

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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**Legislative Record**  
**House of Representatives**  
**One Hundred and Twentieth Legislature**  
**State of Maine**

**Volume I**

**First Regular Session**

December 6, 2000 – May 17, 2001

Pages 1-889

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
14th Legislative Day  
Thursday, February 15, 2001

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

Prayer by Pastor David Rinas, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Augusta.

National Anthem by Winslow Junior High Concert Band.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Jacob W. Gerritsen, M.D., Camden.

The Journal of Tuesday, February 13, 2001 was read and approved.

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**SENATE PAPERS**

Bill "An Act to Make An Owner Responsible for a Person's Injuries Caused by a Dog"

(S.P. 189) (L.D. 661)

Bill "An Act to Increase Efficiency in Maine Land Use Regulation Commission Permitting"

(S.P. 193) (L.D. 665)

Bill "An Act to make Confidential Certain Information Collected from State Farmers"

(S.P. 200) (L.D. 672)

Bill "An Act to Implement the Maine Agricultural Internship and Training Program"

(S.P. 227) (L.D. 792)

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Continue Funding for the Maine Microenterprise Initiative Fund"

(S.P. 186) (L.D. 658)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Law Governing the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf"

(S.P. 194) (L.D. 666)

Bill "An Act to Enhance the State's Agricultural Marketing"

(S.P. 214) (L.D. 779)

Bill "An Act to Stimulate Job Growth Through Investing in University Research and Development"

(S.P. 219) (L.D. 784)

Bill "An Act to Provide an Appropriation for 'mainescience.org'"

(S.P. 228) (L.D. 793)

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Require Health Insurance Companies to Provide Advance Notice of Cancellation"

(S.P. 213) (L.D. 778)

Bill "An Act to Ensure Health Maintenance Organization Accountability"

(S.P. 217) (L.D. 782)

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Reallocate a Portion of the Calendar Year 1999 Allocation of State Ceiling" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 196) (L.D. 668)

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Use of the Municipal Investment Trust Fund"

(S.P. 197) (L.D. 669)

Bill "An Act to Require Veterinary Clinics to Fully Disclose Their After-hours Staffing Policies"

(S.P. 216) (L.D. 781)

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.

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Bill "An Act to Promote Economic Growth in the Penobscot Valley"

(S.P. 215) (L.D. 780)

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

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

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

---

Bill "An Act to Require a Life Sentence for Murder Unless There Are Mitigating Circumstances"

(S.P. 203) (L.D. 768)

Bill "An Act to Require the Destruction of Confiscated and Forfeited Handguns"

(S.P. 209) (L.D. 774)

Bill "An Act to Make Assault with a Dangerous Dog a Crime and to Allow a Court to Impose Restitution to the Victim"

(S.P. 225) (L.D. 790)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Pertaining to Domestic Violence"

(S.P. 232) (L.D. 797)

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

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

---

Resolve, to Promote the Blueberry Industry

(S.P. 187) (L.D. 659)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing a Conflict of Interest for a School Board Member"

(S.P. 188) (L.D. 660)

Resolve, to Encourage Entrepreneurship Education and Outreach

(S.P. 205) (L.D. 770)

Bill "An Act to Require Explicit Statutory Authority for Expenditure of Certain Public Money for Lobbying Purposes and Private Enterprise and for Private For-profit Gain"

(S.P. 207) (L.D. 772)

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

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

---

Bill "An Act to Require Alien Big Game Hunters to be Accompanied by a Guide"

(S.P. 201) (L.D. 673)

Bill "An Act to Establish a Primitive Firearms Season for Deer"

(S.P. 210) (L.D. 775)

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.

---

Bill "An Act to Update the Probate Code"

(S.P. 218) (L.D. 783)

Bill "An Act to Discourage Frivolous Appeals"

(S.P. 224) (L.D. 789)

Bill "An Act to Allow a District Attorney to Appeal Court Rulings Without Attorney General Approval"

(S.P. 226) (L.D. 791)

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Require a Position to be Filled in the Iris Network"

(S.P. 191) (L.D. 663)

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Maine's Worker Advocate Program"

(S.P. 198) (L.D. 670)

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

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

---

Bill "An Act to Establish a Presumption of Commission of a Civil Violation for Minors Suspected of Consuming Alcohol"

(S.P. 229) (L.D. 794)

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

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

---

Bill "An Act to Require the Filing of Soils Tests"

(S.P. 222) (L.D. 787)

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

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

---

Bill "An Act to Ensure Environmental Integrity, Forest Health and Rural Maine Jobs"

(S.P. 182) (L.D. 610)

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

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

Representative McKEE of Wayne moved that the Bill be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**.

On motion of Representative BRUNO of Raymond, **TABLED** pending the motion of Representative McKEE of Wayne to **REFER** the Bill to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and later today assigned.

---

Resolve, to Direct the State Planning Office to Provide Community Forestry Training to Towns

(S.P. 199) (L.D. 671)

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

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

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

---

Bill "An Act to Change the Job Title of County Administrator to County Manager for York County"

(S.P. 204) (L.D. 769)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Municipal Citizen Initiatives and Referenda" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 231) (L.D. 796)

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

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

---

Bill "An Act to Amend the Employment Tax Increment Financing Program"

(S.P. 192) (L.D. 664)

Bill "An Act to Exempt Retirement Income from the Maine Income Tax"

(S.P. 195) (L.D. 667)

Bill "An Act to Promote Capital Formation and Investment"

(S.P. 220) (L.D. 785)

Bill "An Act to Create a State Tax Deduction for Donations to Maine Nonprofit Corporations"

(S.P. 221) (L.D. 786)

Bill "An Act to Exempt Food, Lodging, Service and Retail Property from the Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement Program" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 223) (L.D. 788)

Bill "An Act to Rebalance Maine's Tax Code and Reduce the Structural Gap"

(S.P. 230) (L.D. 795)

Bill "An Act to Redefine Property Subject to the Business Equipment Tax Reimbursement Program to Include Only Property Used for Manufacturing and Research" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 233) (L.D. 798)

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

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

---

Bill "An Act to Facilitate Passenger Rail Transportation by Limiting Liability"

(S.P. 202) (L.D. 767)

Bill "An Act to Increase Penalties for Those Violating Covered-load Laws"

(S.P. 206) (L.D. 771)

Bill "An Act to Promote Safety and to Help Elderly Drivers by Providing an Optional One-year License"

(S.P. 208) (L.D. 773)

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Department of Transportation to Use the Design-Build Method of Project Delivery"

(S.P. 211) (L.D. 776)

Bill "An Act to Make Additional Allocations from the Highway Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Change Certain Provisions of State Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2001" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 212) (L.D. 777)

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

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

---

Bill "An Act to Remove Barriers to Providing Natural Gas Services"

(S.P. 190) (L.D. 662)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **UTILITIES AND ENERGY** and ordered printed.

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **UTILITIES AND ENERGY** in concurrence.

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**Pursuant to Statute**

**Joint Standing Committee on Taxation**

Report of the **Joint Standing Committee on Taxation** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, chapter 9 asks leave to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation Resulting from Its Review of Income Tax Expenditures Pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 36, chapter 9"

(S.P. 234) (L.D. 803)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Came from the Senate, Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

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

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

Bill "An Act to Ensure Environmental Integrity, Forest Health and Rural Maine Jobs"

(S.P. 182) (L.D. 610)

Which was **TABLED** by Representative BRUNO of Raymond pending the motion of Representative McKEE of Wayne to **REFER** the Bill to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**.

Subsequently, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** in **NON-CONCURRENCE** and sent for concurrence.

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**Non-Concurrent Matter**

Bill "An Act to Update the Abandoned Property Laws"

(S.P. 120) (L.D. 396)

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** in the House on February 8, 2001.

Came from the Senate with that Body having **INSISTED** on its former action whereby the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

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

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**Non-Concurrent Matter**

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Smoking in Maine Schools and on School Grounds"

(H.P. 482) (L.D. 622)

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** in the House on February 8, 2001.

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

The House voted to **RECEDE AND CONCUR**.

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**Non-Concurrent Matter**

Bill "An Act to Encourage HIV Testing of Pregnant Patients"

(H.P. 391) (L.D. 512)

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** in the House on February 6, 2001.

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

The House voted to **RECEDE AND CONCUR**.

**Non-Concurrent Matter**

Bill "An Act to Ensure Uniform Enforcement of Maine's Weight Laws"

(H.P. 494) (L.D. 634)

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** in the House on February 8, 2001.

Came from the Senate with the Bill and accompanying papers **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**. The House voted to **RECEDE AND CONCUR**.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 42)

**STATE OF MAINE  
120TH LEGISLATURE**

January 23, 2001

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 120th Maine Legislature on Thursday, February 15, 2001 at 11:00 a.m. concerning the State of the Maine Technical College System and any other matters that you may care to bring to our attention.

On the same day, following your address, Terrence MacTaggart, Chancellor, University of Maine System, will be addressing the Joint Convention.

