative GAGNON of Waterville, the Bill and all accompanying papers were **COMMITTED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and sent for concurrence.

CONSENT CALENDAR

First Day

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

(S.P. 900) (L.D. 2350) Bill "An Act to Clarify the Laws Governing Solid Waste Disposal Districts" Committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(S.P. 532) (L.D. 1594) Bill "An Act to Promote Equity Among Health Care Clinics" Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (S-487)**

(S.P. 688) (L.D. 1934) Resolve, to Reinstate Emergency Assistance for Dependents of Veterans Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-482)**

(H.P. 1801) (L.D. 2528) Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter (unassigned): Rules Governing the Licensing and Inspection of Farm Cheese, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources (EMERGENCY) Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1643) (L.D. 2303) Bill "An Act to Amend Truck Weights" Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-804)**

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

Second Day

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

(S.P. 885) (L.D. 2300) Bill "An Act to Make Minor Changes to the Community Development Definitions to Maintain Compatibility with Federal Regulations"

(S.P. 852) (L.D. 2251) Bill "An Act to Provide Health Insurance Benefits to Dwight Parsons" (EMERGENCY) (C. "A" S-481)

(S.P. 861) (L.D. 2259) Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Banking Code Pertaining to Interlocking Directors" (C. "A" S-477)

(S.P. 862) (L.D. 2260) Bill "An Act to Provide Degree-granting Authority to the SALT Center for Documentary Field Studies" (C. "A" S-476)

(H.P. 1072) (L.D. 1519) Bill "An Act to Encourage Environmental Management Systems" (C. "A" H-801)

(H.P. 1661) (L.D. 2330) Bill "An Act to Require the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management to Report to the Legislature on Matters Related to State Veterans Laws" (C. "A" H-797)

No objections having been noted at the end of the Second Legislative Day, the Senate Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** or **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED** in concurrence and the House Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED** and sent for concurrence.

(H.P. 1514) (L.D. 2162) RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Allow Persons with Mental Illness to Vote (C. "A" H-796)

On motion of Representative TUTTLE of Sanford, was **REMOVED** from the Second Day Consent Calendar.

The Committee Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED**. The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-796)** was **READ** by the Clerk.

On further motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending **ADOPTION** of **Committee Amendment "A" (H-796)** and later today assigned.

**BILLS IN THE SECOND READING
Senate As Amended**

Bill "An Act to Prohibit the State from Competing with Private Industry"

(S.P. 179) (L.D. 533)
(C. "A" S-478)

House As Amended

Bill "An Act Regarding Taxation of Clean Vehicle Fuels"

(H.P. 940) (L.D. 1337)
(C. "B" H-788)

Reported by the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**, read the second time, the Senate Paper was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED** in concurrence and the House Paper was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED** and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Increase Health Insurance Benefits for Retired Educators"

(S.P. 607) (L.D. 1730)
(H. "A" H-794 to C. "B" S-480)

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

On motion of Representative TREADWELL of Carmel, was **SET ASIDE**.

The same Representative **REQUESTED** a roll call on **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended**.

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

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

ROLL CALL NO. 433

YEA - Ahearn, Andrews, Bagley, Baker, Belanger, Berry DP, Berry RL, Bolduc, Bouffard, Bowles, Bragdon, Brennan, Brooks, Bruno, Bryant, Buck, Bull, Bumps, Campbell, Carr, Chick, Chizmar, Cianchette, Clark, Clough, Collins, Colwell, Cote, Cowger, Cross, Daigle, Davidson, Davis, Desmond, Dudley, Dugay, Duncan, Dunlap, Duplessie, Etnier, Fisher, Foster, Frechette, 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, Madore, Mailhot, Martin, Marvin, Matthews, Mayo, McAlevey, McDonough, McGlocklin, McKee, McKenney, McNeil, Mendros, Mitchell, Murphy T, Muse, Nass, Norbert, Nutting, O'Brien JA, O'Brien LL, O'Neal, O'Neil, Peavey, Perkins, Perry, Pieh, Pinkham, Plowman, Povich, Powers, Quint, Richard, Richardson E, Richardson J, Rines, Samson, Sanborn, Savage W, Saxl JW, Saxl MV, Schneider, Sherman, Shiah, Shields, Shorey, Sirois, Snowe-Mello, Stanley, Stanwood, Stedman, Stevens, 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 - Cameron, Fuller, Mack, Murphy E, Rosen, Savage C, Skoglund, Sullivan.

Yes, 143; No, 0; Absent, 8; Excused, 0.

143 having voted in the affirmative and 0 voted in the negative, with 8 being absent, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (S-480) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-794)** thereto in **NON-CONCURRENCE** and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Promote Stability in Labor Management Relations in the Public Sector"

(H.P. 960) (L.D. 1358)
(C. "A" H-433)

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

On motion of Representative TREADWELL of Carmel, was **SET ASIDE**.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Carmel, Representative Treadwell.

Representative TREADWELL: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. LD 1358 is a major change in the bargaining atmosphere in the State of Maine. At the current time when a bargaining unit and an employer in the public sector when a contract expires, they enter what is called a status quo, which means that all the provisions of the contract remain the same and the only thing that could be negotiated from that point on until a new contract is approved are those items that are grievable.

This bill will take the authority away from local school boards and local city councils. It will give the power over pay raises that are built into the old contract. It will give those pay increases continuing after the contract expires. That is the reason there is an emergency preamble on this bill. The summary of the House Amendment (H-433) replaces the bill. It says that the arbitrator must make decisions consistent with the Maine Labor Relations Board standards for maintaining this status quo after the expiration of the contract. People that know more about this subject than I do have told me that what that says is that the arbitrator could actually require that the employer, in this case, would give those pay increases. It would remove the ability of the employer, the school board or town council or what have you, it will remove their ability to have any say over those step raises after the expiration of a contract. This is the third time that this has been submitted to the Legislature. It is a result of a Supreme Court decision that was made. I don't know the exact decision or how long ago that was made. That is the reason this bill keeps appearing before us. I would urge you to vote Ought Not to Pass on the bill. I also request a roll call, Mr. Speaker.

Representative TREADWELL of Carmel **REQUESTED** a roll call on **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended**.

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 Skowhegan, Representative Hatch.

Representative HATCH: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. This bill as amended requires the arbitration provision of the collective bargaining agreement to

ROLL CALL NO. 434

continue in effect after the agreement expires and until a new agreement is signed. This allows the parties to have disputes settled by an arbitrator rather than having to go before the Maine Labor Relations Board. When a contract ends and there is not yet a new contract in effect, the parties must maintain what is called a status quo on wages, hours and terms and conditions of employment. Under current law the MLRB determines what the status quo is. Under this bill, as amended, the parties would go to an arbitrator.