We look forward to seeing you then. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

S/Michael H. Michaud  
President of the Senate  
S/Michael V. Saxl  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 43)

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

January 25, 2001

The Honorable Michael H. Michaud  
President of the Senate  
120th Maine Legislature  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003  
The Honorable Michael V. Saxl  
Speaker of the House  
120th Maine Legislature  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Dear President Michaud and Speaker Saxl:

Thank you for your letter of January 23, 2001, inviting me to address a Joint Session of the 120th Maine Legislature on Thursday, February 15th. 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 Technical College System.

Thank you again for your invitation.

Sincerely yours,

S/John Fitzsimmons, Ed.D.  
President

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 44)

**STATE OF MAINE  
120TH LEGISLATURE**

January 23, 2001

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

Dear Chancellor MacTaggart:

We are pleased to invite you to address a Joint Session of the 120th Maine Legislature on Thursday, February 15, 2001 concerning the State of the University 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 John Fitzsimmons, President of the Maine Technical College System. You will address the Joint Convention directly following the President.

We look forward to seeing you then. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

S/Michael H. Michaud  
President of the Senate  
S/Michael V. Saxl  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 45)

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

January 29, 2001

The Honorable Michael H. Michaud  
President of the Senate  
State of Maine  
120th Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, ME 04333

The Honorable Michael V. Saxl  
Speaker of the House  
State of Maine  
120th Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Michaud and Speaker Saxl:

It is with exceptional pleasure that I accept your invitation to address a Joint Session of the 120th Maine Legislature on Thursday, February 15, 2001.

I consider this a distinct privilege, and 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.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 46)

**MAINE MILLENNIUM COMMISSION  
ON HUNGER & FOOD SECURITY**

January 9, 2001

The Honorable Michael Michaud

Senate President

Maine Senate

SHS #3

Augusta, Maine 04333

The Honorable Michael V. Saxl

Speaker of the House

Maine House of Representatives

SHS #2

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Michaud and Speaker Saxl:

The Maine Millennium Commission on Hunger and Food Security herein submits an interim report to the 120th Maine Legislature concerning its findings and recommendations to date. The Commission is charged by the Legislature to finish its work by the end of 2001.

At this time there are many proposals under consideration by the Commission. However, several proposals offer clear, straightforward and timely actions that will produce valuable results for those who are hungry or at risk of hunger in Maine. This interim report presents those recommendations at this time and urges swift action to implement them.

The commission has focused, as is required by Resolve, upon those actions that will lead to ending hunger and achieve food security in Maine, not merely alleviating hunger by providing services that fill gaps. As such, much attention has been given to the circumstances and conditions that keep people from being food secure.

However, members are also aware that there is no simple solution and that hunger will not be ended overnight. Emergency aid services are essential and will no doubt be needed for many years to come to deal with emergency situations. Therefore, the recommendations proposed herein include both fundamental and structural changes as well as ways of improving services that are intended to alleviate temporary conditions.

Sincerely,

S/Paul C. Christian

Chair

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

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 47)

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND INSURANCE**

February 9, 2001

Honorable Michael H. Michaud, President of the Senate

Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Speaker of the House

120th Maine Legislature

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Michaud and Speaker Saxl:

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

L.D. 18

An Act to Allow a Person to Obtain Personal Insurance instead of Per Vehicle Insurance

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Lloyd P. LaFountain III

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Christopher P. O'Neil

House Chair

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 48)

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

February 9, 2001

Honorable Michael H. Michaud, President of the Senate

Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Speaker of the House

120th Maine Legislature

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Michaud and Speaker Saxl:

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

L.D. 16

An Act to Eliminate Fees for the Use of State Parks by Residents of the Municipalities in Which Those Parks Are Located

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Richard Kneeland

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Linda Rogers McKee

House Chair

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 49)

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

February 9, 2001

Honorable Michael H. Michaud, President of the Senate

Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Speaker of the House

120th Maine Legislature

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Michaud and Speaker Saxl:

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 bills out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 11

An Act to Exempt Clothing and Wearing Apparel from the State Sales Tax

- L.D. 12 An Act to Provide a Tax Credit for Certain Educational Materials used by Homeschoolers
- L.D. 32 An Act to Exempt Income Derived from National Guard Service from the State Income Tax
- L.D. 36 An Act to Amend the Definition of "Commercial Agricultural Production" in the Laws Governing Taxation
- L.D. 53 An Act to Exempt Full-time Military Personnel from the State Income Tax
- L.D. 71 An Act to Exempt Qualifying Snowmobile Trail Grooming Equipment From State Sales Tax
- L.D. 86 An Act to Exclude Antique Autos from Excise Tax
- L.D. 124 An Act to Allow for a Prorated Application of Property Tax Exemptions for Charitable and Benevolent Institutions

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

Sincerely,  
S/Sen. Kenneth T. Gagnon  
Senate Chair  
S/Rep. Bonnie Green  
House Chair

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 50)

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

February 6, 2001  
Honorable Michael H. Michaud, President of the Senate  
Honorable Michael V. Saxl, Speaker of the House  
120th Maine Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

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

- L.D. 48 An Act to Prohibit a Liquor Licensee from Employing a Manager or Person in Charge if that Person has a Criminal Record

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

Sincerely,  
S/Sen. Neria R. Douglass  
Senate Chair  
S/Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr.  
House Chair

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 51)

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
SPEAKER'S OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

February 6, 2001  
Honorable Millicent MacFarland

Clerk of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk MacFarland:

Pursuant to my authority under P.L. 1999, Chapter 496, I am pleased to appoint Representative Judith B. Peavey of Wqolwich to the Advisory Committee on Dental Education.

If you have any questions regarding this appointment, please contact my office.

Sincerely,  
S/Michael V. Saxl  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 52)

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
SPEAKER'S OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

February 12, 2001  
Honorable Millicent MacFarland  
Clerk of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk MacFarland:

Pursuant to my authority under 20-A MRSA, §11002, I am pleased to re-appoint Representative Christina L. Baker of Bangor to the New England Board of Higher Education.

Should you have any questions regarding this appointment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,  
S/Michael V. Saxl  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 53)

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
SPEAKER'S OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

February 12, 2001  
Honorable Millicent MacFarland  
Clerk of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk MacFarland:

Pursuant to my authority under MRSA Title 5, 01671701L, I am appointing the following House members to the Commission on Performance Budgeting:

Representative David M. Etnier of Harpswell  
Representative Joseph C. Brannigan of Portland  
Representative Richard W. Rosen of Bucksport

Should you have any questions regarding these appointments, please contact me.

Sincerely,  
S/Michael V. Saxl  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**



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The Following Communication: (H.C. 54)

**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
SPEAKER'S OFFICE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

February 12, 2001

Honorable Millicent MacFarland

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk MacFarland:

Pursuant to my authority under Title 12, §7367, I am pleased to appoint Sheryn H. Peabody of The Forks as a public member to the Whitewater Safety Committee.

If you have any questions regarding this appointment, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

S/Michael V. Saxl

Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (S.P. 235)

**120TH MAINE LEGISLATURE**

February 12, 2001

Hon. Betheda G. Edmonds

Senate Chair, Joint Standing Committee on Labor

Hon. Zachary E. Matthews

House Chair, Joint Standing Committee on Labor

120th Legislature

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Senator Edmonds and Representative Matthews:

Please be advised that Governor Angus S. King, Jr. has nominated Carol B. Gilmore of Charleston for appointment as an employee representative and Robert L. Piccone of Portland as the alternate employee representative of the Maine Labor Relations Board.

Pursuant to Title 26, M.R.S.A., §968, this nomination will require review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and confirmation by the Senate.

Sincerely,

S/Michael H. Michaud

President of the Senate

S/Michael V. Saxl

Speaker of the House

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

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

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**PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING  
REFERENCE**

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

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**AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

Bill "An Act to Require the Labeling of Certain Genetically Engineered Foods"

(H.P. 698) (L.D. 902)

Presented by Representative VOLENIK of Brooklin.

Cosponsored by Representatives BULL of Freeport, McKEE of Wayne, Senator RAND of Cumberland and Representatives: BAGLEY of Machias, BERRY of Livermore, DUDLEY of Portland, SKOGLUND of St. George, TWOMEY of Biddeford, Senators: GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock, TREAT of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act to Allow Cultivation of Those Varieties of Ribes That are Certified Resistant or Immune to White Pine Blister Rust" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 710) (L.D. 925)

Presented by Representative BROOKS of Winterport.

Cosponsored by Representatives: GAGNE of Buckfield, LAVERRIERE-BOUCHER of Biddeford, POVICH of Ellsworth, VOLENIK of Brooklin.

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**APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS**

Bill "An Act to Revitalize Teacher Certification Support Systems"

(H.P. 619) (L.D. 819)

Presented by Representative McKEE of Wayne.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ASH of Belfast, BAKER of Bangor, DUNLAP of Old Town, MAILHOT of Lewiston, SULLIVAN of Biddeford, WATSON of Farmingdale, WESTON of Montville, Senator: MARTIN of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act to Endow the Maintenance of Maine Civil War Monuments at Gettysburg"

(H.P. 641) (L.D. 841)

Presented by Representative WINSOR of Norway.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BUCK of Yarmouth, CLOUGH of Scarborough, DUNLAP of Old Town, HEIDRICH of Oxford, MADORE of Augusta, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, Senator: President Pro Tem BENNETT of Oxford.

Bill "An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2002 and June 30, 2003" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 655) (L.D. 855)

Presented by Representative BERRY of Livermore. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Cosponsored by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock and Representative: NASS of Acton, Senators: CATHCART of Penobscot, MILLS of Somerset.

Bill "An Act to Increase the Operating Subsidy to the Casco Bay Island Transit District"

(H.P. 674) (L.D. 874)

Presented by Representative DUDLEY of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator ABROMSON of Cumberland and Representatives: ASH of Belfast, ETNIER of Harpswell, HALL of Bristol, McKENNEY of Cumberland, VOLENIK of Brooklin,

Senators: KILKELLY of Lincoln, SAVAGE of Knox, TURNER of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Provide Adequate Funding for HIV and AIDS Care and Prevention"

(H.P. 690) (L.D. 894)

Presented by Representative WATSON of Farmingdale.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BLISS of South Portland, HAWES of Standish, JONES of Greenville, LAVERRIERE-BOUCHER of Biddeford, McDONOUGH of Portland, SIMPSON of Auburn, Senators: RAND of Cumberland, TREAT of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act to Increase Funding for the Maine Dental Education Loan Program"

(H.P. 692) (L.D. 896)

Presented by Representative PEAVEY of Woolwich.  
Cosponsored by President MICHAUD of Penobscot and Representatives: BERRY of Belmont, FULLER of Manchester, JONES of Greenville, MCKEE of Wayne, O'BRIEN of Augusta, RICHARDSON of Brunswick, Speaker SAXL of Portland, Senator: SMALL of Sagadahoc.

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#### BANKING AND INSURANCE

Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Insurance Code to Adopt Statutory Insurance Accounting Principles"

(H.P. 654) (L.D. 854)

Presented by Representative GLYNN of South Portland.  
Cosponsored by Senator LaFOUNTAIN of York and Representatives: CANAVAN of Waterville, CRESSEY of Baldwin, MAYO of Bath, O'NEIL of Saco, SMITH of Van Buren, SULLIVAN of Biddeford, YOUNG of Limestone, Senator: ABROMSON of Cumberland.  
Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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#### BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Bill "An Act to Authorize Master Electricians to Work with up to 3 Helpers"

(H.P. 689) (L.D. 893)

Presented by Representative McNEIL of Rockland.  
Cosponsored by Senator SAVAGE of Knox and Representatives: COLLINS of Wells, O'BRIEN of Augusta, SULLIVAN of Biddeford, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, Senators: KILKELLY of Lincoln, LEMONT of York, McALEVEY of York, O'GARA of Cumberland.

Resolve, to Grant an Exception for Inspections of Low-use Elevators

(H.P. 709) (L.D. 924)

Presented by Representative MCKEE of Wayne.

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Bill "An Act to Authorize the Maine State Housing Authority to Administer an Electric Assistance Program" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 717) (L.D. 932)

Presented by Representative SAVAGE of Buxton.  
Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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

On motion of Representative BRYANT of Dixfield, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

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#### CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Bill "An Act to Discourage Environmental Terrorism"

(H.P. 623) (L.D. 823)

Presented by Representative CLARK of Millinocket.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BRYANT of Dixfield, CARR of Lincoln, DUNLAP of Old Town, GOODWIN of Pembroke, McGLOCKLIN of Embden, USHER of Westbrook, Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, YOUNGBLOOD of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act Requiring a Mandatory Jail Sentence for a Person Convicted Twice of Sexual Abuse or Unlawful Sexual Contact"

(H.P. 627) (L.D. 827)

Presented by Representative McNEIL of Rockland.  
Cosponsored by Senator McALEVEY of York and Representatives: LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, McLAUGHLIN of Cape Elizabeth, SCHNEIDER of Durham, SIMPSON of Auburn, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, Senator: DAVIS of Piscataquis.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act of 1999"

(H.P. 633) (L.D. 833)

Presented by Representative CANAVAN of Waterville.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: GAGNE of Buckfield, GERZOFKY of Brunswick, MARRACHÉ of Waterville, O'BRIEN of Lewiston, TOBIN of Windham.

Bill "An Act to Regulate Obscenity"

(H.P. 652) (L.D. 852)

Presented by Representative ANDREWS of York.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: CHICK of Lebanon, DESMOND of Mapleton, KASPRZAK of Newport, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, RICHARD of Madison, STEDMAN of Hartland, WESTON of Montville, Senator: LEMONT of York.

Bill "An Act to Criminalize Failure to Complete Contracted and Paid for Work by a Building Contractor"

(H.P. 661) (L.D. 861)

Presented by Representative COWGER of Hallowell.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, CUMMINGS of Portland, DUDLEY of Portland, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, MARLEY of Portland, McDONOUGH of Portland, TWOMEY of Biddeford.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Reimbursement of Training Costs for Law Enforcement Officers"

(H.P. 668) (L.D. 868)

Presented by Representative LESSARD of Topsham.  
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, GERZOFKY of Brunswick, HUTTON of Bowdoinham.

Resolve, Establishing a Commission to Study the Laws Governing the Sentencing of a Person Convicted of a Crime Involving a Child

(H.P. 670) (L.D. 870)

Presented by Representative TRAHAN of Waldoboro.

Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and Representatives: HONEY of Boothbay, MAYO of Bath, McNEIL of Rockland, O'BRIEN of Augusta, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, Senators: NUTTING of Androscoggin, SAVAGE of Knox, SMALL of Sagadahoc.

Bill "An Act Concerning the Cost of Training County Corrections Officers"

(H.P. 699) (L.D. 903)

Presented by Representative PEAVEY of Woolwich.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, ETNIER of Harpswell, MUSE of South Portland, MUSE of Fryeburg, RICHARDSON of Brunswick, Senator: SMALL of Sagadahoc.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Supervised Community Confinement Law"

(H.P. 714) (L.D. 929)

Presented by Representative PEAVEY of Woolwich.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: McKEE of Wayne, O'BRIEN of Augusta, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, TOBIN of Dexter, Senator: O'GARA of Cumberland.

Submitted by the Department of Corrections pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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Bill "An Act to Designate the Town of Topsham Communications Center as a Public Safety Answering Point" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 630) (L.D. 830)

Presented by Representative LESSARD of Topsham.

Cosponsored by Senator SMALL of Sagadahoc and Representatives: GERZOFKY of Brunswick, HUTTON of Bowdoinham, LANDRY of Patten, Senator: DAVIS of Piscataquis.

Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** suggested.

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

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#### EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act to Allow Senior Citizens to Take One Course per Semester at the University of Maine System without Charge"

(H.P. 642) (L.D. 842)

Presented by Representative DUNCAN of Presque Isle.

Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook and Representatives: BELANGER of Caribou, JODREY of Bethel, McGLOCKLIN of Embden, McNEIL of Rockland, PERKINS of Penobscot, PINKHAM of Lamoine, TUTTLE of Sanford, WESTON of Montville.

Bill "An Act to Fund Technology Advancements for Maine's Libraries"

(H.P. 659) (L.D. 859)

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town.

Cosponsored by Senator DAGGETT of Kennebec and Representatives: BRYANT of Dixfield, LaVERDIERE of Wilton, NORTON of Bangor, Senators: CATHCART of Penobscot, KILKELLY of Lincoln, MARTIN of Aroostook, O'GARA of Cumberland, WOODCOCK of Franklin.

Resolve, Requiring the Department of Audit to Review Procedures, Goals and Actual Expenditures of General Purpose Aid Disbursements through the School Funding Formula

(H.P. 660) (L.D. 860)

Presented by Representative DUNLAP of Old Town.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: BRYANT of Dixfield, HONEY of Boothbay, McGOWAN of Pittsfield, NORTON of Bangor, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, Senators: KILKELLY of Lincoln, O'GARA of Cumberland, WOODCOCK of Franklin.

Bill "An Act to Require Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification Prior to Graduation from High School"

(H.P. 673) (L.D. 873)

Presented by Representative BULL of Freeport.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, CUMMINGS of Portland, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, McKEE of Wayne, SULLIVAN of Biddeford.

Bill "An Act to Extend Options for Obtaining a General Educational Diploma"

(H.P. 678) (L.D. 878)

Presented by Representative SULLIVAN of Biddeford.

Cosponsored by President MICHAUD of Penobscot and Representatives: CUMMINGS of Portland, DESMOND of Mapleton, ESTES of Kittery, LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach, NORTON of Bangor, SKOGLUND of St. George, WATSON of Farmingdale, Senator: LaFOUNTAIN of York.

Bill "An Act Concerning the Benefits and Privileges of Tuition Students at Receiving Public and Private Schools"

(H.P. 684) (L.D. 888)

Presented by Representative WINSOR of Norway.

Cosponsored by Senator FERGUSON of Oxford and Representatives: BUMPS of China, HALL of Bristol, MADORE of Augusta, MUSE of Fryeburg, Senators: CATHCART of Penobscot, KILKELLY of Lincoln.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Mandated Minimum for Teachers' Salaries"

(H.P. 685) (L.D. 889)

Presented by Representative BAKER of Bangor.