As a little background, the law was amended in 1998, which is quite recent to provide that arbitration provisions continue on disciplinary matters. This bill extends that to all matters, not just discipline. Proponents believe this is a better process. It is faster, less formal and less complicated and also less expensive. Also, the parties agree to the arbitrators between them as opposed to the MLRB, which is appointed by the Governor.

This is supported by the Maine State Education Association, MSEA, AFL-CIO, and just about by all the labor groups. A year ago when this bill came forth, to my knowledge, it was almost a unanimous report. I would like you to keep that in mind about how things change in one year. I would ask that you would vote for this. I believe it is a good bill. I believe it is a good bill whose time has come. Anytime that we can get people to sit down and talk even if they have to go to an arbitrator to continue discussions, that is a good thing. I would thank you and I would ask for your support.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Fryeburg, Representative True.

Representative TRUE: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I would like to have a question answered relative to this particular bill. "An Act to Promote Stability in Labor Management Relations in the Public Sector" and each person has indicated that this would have to do with the contractual arrangements in so far as teachers are concerned. My question is, does the wording mean that those private schools who contract with the public sector as two schools in Maine do, are they included in this? In the statutes it indicates, I believe, that if you have 60 percent of your students in such a school do come from the surrounding towns then some of these laws you are subjected to, unless it is in the contract between the district and the accepting school. I would like to have that answered please.

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Fryeburg, Representative True has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who may care to respond. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Carmel, Representative Treadwell.

Representative TREADWELL: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. The answer to the question is, I believe, the teachers in that school form a bargaining unit and they would be subject to the provisions of this law. The other point I wanted to make is that the good Representative from Skowhegan mentioned those who were proponents of the bill. I would like to give you a list of those people who opposed the bill. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services for the State of Maine opposed the bill. The Maine School Boards' Association and MSSA opposed the bill. The Maine Municipal Association opposed the bill and all for a very good reason. They gave some very good testimony on why they opposed the bill.

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

YEA - Ahearne, Bagley, Baker, Berry RL, Bolduc, Bouffard, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Bull, Chizmar, Clark, Colwell, Cote, Cowger, Davidson, Davis, Dudley, Dugay, Dunlap, Duplessie, Etnier, Fisher, Frechette, Gagne, Gagnon, Gerry, Goodwin, Green, Hatch, Jabar, Jacobs, Kane, LaVerdiere, Lemoine, Mailhot, Matthews, McDonough, McGlocklin, McKee, Mitchell, Muse, Norbert, O'Brien LL, O'Neal, O'Neil, Perry, Pieh, Povich, Powers, Quint, Richard, Richardson J, Samson, Sanborn, Savage W, Saxl JW, Saxl MV, Shiah, Sirois, Stanley, Stevens, Tessier, Thompson, Townsend, Tracy, Tripp, Tuttle, Twomey, Usher, Volenik, Watson, Williams, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Belanger, Berry DP, Bowles, Bragdon, Bruno, Buck, Bumps, Campbell, Carr, Chick, Cianchette, Clough, Collins, Cross, Daigle, Desmond, Duncan, Foster, Gillis, Glynn, Gooley, Heidrich, Honey, Jodrey, Jones, Joy, Kasprzak, Kneeland, Labrecque, Lemont, Lindahl, Lovett, MacDougall, Madore, Marvin, Mayo, McAlevey, McKenney, McNeil, Mendros, Murphy T, Nass, Nutting, O'Brien JA, Peavey, Perkins, Pinkham, Plowman, Richardson E, Rines, Schneider, Sherman, Shields, Shorey, Snowe-Mello, Stanwood, Stedman, Tobin D, Tobin J, Trahan, Treadwell, True, Waterhouse, Weston, Wheeler EM, Wheeler GJ, Winsor.

ABSENT - Cameron, Fuller, Mack, Martin, Murphy E, Rosen, Savage C, Skoglund, Sullivan.

Yes, 74; No, 68; Absent, 9; Excused, 0.

74 having voted in the affirmative and 68 voted in the negative, with 9 being absent, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-433)** and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Create a Purple Heart Motorcycle License Plate"

(H.P. 1653) (L.D. 2322)
(C. "A" H-789)

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

On motion of Representative BERRY of Belmont, was SET ASIDE.

The same Representative REQUESTED a roll call on **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended.**

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 Dexter, Representative Tobin.

Representative TOBIN: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I will try to be brief. We voted on this bill last Friday. It was quite close. Over the weekend I thought about this vote on several occasions. My father's brothers, one was shot and wounded in the European Theatre, my Uncle Jerry. My uncle Richard was shot and wounded in the Pacific Theatre. The reason why I rise this morning is to ask you to vote down amendment (H-789) and vote in favor of amendment (H-790). I realize we vote with our heads and our hearts here in the House. In all practicality, (H-790), the fiscal note is \$300 to honor our veterans who are becoming fewer and fewer. Not only are the veterans numbers being reduced, the number of veterans who have received Purple Hearts is also becoming smaller and smaller. I understand the Transportation Committee's problem with over 70 different types of number plates. This may be the time, but it is not the place or the right people to be identifying as

those who get a decal rather than a stamped out plate. I ask you to please reconsider your vote. It was fairly close last Friday and vote down (H-789) and let's vote in (H-790). Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Eliot, Representative Wheeler.

Representative WHEELER: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. Again, I will just remind you on what we did vote on last week. Both these bills recognize Purple Heart recipients, which we all find very dear to our heart. We appreciate everything they have done for us. What we are trying to do is get our plate system in uniform and the decal is the appropriate way to go for the motorcycle plate, whereas they will be more recognized in the future. I urge you to stay with your vote and to recognize the Purple Heart recipients, which we are all trying to do, but just in a different way.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bridgewater, Representative Wheeler.

Representative WHEELER: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I am standing today for a group of individuals who fought in wars and sacrificed a little bit more than most of us who were in the services. They gave a little bit of something of themselves. They would like to have a plate instead of a decal to place on another individual's plate. I think it is time that we stood up and was counted and followed Representative Tobin's suggestions. Thank you.

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

Representative BOUFFARD: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I want to remind you that we already have the Purple Heart Plate for automobiles. The amendment that we had, the one that we are asking you to reconsider and not vote for this one, but vote for the one that will give the Purple Heart Motorcycle Plate their fair meaning. We already have it for automobiles and those who drive their motorcycles, I think deserve their own plate. These are men and women who have shed blood for our country. Therefore, they deserve more than just placing a decal on a generic plate. Let's give them the Purple Heart Plate, which is just the extension of the automobile Purple Heart Plate.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Waterville, Representative Jabar.