Under suspension of the rules, cosponsored by Representative MITCHELL of Vassalboro, President MICHAUD of Penobscot and Representatives: CUMMINGS of Portland, ETNIER of Harpswell, LaVERDIERE of Wilton, RICHARDSON of Brunswick, Speaker SAXL of Portland, WATSON of Farmingdale, Senators: FERGUSON of Oxford, SAWYER of Penobscot, YOUNGBLOOD of Penobscot.

**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Bill "An Act to Require a Public Hearing on Hospital Certificate of Need Proposals"

(H.P. 620) (L.D. 820)

Presented by Representative BOUFFARD of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin and Representatives: BRYANT of Dixfield, CHIZMAR of Lisbon, COTE of Lewiston, MAILHOT of Lewiston, O'BRIEN of Lewiston, SIMPSON of Auburn, Senators: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.

Bill "An Act to Ensure Access to Assisted Living Services Programs"

(H.P. 653) (L.D. 853)

Presented by Representative KANE of Saco.

Cosponsored by Senator GAGNON of Kennebec and Representatives: DUGAY of Cherryfield, FULLER of Manchester, LAVERRIERE-BOUCHER of Biddeford, NUTTING of Oakland.

Resolve, to Establish Crisis Assessment and Triage Centers for Children in the State

(H.P. 663) (L.D. 863)

Presented by Representative ETNIER of Harpswell.

Cosponsored by Senator SMALL of Sagadahoc and Representatives: KANE of Saco, MARLEY of Portland, MAYO of Bath, NORBERT of Portland, O'BRIEN of Augusta, TESSIER of Fairfield, WESTON of Montville, Senator: MITCHELL of Penobscot.

Resolve, Directing the Children's Cabinet to Coordinate the Compilation of a Resource Guide to Assist Crisis Intervention Centers to Help Runaway Youth

(H.P. 664) (L.D. 864)

Presented by Representative TRAHAN of Waldoboro.

Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, COLWELL of Gardiner, McNEIL of Rockland, NORBERT of Portland, O'BRIEN of Augusta, SCHNEIDER of Durham, Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, President MICHAUD of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Expand the Elderly Low-cost Drug Program"

(H.P. 683) (L.D. 887)

Presented by Representative PEAVEY of Woolwich.

Cosponsored by Senator SAVAGE of Knox and Representatives: BERRY of Belmont, GERZOFKY of Brunswick, GREEN of Monmouth, HASKELL of Milford, O'BRIEN of Augusta, WATSON of Farmingdale, Senator: SMALL of Sagadahoc.

Bill "An Act to Improve Public Health in the State"

(H.P. 694) (L.D. 898)

Presented by Representative FULLER of Manchester.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, BRUNO of Raymond, QUINT of Portland, Senator: RAND of Cumberland.

Resolve, Directing the Department of Human Services to Establish a Prescription Drug Reimportation Program

(H.P. 701) (L.D. 916)

Presented by Representative LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach.

Cosponsored by Senator TREAT of Kennebec and Representatives: COLWELL of Gardiner, DUDLEY of Portland,

KANE of Saco, MAYO of Bath, NORBERT of Portland, Speaker SAXL of Portland, Senators: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, President MICHAUD of Penobscot.

Resolve, to Amend the Requirements for Eye Care Services under the Maine Medical Assistance Manual

(H.P. 702) (L.D. 917)

Presented by Representative FULLER of Manchester.

Cosponsored by Senator FERGUSON of Oxford and Representatives: DUDLEY of Portland, KANE of Saco, McNEIL of Rockland, NUTTING of Oakland, TWOMEY of Biddeford, Senator: MARTIN of Aroostook.

Resolve, to Require Medicaid Reimbursement for Independent Living Services and Skills Training Provided to Nursing Facility Residents Returning to the Community

(H.P. 705) (L.D. 920)

Presented by Representative SCHNEIDER of Durham.

Resolve, to Create a State-run Pharmacy Benefits Manager

(H.P. 706) (L.D. 921)

Presented by Representative LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach.

Cosponsored by Senator TREAT of Kennebec and Representatives: COLWELL of Gardiner, DUDLEY of Portland, KANE of Saco, MAYO of Bath, NORBERT of Portland, Speaker SAXL of Portland, Senators: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin, GAGNON of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act to Require That the Principles for Reimbursement for Private and Nonmedical Institutions and Board and Care Institutions be Major Substantive Rules" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 708) (L.D. 923)

Presented by Representative BROOKS of Winterport.

Cosponsored by Senator LONGLEY of Waldo and Representatives: BAKER of Bangor, DUDLEY of Portland, DUGAY of Cherryfield, FULLER of Manchester, KANE of Saco, LOVETT of Scarborough, Senators: SAWYER of Penobscot, SHOREY of Washington.

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**INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

Bill "An Act to Protect the Rights of Maine Citizens and Industries from Influences Outside of Maine" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 622) (L.D. 822)

Presented by Representative GOODWIN of Pembroke.

Cosponsored by Representative: CLARK of Millinocket.

Bill "An Act to Require Free Access to Waters Stocked by the State"

(H.P. 625) (L.D. 825)

Presented by Representative CLARK of Millinocket.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, USHER of Westbrook, Senator: YOUNGBLOOD of Penobscot.

Resolve, Directing the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Create a Gun Safety Program

(H.P. 675) (L.D. 875)

Presented by Representative MENDROS of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representative MICHAEL of Auburn, Senator SAWYER of Penobscot and Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, DUNLAP of Old Town, GOOLEY of Farmington, JODREY of Bethel, MAYO of Bath, USHER of Westbrook, Senators: LEMONT of York, WOODCOCK of Franklin.

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**JUDICIARY**

Bill "An Act to Grant Foster Parents Intervenor Status in Child Protection Proceedings"

(H.P. 636) (L.D. 836)

Presented by Representative BOWLES of Sanford.

Cosponsored by Senator LaFOUNTAIN of York and Representatives: LABRECQUE of Gorham, LAVERRIERE-BOUCHER of Biddeford, NASS of Acton, O'BRIEN of Augusta, STEDMAN of Hartland, SULLIVAN of Biddeford, Senator: CARPENTER of York.

Bill "An Act Regarding Social Security Numbers Used for Identification Purposes"

(H.P. 649) (L.D. 849)

Presented by Representative TRACY of Rome.

Cosponsored by Representative KASPRZAK of Newport, President Pro Tem BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: CLOUGH of Scarborough, MENDROS of Lewiston, MUSE of Fryeburg, PERKINS of Penobscot, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, WHEELER of Bridgewater, Senator: SAVAGE of Knox.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Recording of Private Telephone Conversations Without Consent"

(H.P. 651) (L.D. 851)

Presented by Representative BELANGER of Caribou.

Cosponsored by Senator KNEELAND of Aroostook and Representatives: ANDREWS of York, DAVIS of Falmouth, DESMOND of Mapleton, HONEY of Boothbay, MAYO of Bath, NUTTING of Oakland, PARADIS of Frenchville, SHERMAN of Hodgdon.

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Jurisdiction and Qualifications for Protection from Abuse Hearings" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 662) (L.D. 862)

Presented by Representative BLANCHETTE of Bangor.

Cosponsored by Senator SAWYER of Penobscot and Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, CHIZMAR of Lisbon, JONES of Greenville, LEDWIN of Holden, McLAUGHLIN of Cape Elizabeth, McNEIL of Rockland, O'BRIEN of Lewiston, POVICH of Ellsworth.

Resolve, to Create the Commission to Study Privacy Laws (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 672) (L.D. 872)

Presented by Representative SAVAGE of Buxton.

Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook and Representatives: BERRY of Livermore, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, NORBERT of Portland, PEAVEY of Woolwich, PERKINS of Penobscot, SIMPSON of Auburn, SMITH of Van Buren, Senator: FERGUSON of Oxford.

Bill "An Act to Require the Department of Human Services to Provide Automatic Discovery to Opposing Attorneys"

(H.P. 676) (L.D. 876)

Presented by Representative MENDROS of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: BUCK of Yarmouth, CRESSEY of Baldwin, GERZOFKY of Brunswick, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, MICHAEL of Auburn, SCHNEIDER of Durham, TARAZEWICH of Waterboro, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton.

Bill "An Act Requiring the Court System to Notify Credit Rating Companies of Debt Clearances"

(H.P. 707) (L.D. 922)

Presented by Representative WATSON of Farmingdale.

Bill "An Act to Reform the Selection of Probate Judges"

(H.P. 713) (L.D. 928)

Presented by Representative SCHNEIDER of Durham.

Cosponsored by Representatives: NASS of Acton, WESTON of Montville.

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**LABOR**

Bill "An Act to Classify Employer-provided Medical Treatment as a Payment under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992"

(H.P. 644) (L.D. 844)

Presented by Representative BRYANT of Dixfield.

Cosponsored by Senator EDMONDS of Cumberland and Representatives: DUNLAP of Old Town, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, HATCH of Skowhegan, MAILHOT of Lewiston, PATRICK of Rumford, PINEAU of Jay, THOMAS of Orono, TUTTLE of Sanford.