Representative JABAR: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I rise to urge this body to support the Majority Report and the majority amendment. I would like to tell you why. We had in front of us numerous bills from veterans, separate bills and separate plates. We had a request for a plate for Hiroshima veterans. There was a plate for veterans from Normandy. There was a Purple Heart veterans and there seems to be a recurring theme every year to get more and more plates. The Majority Report, which you passed last time, does not disregard the request of the Purple Heart recipients. What this bill tries to do is to come up with a system where we can have one disabled plate for all disabled veterans with a special designation where you can identify whether you are a Hiroshima veteran, Normandy veteran, Vietnam veteran, Korean Veteran or a Purple Heart. Otherwise if we don't come up with some system of dealing with all of these requests this Legislature is going to be dealing with more and more requests for veteran's plates. The Majority Report is a common sense approach to dealing with the Purple Heart recipients as well as veterans who take part in other wars. This will make it much easier in the future to deal with these

requests. We are not disregarding the Purple Heart recipients. We are simply saying that the veteran plate will have on it a decal, which will identify the Purple Heart recipient. To the person looking at a license plate that is full of snow and dirt, they are not going to know whether there is a decal on there or whether it was an original plate. It is going to identify that person as a Purple Heart recipient. We seem to be quibbling over whether the plate itself is going to have a decal or the word Purple Heart imprinted. The net result is going to be the same. I urge you to stay with the Majority Report and follow through on this common sense approach. Thank you.

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

ROLL CALL NO. 435

YEA - Ahearne, Bagley, Baker, Berry RL, Bolduc, Bragdon, Brennan, Bryant, Buck, Bull, Bumps, Chizmar, Cowger, Dudley, Dunlap, Duplessie, Etnier, Fisher, Foster, Fuller, Gagne, Gagnon, Glynn, Goodwin, Hatch, Jabar, Jacobs, Kane, LaVerdiere, Lemoine, Lemont, Lindahl, Marvin, McDonough, McGlocklin, McKee, Mitchell, Norbert, O'Brien LL, Pieh, Powers, Samson, Sanborn, Saxl JW, Saxl MV, Shiah, Thompson, Tobin D, Townsend, Tuttle, Twomey, Volenik, Watson, Wheeler GJ, Williams, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Belanger, Berry DP, Bouffard, Bowles, Brooks, Bruno, Campbell, Carr, Chick, Cianchette, Clark, Clough, Collins, Colwell, Cote, Cross, Daigle, Davidson, Davis, Desmond, Dugay, Duncan, Frechette, Gerry, Gillis, Gooley, Green, Heidrich, Honey, Jodrey, Jones, Joy, Kasprzak, Kneeland, Labrecque, Lovett, MacDougall, Mailhot, Martin, Matthews, Mayo, McAlevey, McKenney, McNeil, Mendros, Murphy T, Muse, Nass, Nutting, O'Brien JA, O'Neal, O'Neil, Peavey, Perkins, Perry, Pinkham, Plowman, Povich, Quint, Richard, Richardson E, Richardson J, Rines, Rosen, Savage W, Schneider, Sherman, Shields, Shorey, Sirois, Snowe-Mello, Stanley, Stanwood, Stedman, Stevens, Tessier, Tobin J, Tracy, Trahan, Treadwell, Tripp, True, Usher, Waterhouse, Weston, Wheeler EM, Winsor.

ABSENT - Cameron, Mack, Madore, Murphy E, Savage C, Skoglund, Sullivan.

Yes, 56; No, 88; Absent, 7; Excused, 0.

56 having voted in the affirmative and 88 voted in the negative, with 7 being absent, the Bill **FAILED** of **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-789)**.

On motion of Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby the Bill **FAILED** of **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-789)**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby **Committee Amendment "A" (H-789)** was **ADOPTED**.

On further motion of the same Representative, **Committee Amendment "A" (H-789)** was **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

Representative TOBIN of Dexter moved that **Committee Amendment "B" (H-790)** be **ADOPTED**.

Committee Amendment "B" (H-790) was **READ** by the Clerk.

Representative WATERHOUSE of Bridgton **REQUESTED** a roll call on **ADOPTION** of **Committee Amendment "B" (H-790)**.

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 Poland, Representative Snowe-Mello.

Representative **SNOWE-MELLO**: Mr. Speaker, May I pose a question through the Chair?

The SPEAKER: The Representative may pose her question.

Representative **SNOWE-MELLO**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. Could I have an explanation of Committee Amendment "B"?

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Poland, Representative Snowe-Mello has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who may care to respond. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Bouffard.

Representative **BOUFFARD**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. Committee Amendment "B" is it gives the same design of the Purple Heart automobile plate to the motorcycle plate. That is what it does.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Sanford, Representative Tuttle.

Representative **TUTTLE**: Mr. Speaker, May I pose a question through the Chair?

The SPEAKER: The Representative may pose his question.

Representative **TUTTLE**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. Does anybody know what the fiscal note on this is?

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Sanford, Representative Tuttle has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who may care to respond. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Holden, Representative Campbell.

Representative **CAMPBELL**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. In the Committee Amendment "B" there is a fee for the plates. Therefore, a fee of \$5 will be charged for each plate. Beyond that, I don't know what the total fiscal note would be.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Adoption of Committee Amendment "B" (H-790). All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 436

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

NAY - Berry RL, Gagne, Goodwin, Lindahl, True.

ABSENT - Cameron, Mack, Murphy E, Savage C, Skoglund, Stevens, Sullivan.

Yes, 139; No, 5; Absent, 7; Excused, 0.

139 having voted in the affirmative and 5 voted in the negative, with 7 being absent, **Committee Amendment "B" (H-790) was ADOPTED.**

The Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-790)** and sent for concurrence.

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Fryeburg, Representative True who wishes to address the House on the Record.

Representative **TRUE**: Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. On this last vote I inadvertently pushed the wrong colored button. I would like to go on record as saying that I would have voted in the affirmative had I been thinking when I pushed the button.

At this point, a message came from the Senate, borne by Senator Rand of Cumberland of that Body, proposing a Joint Convention of both Branches to be held in the Hall of the House at 11:00 in the morning for the purpose of extending to the Honorable Terrence MacTaggart, Chancellor of the University of Maine System, and the Honorable John Fitzsimmons, President of the Maine Technical College System, an invitation to attend the Joint Convention and to make such communication as pleased them.

Thereupon the House voted to concur in the proposal for a Joint Convention to be held at 11:00 in the morning and the Speaker appointed Representative SAXL of Portland to convey this message to the Senate.

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

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

Resolve, to Create the Commission to Study the Feasibility of Televising Senate and House Sessions

(H.P. 175) (L.D. 253)

(C. "A" H-771)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 104 voted in favor of the same and 19 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

First Day

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

(S.P. 904) (L.D. 2356) Bill "An Act Regarding Elver Fishing Licenses" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-503)**

Under suspension of the rules, Second Day Consent Calendar notification was given.

There being no objection, the Senate Paper was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED** in concurrence. **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH.**

ENACTORS

Acts

An Act Relating to Certain Commercial Insurance Contracts
(S.P. 866) (L.D. 2264)
(C. "A" S-472)

An Act to Amend the Law Regarding Disability License Plates
(H.P. 1623) (L.D. 2270)

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

An Act to Realign Capital Requirements for Specialty Bank Charters
(S.P. 875) (L.D. 2283)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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

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

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

An Act Regarding Elver Fishing Licenses
(S.P. 904) (L.D. 2356)
(C. "A" S-503)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 104 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate. **ORDERED SENT FORTHWITH.**

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

The President Pro Tem of the Senate, the Honorable Rochelle Pingree, in the Chair.

The Convention was called to order by the Chair.

On Motion of Senator. Rand of Cumberland, it was **ORDERED**, that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable Terrence MacTaggart, Chancellor of the University of Maine System, and the Honorable John Fitzsimmons, President of the Maine Technical College System, the campus presidents and the board of trustees of the two systems, and inform them that the two branches of the Legislature are in Convention assembled, ready to receive such communication as pleases them.

The Order was Read and Passed.

The Chair appointed the following:

The Sen. from Androscoggin, Sen. Berube

The Sen. from Penobscot, Sen. Murray

The Sen. from Sagadahoc, Sen. Small

The Rep. from Portland, Rep. Brennan

The Rep. from Madison, Rep. Richard

The Rep. from Mapleton, Rep. Desmond

The Rep. from St. George, Rep. Skoglund

The Rep. from Farmingdale, Rep. Watson

The Rep. from Bangor, Rep. Baker

The Rep. from Hartland, Rep. Stedman

The Rep. from Caribou, Rep. Belanger

The Rep. from York, Rep. Andrews

The Rep. from Montville, Rep. Weston

Subsequently, Senator Berube of Androscoggin, for the Committee, reported that the Committee had delivered the message with which it was charged and were pleased to report that the Honorable Terrence MacTaggart, Chancellor of the University of Maine System and the Honorable John Fitzsimmons, President of the Maine Technical College System and, will attend forthwith.

The chair is pleased to welcome to the convention the presidents, the boards of trustees, and guests of the two systems.

The chair recognized in the House Gallery, Peter S. Hoff, President of the University of Maine; Owen F. Cargol, President of the University of Maine at Augusta; Theodora Kkalikow, President of the University of Maine at Farmington; Charles Lyons, President of the University of Maine at Fort Kent; James H. Breece, Interim President of the University of Maine at Machias; Nancy Hensel, President of the University of Maine at Presque Isle and Richard Pattenau, President of the University of Southern Maine. Representing the University of Maine System Board of Trustees: James D. Mullen, Chair; Penny Harris and Charles "Wick" Johnson III.

The Chair is pleased to present to you the Honorable Terrence MacTaggart, Chancellor of the University of Maine System.

Chancellor of the University of Maine System, Terrence MacTaggart, then addressed the Convention.

President Lawrence, Speaker Rowe, distinguished members of the 119th Maine State Legislature, University of Maine System Trustees, Presidents, faculty, students, staff, alumni, and friends:

Thank you for the chance to report to you on the results of your recent investments in your public universities and to outline some of the directions we should take in ensuring that Maine

people have access to the education they need to secure the future they, their children, and their communities deserve.

I would like to recognize and support Commissioner Duke Albanese and through him all of the teachers and counselors and administrative leaders in Maine's schools who provide one of the best educational programs in the country, and who send to the University more and more well prepared, motivated Maine students.

I thank my colleagues President Len Tyler of the Maine Maritime Academy and President John Fitzsimmons of our Technical College System for their work and cooperation in educating Maine's citizens. Through the Community College Partnership, the alliance between the technical colleges and the universities, we are opening new doors to many heretofore forgotten students. John, it is good to work with you on this project and in these halls.

I would also like to thank my coworkers at the universities and centers and sites and research labs and field stations and extension offices throughout Maine. The professors and the groundskeepers, the researchers and the mechanics, the librarians and the secretaries work together to insure that Maine students receive a high quality education in a clean and safe environment. These people make possible the miracle we call learning, and I am in their debt every day.

My report to you today is really about the work that all of these people perform for the students and the people of Maine.

The Parable of the Talents

We are all familiar with the parable of the talents. What have become of the talents or investments you have made in the recent past and especially last session?

I would like to emphasize three areas: (1) the results of your investments in more need-based financial aid through the Maine Student Scholarship Incentive Program, (2) the results of your investment in research and development to strengthen Maine's economy and (3) progress on the Community College Partnership.

In fiscal year 1999, you made permanent \$4 million in the MSSIP program of need-based aid that translated into \$2.8 million in new student aid monies or \$1,000 grants to 2,800 new students. Thanks to this initiative, begun a year earlier by then Speaker Elizabeth Mitchell and championed by the Legislature's Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, now chaired by Senator Georgette Berube and Representative Michael Brennan, you helped more Maine families afford higher education.

How many students are directly benefiting from the investment you have made in our public universities?

Almost 32,000 students are currently enrolled in the University of Maine System—an increase of nearly 1300 over last year's enrollment. Of those students, almost 90% are from Maine, with every county in the state sending at least 375 students. And three out of four of these students attend with the help of financial aid.

This increase in numbers does not indicate a decrease in quality—just the opposite, in fact. At the University of Maine at Fort Kent, for example, enrollment is up 44% over the past four years. At the same time, the average scores on the combined SAT test increased by 60 points. At all of our universities, increased enrollment is going hand-in-hand with increased quality of the entering students.

In the past two years, the number of first-time, first year students in the University System is up over 15%. This is a particularly important number because it indicates that more

beginning students are staying in Maine and choosing our public universities. And these are students who, in many cases could go elsewhere if they chose to do so. At the University of Maine, for example, 58 first year students were either valedictorians or salutatorians in Maine's high schools. Increasingly, Maine's top students are choosing to study in their home state instead of, as happened too often in the past, heading for the border—perhaps never to return. This is a tribute to the quality of education we are offering in our universities, to the support available to top Maine high school scholars, and to the increased funding you have provided.

Thanks to your initiatives, I believe we are finally closing the gap between the number of capable Maine students walking across the high school graduation stage in June and those entering as university freshmen in September.

Not everyone is a first year student who can matriculate on a full time basis, and we realize that. While we have only seven campus locations in our system, we have 9 learning centers in areas not directly served by a campus. These centers run from East Millinocket to Houlton to Calais to Ellsworth to Thomaston to Bath/Brunswick to Rumford/Mexico to Saco/Biddeford and Sanford. All of them are attracting more students each year, and several have increased enrollment by 15% in the past year, in part due to the community college initiative. They are staffed by some of the most capable and caring professionals you'll find anywhere. The centers offer live instruction as well as access to a broad array of learning opportunities via interactive television and the Internet.

You might be interested to know that the number of university courses available over the Internet has also expanded greatly. For example, there are now more than 220 classes that are delivered partially over the net and another 45 classes that are completely web based. These are taught by full-time university faculty in subjects ranging from Accounting to Latin to Technical Writing.