Bill "An Act to Examine Issues Regarding the Canadian Workforce"

(H.P. 647) (L.D. 847)

Presented by Representative TRACY of Rome.

Bill "An Act to Clarify Work Search"

(H.P. 671) (L.D. 871)

Presented by Representative BRYANT of Dixfield.

Cosponsored by Senator EDMONDS of Cumberland and Representatives: BUNKER of Kossuth Township, COTE of Lewiston, DUNLAP of Old Town, GOODWIN of Pembroke, PATRICK of Rumford, PINEAU of Jay, SAVAGE of Buxton, TRACY of Rome.

Bill "An Act to Provide a Reduction in the Early Retirement Penalty for Teachers and State Employees"

(H.P. 686) (L.D. 890)

Presented by Representative BAKER of Bangor.

Cosponsored by President MICHAUD of Penobscot and Representatives: BELANGER of Caribou, CUMMINGS of Portland, MATTHEWS of Winslow, RICHARD of Madison, RICHARDSON of Brunswick, Speaker SAXL of Portland, SULLIVAN of Biddeford, Senator: CATHCART of Penobscot.

**LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Funding for Primary Elections under the Maine Clean Election Act"

(H.P. 635) (L.D. 835)

Presented by Representative CRESSEY of Baldwin.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: GLYNN of South Portland, KASPRZAK of Newport, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick.

Bill "An Act to Place the State in Compliance with the Federal Hatch Political Activity Act"

(H.P. 650) (L.D. 850)

Presented by Representative CRESSEY of Baldwin.  
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft, DUPREY of Hampden, GOOLEY of Farmington, KASPRZAK of Newport, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, MENDROS of Lewiston, TREADWELL of Carmel, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton.

Resolve, to Establish A Study Commission to Study Redistricting

(H.P. 667) (L.D. 867)

Presented by Representative TRAHAN of Waldoboro.  
Cosponsored by Senator SHOREY of Washington and Representatives: HEIDRICH of Oxford, MICHAEL of Auburn, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Term Limits"

(H.P. 697) (L.D. 901)

Presented by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford.  
Cosponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset, Senator DAGGETT of Kennebec and Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, CHIZMAR of Lisbon, COLWELL of Gardiner, HEIDRICH of Oxford, LABRECQUE of Gorham, MAYO of Bath, Speaker SAXL of Portland, Senator: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Public Drinking Law"

(H.P. 703) (L.D. 918)

Presented by Representative PEAVEY of Woolwich.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: TOBIN of Dexter, WHEELER of Bridgewater, Senator: O'GARA of Cumberland.

Submitted by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act to Reform the Direct Initiative Process to Eliminate Abuses and Provide Greater Citizen Input in the Initiative Process"

(H.P. 711) (L.D. 926)

Presented by Representative SCHNEIDER of Durham.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, WESTON of Montville.

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**MARINE RESOURCES**

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Pertaining to Fishing Near Floating Equipment"

(H.P. 634) (L.D. 834)

Presented by Representative LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach. (BY REQUEST)

**NATURAL RESOURCES**

Bill "An Act to Promote the Recycling of Household Batteries"

(H.P. 621) (L.D. 821)

Presented by Representative SULLIVAN of Biddeford.  
Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook and Representatives: BOWLES of Sanford, COWGER of Hallowell, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, HUTTON of Bowdoinham, LAVERRIERE-BOUCHER of Biddeford, RICHARDSON of Brunswick, TWOMEY of Biddeford, Senator: LaFOUNTAIN of York.

Bill "An Act to Provide Free Access to Any Great Pond Controlled by a Dam"

(H.P. 624) (L.D. 824)

Presented by Representative CLARK of Millinocket.  
Cosponsored by Representative: HALL of Bristol, Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, YOUNGBLOOD of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Encourage Proper Disposal of Propane Tanks"

(H.P. 628) (L.D. 828)

Presented by Representative O'NEIL of Saco.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: COWGER of Hallowell, KANE of Saco, LAVERRIERE-BOUCHER of Biddeford, LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach, SULLIVAN of Biddeford.

Bill "An Act to Strengthen the Ground Water Oil Clean-up Fund"

(H.P. 657) (L.D. 857)

Presented by Representative DAIGLE of Arundel.  
Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook and Representative: COWGER of Hallowell.

Bill "An Act to Provide for Variance Notification in the Shoreland Zoning Law"

(H.P. 704) (L.D. 919)

Presented by Representative KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor.  
Cosponsored by Representative: JONES of Greenville.  
Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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**STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Bill "An Act to Clarify Mutual Aid Agreements Between Law Enforcement Agencies"

(H.P. 632) (L.D. 832)

Presented by Representative DUPLESSIE of Westbrook.  
Cosponsored by Senator O'GARA of Cumberland and Representatives: CARR of Lincoln, LESSARD of Topsham, MICHAUD of Fort Kent, MUSE of South Portland, RICHARDSON of Brunswick, TOBIN of Dexter, TUTTLE of Sanford, Senator: McALEVEY of York.

Bill "An Act to Require that the State Put Out to Open Bid the Phone Card Plan"

(H.P. 637) (L.D. 837)

Presented by Representative CRESSEY of Baldwin.  
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft, DUPREY of Hampden, GLYNN of South Portland, KASPRZAK of Newport,

MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, MENDROS of Lewiston, MORRISON of Baileyville, TREADWELL of Carmel.

Bill "An Act to Establish the Patricia A. Bailey Memorial"  
(H.P. 648) (L.D. 848)

Presented by Representative TRACY of Rome.  
Cosponsored by Senator KILKELLY of Lincoln and Representative: BAGLEY of Machias.

Resolve, Authorizing the Transfer of Land from the State to School Administrative District No. 16  
(H.P. 656) (L.D. 856)

Presented by Representative COWGER of Hallowell.  
Cosponsored by Senator TREAT of Kennebec and Representatives: COLWELL of Gardiner, WATSON of Farmingdale.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Budget Process for Sagadahoc County"  
(H.P. 666) (L.D. 866)

Presented by Representative LESSARD of Topsham.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: ETNIER of Harpswell, GERZOFKY of Brunswick, HUTTON of Bowdoinham, LANDRY of Patten, Senator: DAVIS of Piscataquis.

Bill "An Act to Expand the Laws Pertaining to Accessibility for Persons with Physical Disabilities"  
(H.P. 695) (L.D. 899)

Presented by Representative GAGNE of Buckfield.  
Cosponsored by Senator GAGNON of Kennebec and Representatives: BROOKS of Winterport, COLWELL of Gardiner, LAVERRIERE-BOUCHER of Biddeford, SCHNEIDER of Durham, TUTTLE of Sanford.

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### TAXATION

Bill "An Act to Exempt from the Sales Tax the Deposit on Automotive Cores"  
(H.P. 618) (L.D. 818)

Presented by Representative McKENNEY of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: BUCK of Yarmouth, CHIZMAR of Lisbon, CLOUGH of Scarborough, COLLINS of Wells, NASS of Acton, WHEELER of Eliot.

Bill "An Act to Increase the Personal Income Tax Exemption to \$5,500 Per Eligible Dependent"  
(H.P. 638) (L.D. 838)

Presented by Representative CRESSEY of Baldwin.  
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft, DUPREY of Hampden, GLYNN of South Portland, KASPRZAK of Newport, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, MENDROS of Lewiston, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, TRAHAN of Waldoboro.

Bill "An Act to Allow a Property Tax Exemption to Landowners Whose Property Abuts a Solid Waste Facility"  
(H.P. 639) (L.D. 839)  
Presented by Representative TRACY of Rome.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Sales Tax Exemption for Certain Incorporated, Nonprofit Memorial Foundations" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 645) (L.D. 845)

Presented by Representative JACOBS of Turner.  
Cosponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin and Representatives: CHIZMAR of Lisbon, GREEN of Monmouth, HUTTON of Bowdoinham, O'BRIEN of Lewiston, SIMPSON of Auburn.

Bill "An Act to Provide Equity in Taxation of Certain Mobile Homes"  
(H.P. 646) (L.D. 846)

Presented by Representative ANDREWS of York.  
Cosponsored by Senator LEMONT of York and Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, COLLINS of Wells, LOVETT of Scarborough, MURPHY of Berwick, MURPHY of Kennebunk, WHEELER of Eliot.

Bill "An Act to Reduce the Personal Income Tax"  
(H.P. 665) (L.D. 865)

Presented by Representative GOOLEY of Farmington.  
Cosponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Penobscot and Representatives: BUCK of Yarmouth, CRESSEY of Baldwin, GOODWIN of Pembroke, KASPRZAK of Newport, MURPHY of Kennebunk, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, KNEELAND of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act to Exempt Medical Devices and Assistive Devices Used by Individuals with Disabilities from the Sales Tax"  
(H.P. 677) (L.D. 877)

Presented by Representative CLOUGH of Scarborough.  
Cosponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset and Representatives: BELANGER of Caribou, BUCK of Yarmouth, CRESSEY of Baldwin, LABRECQUE of Gorham, LOVETT of Scarborough, McKENNEY of Cumberland, SCHNEIDER of Durham, Senator: SHOREY of Washington.