In a state as geographically vast as Maine, it is important to ensure that those who seek higher education have a way to get it even if their family or work obligations require them to stay at home. Our distance education offerings are designed to serve these students—and they do.

I've given you a lot of numbers and percentages and statistics. But who are some of the students who benefit from your decisions?

In the past two years, I've followed with you the progression of Josh Caron from Quimby in the County. You remember Quimby, Josh describes it as a suburb of Eagle Lake. You may recall that Josh studied at the University of Maine as an undergraduate and graduate student, and through that experience became involved in Sensor Research and Development, a company in Orono founded by two University of Maine professors.

Josh was grateful that he could use his engineering skills and still stay in Maine. And we are grateful as well. Now 27 and completing his dissertation for a Ph.D. in engineering, Josh has just been granted his first patent for a sensor that detects mercury in emissions from coal-fired generating plants and from waste incinerators. He has three more patents pending, and SRD has a dozen more pending on top of that.

Josh and his colleagues at SRD have collaborated with the University of Maine and the Maine Medical Center to win a contract from the Department of Defense that will bring \$10 million dollars in federal research funds into Maine over two

years, and, hopefully, lead to several new products that SRD will be able to provide to our military.

But important as all of this work is to Maine and to our overall economy, it is the personal side of Josh's life that tells us about what really matters. Josh is engaged to be married in September. He bought a house two years ago and a pick-up truck this year. In short, Josh has been able to make a life in Maine for himself, and soon, for his family-something he had grave doubts about when he began his studies almost 10 years ago.

There are 31,892 other student stories I could tell you, but I'll keep it to quite a few less. But even a few stories will put a face on the dividends your investments are delivering.

Not all students' concentrate in engineering and high technology, but many use computers to go about their work. Take Holly Howes at the University of Maine at Farmington, for instance, who, as an undergraduate, organizes the collection of historical information in the University archives into a coherent database. Even though she is an undergraduate, she has already received a grant from the Maine Historic Records Advisory Board for historic preservation. Her work has made it possible for others to draw on those valuable historic records, and both Maine Public Television and Downeast Magazine have already done so. Thanks to her work, we will all have a firmer grasp on the history and traditions of Maine. Holly will graduate next spring and, not surprisingly, hopes to go on and obtain an advanced degree in information and library science.

Not all students begin their university studies directly out of high school. Peter Victor, for example, spent 18 years in the merchant marine before the birth of his first child brought him back to land permanently. With great apprehension, he "tested the waters" at the University of Maine to see if he could start on a new career path, one that would allow him to be home with his child while he helped support his family. This year, Peter will graduate with two majors: one in aquaculture and one in English. He hopes to use his knowledge of the sea to inform a wider audience about the issues that we, and our marine industries, face here in Maine.

Some students begin their education and then come back much later to complete it. Ron Lamb of Sebec earned an Associate's degree in animal science in 1972. For almost 30 years, he has worked in agriculture. Since 1982, he has been farming strawberries in Sebec. Over those 30 years, Ron saw a lot of changes happening in agriculture on both a local and a global level, and he felt he needed more education to keep up with them. In 1999, 29 years after he first entered college, Ron received his Bachelor's degree. Now he feels more ready to face the rush of changes facing him as a Maine farmer.

Elizabeth Sapiel also returned to finish her education many years after she began. After earning her Associate's degree from Bangor Community College, she worked for many years in day care and as an educational technician in the schools of Indian Island, where she grew up and still lives. Elizabeth wants to have more opportunity to help integrate the perspectives and traditions of the Penobscot people into the curriculum that Penobscot children-and other children, as well study in school. Her own children are pretty much grown now, and so she has returned to the University of Maine to complete a Bachelor's degree and become certified as a teacher. In time, she hopes to become certified as an administrator as well so that she can make a greater contribution to the educational opportunities of

Maine's Native American children, in particular, and to all Maine children in general.

These are just a few of the stories of over 30,000 that could be told. Thanks to your decisions, more Maine people are getting the education they need for the future they deserve.

Research and Development for Maine's Economy

In the past year, the Maine people made one of the most substantial investments in Research and Development in Maine's history. That investment came through two channels. Directly, Maine voters overwhelmingly approved a twenty million dollar R&D bond issue in the fall of 1998, with about two-thirds of those funds going to labs and research facilities in the University System. Many of you will remember that this initiative is not a "north versus south" or "traditional resource-based industries versus high tech industries" vote. Voters in every county approved the bond issue and sent the message that they understand that our future depends on investment and innovation.

The other investment channel is the Maine Economic Improvement Fund. As resource stewards for Maine's people, you echoed their commitment to moving Maine forward through R&D when you significantly increased the funding level for the MEIF for FY99 and subsequent years.

All of this R&D effort has come about thanks to the leadership of Governor King and of Senate President Mark Lawrence who kicked off this initiative, and the legislature's special R&D Committee, which has been chaired by Speaker Steve Rowe, Senators Mary Cathcart and Rick Bennett, and is now led by Senator Carol Kontos and Representative Scott Cowger.

So far, the results of that MEIF funding investment have been nothing short of spectacular.

In FY99, money invested through the MEIF and managed by campuses of the University of Maine System produced more than a 400% return on your investment. Almost 19 million dollars so far have been committed from federal or other out-of-state sources with another 9 million dollars worth of proposals pending. In other words, for every dollar this legislature invested through the MEIF, the University of Maine and the University of Southern Maine attracted over four dollars from the federal government or other outside sources. Even in the current runaway stock market, you would be hard pressed to find a better rate of return.

But what is all that leveraged money doing?

It's putting Maine researchers and Maine graduate and undergraduate students to work in the areas you identified as Maine's top economic priorities: forestry and agriculture; aquaculture and marine sciences; biotechnology; composite materials science and technology; environmental sciences; and information technology.

It takes time-usually years-for research to produce commercial products, of course, but the first signs of economic dividends for Maine are already evident. Your R&D investments are:

- Creating jobs directly over 85 new research jobs have been created so far.
- Helping to support over 180 students as they pursue their studies and launch careers for themselves. These are the Josh Carons of tomorrow.
- Helping to produce patent applications and awards, both for the University itself and for collaborating companies such as SRD.

- Leading to products and processes Maine companies can use to become more productive and more competitive.
- Creating a stronger university with state-of-the-art educational programs for Maine students.

More and more solutions to real world problems are emerging from our public universities due to the investments being made in R&D.

The University of Maine, for example, received in FY99, or will receive this year, four additional patents ranging from a new way to improve frozen seafood quality to a new piezoelectric sensor that can detect minute amounts of biochemicals. Another seven applications are pending. These patents, as well as other research results, are putting tools into the hands of Maine businesses and agencies that enable them to be more productive and effective in the technological world in which we live today and in which we will have to compete tomorrow.

MEIF and bond funds are a critical component to enabling research and development to move forward in Maine.

For example:

- A patented process developed at the University of Maine is currently being tested at Cranberry Point Products in Gouldsboro. If successful, the process will allow Maine lobsters to be preserved longer with better flavor and may open up new markets worldwide for custom seasoned seafood products, including crab and lobster.

- A researcher at the University of Southern Maine is developing a new genetic technique for helping farmers improve yields in oat growth while reducing the amount of nitrogen that runs off into rivers and waterways. As a beneficial side effect of that research, the technique may also prove useful for reducing the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, a compound that contributes warming our planet's atmosphere. As a result, the Department of Energy is following this research as well as the Department of Agriculture.

- The Advanced Engineered Wood Composites Center at the University of Maine designed a computer simulation program that would allow customers of Brunswick Technologies to experiment with many different combinations of laminated wood materials on a computer screen until they found the exact Brunswick Technologies fabrication that would meet their specific needs. This saved the company significant money in creating sample products and helped Brunswick Technologies, a Maine company, be more competitive internationally.

- And, lest we imagine that problem-solving innovations are only coming out of our professionally run labs, I note that a group of engineering students from the University of Maine led by Jaime Morin of Acton designed, built, and raced a seaworthy paper canoe in a national competition sponsored by the US Department of Energy. Apparently they were not fazed by competition from the likes of Georgia Tech and other top engineering schools because they walked off with first place and a \$10,000 first prize. I suppose that is another way to attract dollars to Maine from out of state.

Community College Partnership

I'd like to turn now to another kind of success story. It, too, is still in the early stages of investment, but it, too, is already returning results far in excess of what we anticipated. I refer here to the Community College Partnership.

The dramatic enrollment increases in the Centers and in the two-year programs at University College in Bangor and Lewiston Auburn College-the focus of our side of the community college partnership-are in part due to this initiative. As John will no

doubt mention, enrollments in the technical college's new associate of arts program are much higher than anticipated.

Working together, we have doubled the number of transfer agreements so that now an educational ladder exists in sixty programs, the transfer information system is up and running and the electronic catalog will be ready shortly.

The punch line from all of this is that your investments are working. You invested in student financial aid, and more Maine citizens from all walks of life are getting higher education. You invested in university based research for economic growth, and the researchers have brought in almost \$19 million in new federal grants, with another \$9 million still pending, to focus on areas critical to Maine's economy.

And all of this has happened in the last three years. Think of where we would be if this effort and these results became the norm instead of the exception. I'd like to talk with you about that possibility now.

Working for Maine's Future

What would Maine be like if we had made these kinds of strategic investments for ten or fifteen years instead of just two or three? Of course we'll never know the answer for sure, but it is interesting to compare Maine with another large, cold, northern state, Minnesota, which did just that.

You know, Maine and Minnesota have a lot in common. For example, they share a similar economic history. Minnesota's was based on extracting natural resources from the forests, the lakes, and the fields. Not far from where I used to live near Lake Wobegon, I could see across cornfields and dairy farms to the stack of a Champion Paper mill. Lake Superior, never as rich as the Gulf of Maine, nevertheless supported a commercial fishery.

Both offer an exhilarating climate with four real seasons and a recreational tableau including sports like ice fishing and canoeing and hunting and hockey and skiing, though more cross-country than downhill on those midwestern plains. And the people have a lot in common: hardy, independent, hard working, law abiding.

Both states are among the safest in the nation. The schools in Minnesota rival Maine's in the quality of their graduates. And while there are more Minnesotans than Mainers, the population density-the number of people per square mile-is pretty close.

And both have governors who are skilled communicators, though one wears a boa and the other a "Save the Children" tie.

But there is a striking difference between these two states that have so much in common. Over the past ten or eleven years, one has risen in per capita income from fifteenth to tenth. The other has fallen from twenty-fifth to thirty-sixth.

And they differ in another respect. A little over half of Maine's high school graduates go on to college; nearly three-quarters of those in Minnesota do. Minnesota's economy has taken off in a crescent running from its regional universities to the University of Minnesota as it used these centers of knowledge to sustain its traditional industries based on the farm and the forest, but also to grow new industries in computers, biotechnology and health care.

This economic miracle occurred because courageous governors, legislators and citizens created a blue print for growth and access. In good times and bad, Minnesota made sure its families could afford higher education and that their colleges and universities were first rate. And now this cold, northern state bordering Canada is one of the ten richest in the nation.

If Maine had made similar investments in its people over the past ten or fifteen years, where would it be now?

The Challenge Before Us

The challenge facing us, I believe, is to stay the course. We need to continue the pattern of investment you have begun over the past three years because your policies have enabled more Maine citizens to achieve a higher quality education than in the past.

The Governor has made proposals in his budget and legislative leaders have offered a number of bills, which will make education more affordable and relevant to today's needs. For example, Governor King's budget matches a \$2 million challenge from Mr. Barney Osher to provide a total of \$4 million in financial aid to students enrolled in the Community College Partnership. Senate President Mark Lawrence's LD 2539 supports the Governor's initiative and provides \$5 million more in financial aid that would be set aside forever in an endowment. Proceeds from the endowment would support student scholarships into the future.

This is one-time money, which will support our children and our children's children. This is not a giveaway, but aid based on verifiable family need.

We have an inequity in the pay of state workers and individuals performing the same services for the students in the University System. The Governor's budget thoughtfully proposes \$4 million to close this gap. We need \$1.75 million more to provide full equity.

Our students need to communicate clearly, think analytically and work hard. But if they are to succeed in our technologically oriented society, they need access to information and to modern computers. LD 2500, sponsored by Senate President Lawrence, would provide that access, and it would give professionals, business people, care-givers and others who need specialized information access to books and journals where they work and live without having to travel to the Fogler Library in Orono to borrow a magazine. And it would connect all of our universities with Maine high schools and the libraries through a high-speed line that becomes a kind of electronic I-95, but one, which will reach into almost every community in the state.

Communications technology is important and more and more people are taking advantage of it. But did you know that the single most important factor in determining if and where you will go to college is location?

People with a campus or educational center nearby are much more likely to participate than those who must travel a distance. This really comes as no surprise when we recall that about half of our students work full-time and hold family and community responsibilities. So it only makes sense to expand our low cost, community based learning centers. LD 2467, sponsored by Speaker Steve Rowe, will help build our learning centers in Houlton, Calais, and at the campus in Fort Kent; begin renovation of the University College in Bangor and complete the construction of Lewiston-Auburn College; and help disseminate USM's Senior College across the state. With approval of an amendment by Representative Steve Stanley, the University System in cooperation with Maine's Technical Colleges could begin offering educational services in Dover-Foxcroft as well. With the exception of Senior College, these investments are all in one-time money that would pay benefits for a long time to come.