Bill "An Act to Decrease Individual Income Tax by 20%"  
(H.P. 679) (L.D. 879)

Presented by Representative GLYNN of South Portland.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: CRESSEY of Baldwin, KASPRZAK of Newport, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick.

Bill "An Act to Increase to \$17,500 and \$35,000 the Tax Deduction for Public and Private Pensions"  
(H.P. 680) (L.D. 880)

Presented by Representative CLOUGH of Scarborough.  
Cosponsored by Senator President Pro Tem BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: BELANGER of Caribou, BUCK of Yarmouth, DAVIS of Falmouth, GLYNN of South Portland, LOVETT of Scarborough, McKENNEY of Cumberland, TUTTLE of Sanford, Senator: SHOREY of Washington.

Bill "An Act to Create an Income Tax Exemption for the Dental and Medical State Loans Repayment Program"  
(H.P. 693) (L.D. 897)

Presented by Representative PEAVEY of Woolwich.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BERRY of Belmont, BUCK of Yarmouth, FULLER of Manchester, GREEN of Monmouth, JONES of Greenville, McKEE of Wayne, O'BRIEN of Augusta, Speaker SAXL of Portland.

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Bill "An Act to Establish a Circuit Breaker Program for Fuel Assistance"

(H.P. 631) (L.D. 831)

Presented by Representative TUTTLE of Sanford.  
Cosponsored by Senator FERGUSON of Oxford and Representatives: BERRY of Belmont, COLWELL of Gardiner, GOODWIN of Pembroke, HALL of Bristol, McGLOCKLIN of Embden, NORBERT of Portland, SAVAGE of Buxton, Speaker SAXL of Portland.

Committee on TAXATION suggested.

On motion of Representative GREEN of Monmouth, TABLED pending REFERENCE and later today assigned.

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**TRANSPORTATION**

Resolve, to Restore the Steel Bridge in New Sharon

(H.P. 626) (L.D. 826)

Presented by Representative PINEAU of Jay.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BLISS of South Portland, ESTES of Kittery, GERZOFKY of Brunswick, LESSARD of Topsham, PATRICK of Rumford, TARAZEWICH of Waterboro, Senator: WOODCOCK of Franklin.

Resolve, Authorizing the Department of Transportation to Designate Routes for Over-limit Vehicles

(H.P. 629) (L.D. 829)

Presented by Representative HALL of Bristol.  
Cosponsored by Senator SHOREY of Washington and Representatives: BUNKER of Kossuth Township, DUNCAN of Presque Isle, GOODWIN of Pembroke, MICHAUD of Fort Kent, MORRISON of Baileyville, PARADIS of Frenchville, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, SMITH of Van Buren.

Bill "An Act to Clarify when Reduced Speed Limits are in Effect in School Zones" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 643) (L.D. 843)

Presented by Representative MICHAUD of Fort Kent.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BOUFFARD of Lewiston, COLLINS of Wells, COTE of Lewiston, DUPLESSIE of Westbrook, PARADIS of Frenchville, Senator: MARTIN of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act to Revert the Seat Belt Law to the Form Approved by the Citizens" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 658) (L.D. 858)

Presented by Representative PERKINS of Penobscot.  
Cosponsored by Senator McALEVEY of York and Representatives: BUCK of Yarmouth, DUGAY of Cherryfield, GAGNE of Buckfield, LaVERDIERE of Wilton, McKENNEY of Cumberland, WHEELER of Bridgewater, Senators: CARPENTER of York, DAVIS of Piscataquis.

Resolve, Establishing the Blue Ribbon Commission on the East-West Rail Corridor (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 681) (L.D. 881)

Presented by Representative JONES of Greenville.  
Cosponsored by President MICHAUD of Penobscot and Representatives: BLANCHETTE of Bangor, BUNKER of Kossuth Township, CLARK of Millinocket, HALL of Bristol.

Resolve, to Direct the Department of Transportation to Place a Traffic Light in Auburn

(H.P. 687) (L.D. 891)

Presented by Representative MICHAEL of Auburn.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: SHIELDS of Auburn, SIMPSON of Auburn, Senator: DOUGLASS of Androscoggin.

Resolve, Requiring the Department of Transportation to Construct 4-foot Paved Shoulders on Hazardous Segments of Route 15 in Hancock County

(H.P. 691) (L.D. 895)

Presented by Representative VOLENIK of Brooklin.

Bill "An Act to Create a Specialty License Plate for Native Mainers"

(H.P. 696) (L.D. 900)

Presented by Representative CLOUGH of Scarborough.  
Cosponsored by Senator SHOREY of Washington and Representatives: ANDREWS of York, BELANGER of Caribou, BERRY of Belmont, HATCH of Skowhegan, LOVETT of Scarborough, MICHAUD of Fort Kent, WINSOR of Norway, Senator: KILKELLY of Lincoln.

Bill "An Act to Provide Transportation Vouchers to Persons with Disabilities to Improve their Independence and Opportunity to Work"

(H.P. 712) (L.D. 927)

Presented by Representative SCHNEIDER of Durham.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BRUNO of Raymond, WESTON of Montville, Senator: DAVIS of Piscataquis.

Resolve, to Create the Commission to Study Abolishing the Maine Turnpike Authority

(H.P. 718) (L.D. 933)

Presented by Representative LOVETT of Scarborough.  
Under suspension of the rules, cosponsored by Representatives: ANDREWS of York, ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft, BELANGER of Caribou, BERRY of Belmont, BOWLES of Sanford, BROOKS of Winterport, BRUNO of Raymond, BUCK of Yarmouth, BUMPS of China, CHASE of Levant, CHICK of Lebanon, CHIZMAR of Lisbon, CLOUGH of Scarborough, COLLINS of Wells, CRABTREE of Hope, CRESSEY of Baldwin, DAIGLE of Arundel, DAVIS of Falmouth, DUNLAP of Old Town, ETNIER of Harpswell, FOSTER of Gray, FULLER of Manchester, GERZOFKY of Brunswick, GLYNN of South Portland, GOODWIN of Pembroke, GOOLEY of Farmington, GREEN of Monmouth, HASKELL of Milford, HEIDRICH of Oxford, HONEY of Boothbay, JACOBS of Turner, KANE of Saco, KASPRZAK of Newport, LAVERRIERE-BOUCHER of Biddeford, LEDWIN of Holden, LEMOINE of Old Orchard Beach, MacDOUGALL of North Berwick, MADORE of Augusta, MAILHOT of Lewiston, MAYO of Bath, McKENNEY of Cumberland, McNEIL of Rockland, MENDROS of Lewiston, MORRISON of Baileyville, MURPHY of Kennebunk, MUSE of Fryeburg, NASS of Acton, NUTTING of Oakland, O'BRIEN of Augusta, PATRICK of Rumford, PERKINS of Penobscot, PINKHAM of Lamoine, ROSEN of Bucksport, SCHNEIDER of Durham, SHERMAN of



Hodgdon, SHIELDS of Auburn, SKOGLUND of St. George, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, STEDMAN of Hartland, SULLIVAN of Biddeford, TARAZEWICH of Waterboro, TOBIN of Windham, TOBIN of Dexter, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, TREADWELL of Carmel, TWOMEY of Biddeford, VOLENIK of Brooklin, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, WATSON of Farmingdale, WESTON of Montville, YOUNG of Limestone, Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, FERGUSON of Oxford, LONGLEY of Waldo, McALEVEY of York.

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**UTILITIES AND ENERGY**

Bill "An Act to Streamline Installation of Private Electrical Lines"

(H.P. 640) (L.D. 840)

Presented by Representative TRACY of Rome.

Cosponsored by Representative: MICHAEL of Auburn.

Bill "An Act to Establish the Lineworker Safety Act"

(H.P. 669) (L.D. 869)

Presented by Representative GOOLEY of Farmington.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: DUNCAN of Presque Isle, HATCH of Skowhegan, LaVERDIERE of Wilton, RICHARD of Madison, TRACY of Rome, Senators: FERGUSON of Oxford, TREAT of Kennebec, WOODCOCK of Franklin.

Bill "An Act to Alleviate Heating Prices"

(H.P. 688) (L.D. 892)

Presented by Representative MICHAEL of Auburn.

Cosponsored by Representatives: GOOLEY of Farmington, MENDROS of Lewiston, SNOWE-MELLO of Poland, TRACY of Rome, TRAHAN of Waldoboro, Senator: DAVIS of Piscataquis.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Charter of the Corinna Water District" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 700) (L.D. 904)

Presented by Representative TOBIN of Dexter.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft, BERRY of Belmont, GOODWIN of Pembroke, JODREY of Bethel, JONES of Greenville, KASPRZAK of Newport, McGLOCKLIN of Embden, PERKINS of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act Authorizing the Public Utilities Commission to Award Restitution to Customers Damaged by Inferior Utility Service"

(H.P. 715) (L.D. 930)

Presented by Representative SAVAGE of Buxton.

Cosponsored by Senator CARPENTER of York.

Submitted by the Office of Public Advocate pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act to Provide for the Security of Certain Utility Information" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 716) (L.D. 931)

Presented by Representative SAVAGE of Buxton.

Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

On motion of Representative SAVAGE of Buxton, the following Joint Order: (H.P. 719) (Cosponsored by Senator TREAT of Kennebec and Representatives: DUNCAN of Presque Isle, GOODWIN of Pembroke, HALL of Bristol)

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Special Legislative Oversight Committee for Regional Electricity Issues be established as follows.

**Sec. 1. Committee established.** The Special Legislative Oversight Committee for Regional Electricity Issues, referred to in this order as the "committee," is established.

**Sec. 2. Committee membership.** The committee consists of 13 members appointed as follows:

1. Four members of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate; and

2. Nine members of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House.

**Sec. 3. Chairs.** The first named Senate member is the Senate chair and the first named House of Representatives member is the House chair.

**Sec. 4. Appointments.** All appointments must be made no later than 30 days following the effective date of this order. The appointments must be made so that no more than 8 members are of the same political party and the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy, the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources, the Joint Standing Committee on Business and Economic Development and the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary are represented. The appointing authorities shall notify the Executive Director of the Legislative Council upon making their appointments. When the appointment of all members is complete, the Executive Director of the Legislative Council shall call and convene the first meeting of the committee no later than 15 days after the final member is appointed.

**Sec. 5. Duties.** The committee shall study and make recommendations concerning:

1. The design and operation of the New England regional electricity market;

2. The appropriate size and scope of a regional transmission organization to be created to serve the needs of Maine's consumers of electricity;

3. The extent to which the State's consumers of electricity may be harmed by anticompetitive behavior in the energy market and ways the Legislature may act to protect consumers; and

4. Related matters that the committee considers appropriate.

**Sec. 6. Staff assistance.** Upon approval of the Legislative Council, the Office of the Public Advocate shall provide necessary staffing services to the committee. In carrying out its duties, the committee may seek the expertise of the Public Utilities Commission, the Office of the Public Advocate, the Department of the Attorney General and any other appropriate state agency.

**Sec. 7. Compensation.** Legislative members are entitled to receive legislative per diem as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2 and reimbursement of necessary expenses for their attendance at authorized meetings of the committee.

**Sec. 8. Reporting date established.** The committee shall submit a report with recommendations and any accompanying legislation to the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy during the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature by January 15, 2002. Following the receipt of the

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**ORDERS**

report, the Joint Standing Committee on Utilities and Energy may report out a bill to the Second Regular Session of the 120th Legislature. If the committee requires a limited extension of time to conclude its work, it may apply to the Legislative Council, which may grant the extension.

Committee on **UTILITIES AND ENERGY** suggested.

**READ** and **REFERRED** to the Committee on **UTILITIES AND ENERGY**.

Sent for concurrence.

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On motion of Representative FULLER of Manchester, the following House Order: (H.O. 18)

**ORDERED**, that Representative Lawrence Bliss of South Portland be excused Thursday, February 8, 2001 for personal reasons.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that Representative Anita P. Haskell of Milford be excused Thursday, February 13, 2001 for legislative business.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that Representative Janice E. Labrecque of Gorham be excused Thursday, February 8, 2001 for health reasons.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that Representative Jonathan Thomas of Orono be excused Tuesday, February 6, 2001 for health reasons.

**AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED**, that Representative James H. Tobin, Jr. of Dexter be excused Tuesday, February 6, 2001 for personal reasons.

**READ** and **PASSED**.

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#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

##### **First Day**

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

(H.P. 102) (L.D. 106) Bill "An Act to Establish Maine Lighthouse Week" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass**

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

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#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

The following matters, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment Tuesday, February 13, 2001, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Bill "An Act to Hold Persons Incarcerated in County Jails Accountable for Certain Costs Associated with Their Incarceration"

(H.P. 401) (L.D. 522)

(Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested) **TABLED** - February 6, 2001 (Till Later Today) by Representative BAGLEY of Machias.

**PENDING - REFERENCE.**

Subsequently, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Establish the Maine Energy Advisory Council" (H.P. 506) (L.D. 646)

(Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** suggested)

**TABLED** - February 8, 2001 (Till Later Today) by Representative RICHARDSON of Brunswick.

**PENDING - REFERENCE.**

Subsequently, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Amend the Standards for Release for Crime Bailable as of Right Preconviction"

(H.P. 597) (L.D. 752)

(Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested)

**TABLED** - February 13, 2001 (Till Later Today) by Representative LaVERDIERE of Wilton.

**PENDING - REFERENCE.**

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

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#### **BILL HELD**

Bill "An Act to Authorize the State and Participating Municipalities to Pool Health Care in a Joint Venture"

(H.P. 616) (L.D. 801)

- In House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**.

**HELD** at the Request of Representative O'NEIL of Saco.

On motion of Representative O'NEIL of Saco, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**.

On further motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

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Bill "An Act to Clarify the Rights of Residents Within Wildlife Sanctuaries"

(H.P. 516) (L.D. 655)

(Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE** suggested)

**TABLED** - February 13, 2001 (Till Later Today) by Representative POVICH of Ellsworth.

**PENDING - REFERENCE.**

On motion of Representative POVICH of Ellsworth, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

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At this point, a message came from the Senate, borne by President Pro Tem Bennett of Oxford 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 pleases 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 COLWELL of Gardiner to convey this message to the Senate.

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On motion of Representative RICHARDSON of Brunswick, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby Bill "An Act to Establish the Maine Energy Advisory Council"

(H.P. 506) (L.D.  
646)

Was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**.

On further motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

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

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

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The House recessed until the Sound of the Bell.

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(After Recess)

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The House was called to order by the Speaker.

#### **SENATE PAPERS**

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 257)

**ORDERED**, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate Adjourn they do so until Tuesday, February 20, 2001, at 10:00 in the morning.

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

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

#### **IN CONVENTION**

The President of the Senate, the Honorable Michael H. Michaud, in the Chair.

The Convention was called to order by the Chair.

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On motor of Senator Bennett of Cumberland, it was **ORDERED**, that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable John Fitzsimmons, President of the Maine Technical College System, the Honorable Terrence MacTaggart, Chancellor of the University of Maine System and, 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 will appoint the following:

The Sen. from Androscoggin, Sen. NUTTING

The Sen. from Androscoggin, Sen. ROTUNDO

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 Kittery, Rep. ESTES

The Rep. from Portland, Rep. CUMMINGS

The Rep. from Hartland, Rep. STEDMAN

The Rep. from York, Rep. ANDREWS

The Rep. from Montville, Rep. WESTON

The Rep. from Holden, Rep. LEDWIN

The Rep. from the Passamaquoddy Tribe, Rep. SOCTOMAH

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

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The Chair is pleased to welcome to the Convention the presidents, the board of trustees and the guests of the two systems.

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The Chair recognized in the House Gallery, representing the Maine Technical College System Board of Trustees, Stephen Graebert of Holden, Elizabeth Shorr of Portland, Joanna Jones of Waldoboro, Bridget Healy of Freeport, Sawin Millett of Waterford, Cynthia Phinney of New Sharon and Heather Blease of Bowdoinham. Representing the Maine Technical College System Colleges, Dr. Scott Knapp, President of Central Maine Technical College; Dr. Joyce Hedlund, President of Eastern Maine Technical College; Dr. Barbara Woodlee, President of Kennebec Valley Technical College, Dr. Durward Huffman, President of Northern Maine Technical College; Mr. Wayne Ross, President of Southern Maine Technical College; Dr. William Flahive, President of Washington County Technical College; Dr. Paul Dauphinais, President of York County Technical College.

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The Chair recognized in the House Gallery, representing the University of Maine System, Donald McDowell, Trustee; Barry McCrum, Trustee; Richard Pattenau, President; Theo Kalkow, President; Owen Cargol, President; Charles Lyons, President; John Joseph, President; Nancy Hensel, President; John Lisnik, Asst. to the Chancellor for Government Relations.

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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.

President Michaud, Speaker Saxl, President Pro Tem Bennett, honorable members of the 120th Maine Legislature, I am very pleased to come before you this morning on behalf of the Maine Technical College System community, to bring you a message from our Trustees, our employees and our students. We are deeply honored by your invitation.

Before I talk about the future, I would like to take a few minutes to share with you some highlights of the progress we have made in achieving the goals in our Strategic Plan. We have set aggressive benchmarks; first and foremost is to make college more accessible and affordable. And we have made real progress.

- We increased our enrollment last fall by four percent -- the 11th straight year of growth. Today, we are serving 50 percent more students than we were a decade ago.
- Thanks to the support of the Legislature, we are improving access to high-demand programs-bringing machine tool to Aroostook and Kennebec Counties, and expanding our computer technology programs. Today, one in five technical college students is pursuing a degree in information technology.
- Our new Associate in Arts transfer program, created under the Community College Partnership, has attracted nearly 600 students in just its second year. Students tell us they were attracted to the program by its low cost, the support they receive, and the opportunity to explore careers and have their credits transfer to our universities.
- And we have made a concerted effort to develop transfer agreements for all our career programs. Today, we offer 169 associate degree programs, and of those, 147 transfer to four-year colleges and universities.
- We are also improving access by delivering courses via the Internet. We have developed 75 online courses, and have served over 1,700 students to date through this medium.
- We are bringing college closer to home, with the addition of two new off-campus centers-in Dover-Foxcroft and Bridgton. We now operate nine centers, bringing our courses within 25 miles of 92 percent of the state's population.
- And we are tackling the primary barrier to college: affordability. During the past two years we have frozen our tuition at \$68 per credit hour-the lowest rate in Maine. And with your help, we will freeze tuition through the next two years.
- And we are putting our training to work to support economic development. Our Maine Quality Centers program has helped create 6,100 new jobs in Maine- all full-time jobs with benefits. It may surprise you that over 17,000 Mainers applied for the training, nearly three times as many as we could serve.
- And finally, the ultimate measure of our success: student achievement. Our colleges have maintained a 95 percent placement rate, either in jobs or continuing on to four-year colleges. Of those who enter jobs, 96 percent are employed in Maine.