Finally, the venerable chemistry building at the University of Maine, Aubert Hall, needs a major overhaul. Parts of this building are almost 100 years old, and although the labs aren't that old, they need major upgrades to meet the standards of

contemporary science and research. I know the Governor is trying to find a way to support this project and legislative leaders share his concern. The University is prepared to raise privately and/or to reallocate existing resources to provide fifteen million dollars for Aubert Hall if the state can match that effort with \$9 million.

I know that all of this is a tall order. But in the past ten years the states that made these kinds of investments have gradually climbed up the ladder while Maine has slipped down the ladder. We know our people have all the talent and the capacity for hard work they need. With the right tools, in this case higher education, they will be able to secure the future they and their families deserve.

The best argument for investing in education that I know of comes from a young man from Hall-Dale High School whose self-portrait, along with those of perhaps a dozen of his fellow students, hangs in the Armory building where the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee meets. His statement, below the portrait, reads something like this:

My Life.

There are many things in my life that make me happy and sad. Things that make me happy are hanging out with my friends, listening to music and going to concerts.

The things in my life that I value are my job and being able to communicate with people well. I like my job as a cook a lot and I enjoy working with other people. My goal in life is to get a college education, get a job and start a family.

The things that have directed my life are my family, my school and my job. Without these things my life probably wouldn't be very good. School gives me a good education for my future, and my job gives me good skills for future jobs.

In the year 2000, I think I would like to see many things changed. I would like to see all of the countries in the world get along, and I would like to see more good jobs for kids that get out of college and are looking for a job.

I think that living on earth is fun and I really enjoy it.

When I ask you to invest in Maine public colleges and universities, I'm really asking you to invest in this young man and his chances of securing a future in Maine with a good job and a healthy family, where living is fun and life is something to be enjoyed.

Thank you very much

The chair is pleased to recognize in the House Gallery: Dr. Joyce Hedlund, President of Eastern Maine Technical College; Dr. Barbara Woodlee, President of Kennebec Valley Technical College; Dr. Durwood Huffman, President of Northern Maine Technical College; Dr. William Flahive, President of Washington County Technical College; Dr. Paul Dauphinais, President of York County Technical College; Dr. Richard Lee, Vice President of Central Maine Technical College; Dr. William Warren, Vice President of Southern Maine Technical College. Representing the Maine Technical College System Board of Trustees: Elizabeth Shorr of Portland, William Cohen of Cape Elizabeth, Bridget Healy of Freeport, Joanna Jones of Waldoboro, Kent Lyons of Calais, Commissioner of Education J. Duke Albanese, Commissioner of Economic and Community Development Steven Levesque.

The Chair is pleased to present to you the Honorable John Fitzsimmons, President of the Maine Technical College System.

President of the Maine Technical College System, John Fitzsimmons, then addressed the Convention.

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, distinguished members of the 119th Maine Legislature, it is a pleasure to be here this morning to speak about the Maine Technical College System. On behalf of our students, employees, and trustees, I want to tell you how honored we are to have this opportunity.

I want to begin with a 'thank you'. The investments you made in our Technical Colleges during the last legislative session were important steps in improving access to higher education.

First, your overwhelming bipartisan support for a \$26.4 million bond issue will provide funds to upgrade and expand our facilities. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to go before Maine people. As you know, they endorsed it by a resounding 70 percent, with every county reporting over 62 percent support.

Second, by providing the operational funds to add and expand high-demand programs, we are able to add 750 new students over the biennium-in all regions of the state.

And third, by supporting a three percent increase in our base budget, we were able to freeze tuition at \$68 per credit hour-or about \$2,000 a year.

This month marks my tenth anniversary with the Technical College System. It has been an honor and a pleasure to be part of this dynamic organization.

After ten years, I couldn't be prouder of what we have accomplished:

Fifty-two percent growth in enrollment in the past decade. A 95 percent placement rate-in jobs or transferring to four-year colleges. We have developed transfer agreements with all of Maine's four-year public institutions, and most of the private colleges-so that today, nearly 25 percent of our students go directly on to baccalaureate programs.

We have implemented a new economic development program - the Maine Quality Centers - which is helping companies grow in Maine companies like ATX Forms in Caribou; Log-On America in Lubec, Kennebunk and Portland; EnvisioNet in Augusta and Brunswick; and Hussey Seating in North Berwick.

To date, the Quality Centers has helped over 4,800 Maine people gain the skills to qualify for those new jobs-all full-time jobs with benefits.

We have strengthened our connection to Maine high schools with our national award-winning Maine Career Advantage program and Tech Prep. Together, these programs are helping over 25,000 high school students, each year, prepare for college and careers.

And just recently, we initiated the Community College Partnership with the University of Maine System, and opened a new door to higher education with the Associate in Arts transfer program-now available at all seven Technical Colleges.

I want to thank our employees for all they have accomplished, and most importantly, for their unwavering commitment to their students. They share a common belief that if our students are successful, Maine will be successful.

I also want to thank them for their willingness to embrace change. As we enter a new century that promises unprecedented change, that quality should give all of us confidence that the Technical Colleges will serve Maine well in a new era.

This is an organization ready...and excited...about the 21st century.

There is not a day that passes that we don't hear or read about the technological revolution and its impact on our society.

In the home where 45 million American households now have personal computers and 80 million have access to the Internet.

In commerce where sales over the Internet are projected to grow from \$150 billion in 1999 to \$1.1 trillion in 2002.

And at the workplace where whole industries are being transformed-from paper making to boat building, from metals manufacturing to health care. Today, nearly two-thirds of all jobs require workers to use technology in the performance of their jobs.

The undeniable fact is technology is permeating every aspect of our lives and will only further transform the way we work and live in the future.

In the 1990's, we reached a universal consensus that in America there is a growing divide between the educational 'haves' and 'have-nots.' Never in our history has there been such a direct relationship between educational attainment and economic prosperity. Now, as we enter the new century, there is a second factor that will only widen that gap: those who are proficient with technology, and those who are not.

As our economy continues to evolve, thousands of Mainers will be turning to the Technical Colleges as a place to earn a college credential and the skills they need to find their place in the new Maine economy.

If we look across the nation, state after state is turning to their two-year college systems to play a key role in preparing citizens for the information age. States like California, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and New Hampshire-all have made substantial investments in their two-year colleges to expand access and retrain workers caught up in the economic transition. In fact, the New Hampshire Technical & Community College System has set a goal to double their enrollment from 9,000 to 18,000 students by the end of this decade.

If the Technical Colleges are to assist Maine people more fully in this new era, there are three major commitments that I believe we will have to make.

First, we have to continue to increase the capacity of the Technical Colleges. At 5,500 students, our colleges are too small for Maine. And Maine people and businesses are feeling the impact.

In the last few months, Maine newspapers have reported skilled worker shortages in industry after industry. From the sawmills of Aroostook County that are now requiring associate degrees to health care providers in Kennebec County to computer firms in Cumberland and York Counties. These stories only illustrate the recent findings of the Economic Growth Council: that 61 percent of Maine businesses are struggling to find the skilled workers they need to compete.

The investment you made last year was a good start. We urge you to continue that progress, by supporting LD 2519. This initiative, put forth by Senate President Mark Lawrence and House Speaker Stephen Rowe-with bipartisan cosponsors-would add another 250 students. Along with the 750 already funded, this would return us to our original goal last year of 1,000 new students over this biennium.

Equally important, this bill includes a resolution by this Legislature calling on future legislatures to commit to a growth

plan for the Technical Colleges-to reach 10,000 students by 2006. I urge your support for this initiative.

Our second priority-also addressed in LD 2519-is a one-time \$2 million investment in high-speed Internet access.

We're heading to a day when getting online is an integral part of every student's day-from registering for courses, communicating with faculty, checking grades, doing research, and submitting assignments. All of these will be done over the Internet.

The goods news is, our students and faculty are embracing this technology. The challenge is that the demands are exceeding the capacity of our network much sooner than we projected. And our students are now feeling the effects-with delays and slower service online.

Our needs are twofold: first, to expand our network's bandwidth capacity to provide greater and faster access to the Internet. This investment will allow us to migrate to ATM technology, which would increase our bandwidth capacity by 175 times our current technology. This increased bandwidth will ensure that every Technical College student will have the resources of the Internet at their fingertips.

These funds would also support faculty development of online courses.

Let me tell you why I believe online courses are going to be a part of the Technical Colleges' future.

In the past, distance education has been a small part of higher education. But, thanks to the introduction of the personal computer and the Internet-and a whole new generation growing up on computers-web-based instruction is about to revolutionize higher education.

Between 1995 and 1998, online courses grew by 72 percent nationally. In 1998, 1.6 million American students were taking courses online. Today, over 70 percent of public higher education institutions are offering distance courses as part of their offerings.

Along with this explosion of online courses, the Internet is also breaking down the traditional geographic boundaries that have insulated us from competition. You know those boundaries are dissolving when eight community colleges from six states come together to form a consortium to market and deliver online courses. And when the governors of five states unite to create the Western Governors University-a virtual university offering full programs online to people around the world. And when Great Britain (just one week ago) announces a major investment to create an electronic university, to compete with American institutions.

While these new online consortia will open up a world of options for students, they are also redefining higher education. The consortia are marketing general education and business course, which are the least expensive to deliver and they are leaving the expensive programs such as machine tool and nursing to be delivered by the home institutions.

In an article released just last week in The Futurist magazine, the Association of Governing Boards predicts that one-third of existing independent colleges and universities in the United States will close in the next 10 years because of the digital revolution.

I know for some of us e-commerce, e-trade, e-toys, and now e-education, is all moving far too fast. And even within the education community there are those faculty who embrace the new technology and see it as a complement to their teaching.

And there are those who question its quality and a disconnect from students.

There will be and there should be a healthy debate within the education community regarding the emergence of electronic education.

But with 52 percent of Maine households currently having access to the Internet, I believe the market is speaking.

At the Technical Colleges, we know Maine students and businesses need online courses to be a part of our offerings because we're serving more and more adults-who are balancing work and family-and they will need the convenience of online courses to attain a college degree and because our younger students will demand it. The new generation will see taking courses online or doing research over the Internet as natural as our generation saw sitting in a classroom or going to the library and because our mission is to serve Maine businesses, who face a constant need to upgrade the skills of their employees to stay competitive. They will demand it-on site, and on their schedules.

While electronic education has its challenges and opportunities, the real question is not if we participate, but when. Our third priority is the Community College Partnership, which we've initiated with the University of Maine System.

I want to thank Chancellor MacTaggart for working with us to bring our two systems closer for the benefit of Maine people. And I'd like to thank Governor King for offering his support and commitment to this initiative.

As you know, this partnership is designed to address Maine's low college participation rate by reaching out to those students who are undecided about their career goals, unsure of their academic skills, or face financial constraints-a population traditionally served by community colleges.

Now, under the Community College Partnership, the Technical Colleges are offering an Associate in Arts degree.

This program is designed to give people the foundation courses, which are the core academic courses, needed for baccalaureate programs, as well as for our associate degree programs in occupational fields.

This new program began last fall, and we had hoped for 150 students in the inaugural class. It has far exceeded our expectations. As of this spring, 434 students have enrolled at the technical colleges in this program.

These high enrollment numbers are exciting news, and only reinforce the need for community college services in Maine.

And now, thanks to a generous challenge grant from the Bernard Osher Foundation, Maine has a wonderful opportunity to entice more people into college by lowering the cost to attend.

The Osher Foundation has offered Maine \$2 million-\$1 million for the Technical Colleges and \$1 million for the Universities-to be matched by the State, to create endowed scholarships for students enrolled under the Community College Partnership.

Students enrolled in our Associate in Arts program will be eligible for a \$500 scholarship, which represents a 25 percent reduction in their tuition.

We'd like to thank Governor King for including the challenge match in his budget, and urge your support for it.

Maine needs to make a long-term commitment to build a strong two-year college system. And we can take important steps forward this session, by expanding access, investing in technology and online courses, and supporting a new scholarship program for the Community College Partnership.

Maine people are facing a great divide between those that have higher education and technical skills and those who do not. There are thousands of Mainers who have lost their jobs due to technology and foreign competition that now find their skills obsolete for the new economy. And there are thousands more who are holding down two jobs to support themselves and their families. We must build a bridge across this educational and technological divide that will give every Maine citizen an opportunity to be a full participant in the 21st century.

Some day, someone else will be standing behind this podium. And some day, others will be sitting where you are today.

We are the temporary guardians of Maine's promise. The decisions we make today will shape and influence the future of Maine. The measure of our leadership will NOT be in celebrating the successes of the few, but rather, in our ability to bring along the many, to reap the benefits of this new era.

Let that be our legacy. It must be our resolve. Thank you very much.

Chancellor Terrence MacTaggart and President John Fitzsimmons 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.

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Provide for the Year 2000 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds" (EMERGENCY)
(S.P. 1010) (L.D. 2578)

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 Legal Access to Marijuana for Medical Use"

(S.P. 1012) (L.D. 2580)

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 Provide an Angling Season for Atlantic Salmon" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 1011) (L.D. 2579)

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

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

On motion of Representative MENDROS of Lewiston, Representative MAILHOT of Lewiston, Representative BOUFFARD of Lewiston, Representative COTE of Lewiston and Representative O'BRIEN of Lewiston, the House adjourned at 12:20 p.m., until 9:00 a.m., Friday, February 25, 2000 in honor and lasting tribute to George Orestis, of Auburn.