While we are proud of this record, it is not the numbers that motivate us in our jobs. It is helping students. You cannot work at the technical colleges and not be moved by how hard our students work and how much they sacrifice in order to earn their degree. Every day we get to see the best of Maine...people bringing their innate intelligence and drive-often against great odds-to achieve their goals. It is an honor to be a part of their journey.

This morning, each of you left your homes from all across Maine to come to the Capitol to do another day of the people's business. Either by election or profession, we are here to play a leadership role in developing the policies that will guide Maine into the future.

I know you will agree that at the heart of good leadership is the willingness to listen. But more important, it is the ability to hear...to truly hear...what the people are saying they need.

From my travels throughout the state and my conversations with you, I know we are hearing the same thing. That too many Mainers are struggling to get by on low wages, uncertain about their future, and wondering if they or their children will be among those who prosper in this new economy.

Their uncertainty is reflected in the numbers: Mainers' income is 14 percent below the national average and 30 percent below our New England neighbors. In the past three years, over 30,000 Maine people have lost their jobs due to plant closings, downsizings or foreign competition.

You cannot read about the 100 laid-off workers from Bates Mill or the 350 from Biddeford Textile and not think, "What if it were me? Where would I go? How would I provide for my family?"

And while they are watching the jobs they know disappear, many are looking at the new jobs that are beyond their reach-jobs requiring credentials and skills they don't possess.

Imagine their frustration when they read that 61 percent of Maine employers can't find the skilled workers they need, and when they hear that one in five employers are forced to recruit out of state or internationally.

They are living the repercussions of an economy in transition.

The economic forces we have been talking about for years -- global competition and technological advances -- are now being played out in job after job all across Maine.

Businesses have been forced to reorganize and restructure, and the result is that front line jobs have been transformed. These jobs now demand greater responsibility and higher skills, including technological skills, communication and teamwork, analytical and problem-solving skills, and equally important, the ability to adapt and change as technology and business methods change.

The pressures of competition are forcing many employers to abandon the traditional practice of hiring people out of high school and developing their skills over time. Employers like General Electric in Bangor, Great Northern Paper, and Mountain Machine Works are now requiring the associate degree as their hiring standard for skilled workers. They are looking for assurance that their employees will have the ability to learn and relearn in the future.

The bar has been raised. And the consequences are there are fewer and fewer paths to good-paying jobs for people with less education and limited skills.

And this shift to high-skilled jobs will only continue. Jobs requiring an associate degree or higher are projected to grow by 16 percent between 1998 and 2008-twice the rate of low-skilled jobs.

Maine's future depends on our current workforce. These are the people who will carry Maine into this new era...the very people who will pay the taxes that support our State, help our businesses prosper, and raise our next generation of children.

And how do we compare when we look beyond our borders? By almost all measures of college attainment and participation, Maine is at or below the national average. And we are significantly behind our New England neighbors. Some may say being at the national average is OK. But it isn't. It is not good enough in a competitive world economy where the premium for success is skilled workers. It is not good enough for a state that has always been renowned for its work ethic. And it is not good enough if you are one of those who are not prospering in this new economy.

And while we debate this issue in Maine, state after state is moving ahead...making bold moves to increase college participation so their citizens have the competitive edge for the high-paying jobs. States like North Carolina, Oregon, New Jersey, and our neighbor Massachusetts.

Maine will not move past 37th in the nation in income, unless and until we fully commit to raising the skills and education levels of our workforce.

So, how do we help more Maine citizens get their college degree?

Last month, we sponsored a study of Maine adults who do not have a college degree, to help us understand the answer to that question. We will be releasing the full results of that study next week, but I would like to give you a few highlights of our findings.

Maine has approximately 455,000 citizens between the ages of 18 and 55 without a college degree. We learned from our research that 53 percent of those citizens have at least some interest in getting their degree. Twenty percent-or roughly 90,000 Mainers-said they are very interested in getting a college degree.

When we took a closer look at those who expressed an interest in college, we learned that 81 percent see the primary benefit of a college degree as better job opportunities and higher wages. But we also know that a degree brings more than opportunity: 40 percent mentioned greater self-esteem and personal accomplishment as a benefit of a college degree.

We asked what factors would make it easier for them to go to college.

Not surprisingly, about 90 percent said financial assistance and low cost would make it easier. Contributing to their challenge is that 76 percent said they receive no tuition assistance from their employer.

81 percent said convenient location would make it easier;

75 percent said small classes;

57 percent want academic support;

and surprisingly, 44 percent expressed interest in taking courses online. The good news is that this study validates our direction by freezing tuition and increasing scholarships; making sure our programs are tied to the economy; keeping classes small; adding off-campus centers and online courses so time and distance will be less of a barrier; and providing extra support for those who have been out of school for awhile.

But this survey also underscores the magnitude of the challenge ahead of us. There are literally tens of thousands of Mainers who want to go to college, and see it as their avenue to a better job, but lack the financial resources.

If Maine businesses are to compete...if Maine is to compete...then we must provide the means for more Maine adults to get a college degree.

So what are the policy issues in higher education that Maine needs to address if we are to improve access to college? I would

like to briefly highlight three important issues that I believe Maine has to take on.

First, is cost. Nationally, it takes 19 percent of a person's income to pay for public college and related living expenses. In Maine, it takes about 30 percent. At the technical colleges our goal is to freeze tuition until it comes in line with the national average, as well as to increase scholarships for needy students. Your support is essential if Maine is to have a low-cost option for higher education.

Second, we must assure greater access to programs tied to the economy. We must follow through on the 119th Maine Legislature's resolve to increase enrollment at the technical colleges from our current level of 5,700 students to 10,000 students per year. Whether we are talking about our hospitals, our machine tool companies, or our computer firms, employers all across Maine are depending on our graduates to help them compete and prosper. And more and more Maine people are turning to our colleges to attain the skills they need for the new economy.

Third, we must reach consensus on the role of a community college system in Maine. Nationally, community colleges enroll 44 percent of the nation's undergraduates, in occupational and transfer programs-providing a major gateway to higher education. We have launched our associate in arts transfer program within current resources and it has proven very popular. But if our two-year college system is to achieve its potential of providing broad access to higher education, then we must invest in it.

And finally, in addition to these three goals, I believe we also need to come together and agree on a vision, and establish clear goals, for achieving a high-skilled, highly-educated workforce for Maine. Equally important, this plan must be built on a strong consensus to ensure that the commitment is carried forward from one administration to the next, and from one legislature to the next.

I have spent my professional career studying workforce issues and developing policies and programs to help Maine people find their place in the economy. I have watched the loss of manufacturing jobs, and the growth of the Internet economy. And I have seen the economic divide grow wider, between those with education, and those without.

We are in unprecedented times. We are now connected to the cyber-highway and we are witnessing a collision between the old economy and the new economy. Nobody-neither states or nations-were fully prepared for the speed or the magnitude of the technological revolution. Just like the Mainers who lived through the industrial revolution, we must accept and adapt to the profound changes the information age is bringing to our lives.

The people of Maine are turning to you for bold leadership. Prominent on our State flag is the word Dirigo: "I lead." It is our tradition, our responsibility, and our mandate to lead Maine into the 21st Century.

Never has the call to action been clearer. We must invest in Maine's most precious resource, our people, to prepare them...and Maine...for a new era.

Thank you.

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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 Michaud, Speaker Saxl, distinguished members of the 120th Maine State Legislature, University of Maine System Trustees, Presidents, faculty, students, staff, alumni, and friends:

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 continue to open 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 message today is straightforward.

First, I'd like to report to this legislature on the positive results of the policy directions and the funding decisions you have made over the past four years.

Second, I would like to describe *The Maine Idea*. *The Maine Idea* is a five-year plan designed to provide more Maine people with the education they need and deserve.

Finally, I'll offer a word or two about how we can move forward together to continue and improve upon all of the good results of the past few years.

But before that, allow me to share with you an experience I had recently while reading to a group of elementary school students in the community where I live, Hampden, Maine. Each year the school district asks people in the area to visit their local elementary school to spend about an hour reading to and talking with the youngsters there. This opportunity is quite a joy for me each spring, and not a little intimidating. Keeping the attention of these kids for sixty minutes, as every parent and every teacher knows, requires a good deal of ingenuity and effort.

One of my assignments was to read to the students—and to get them to read—a biography of Governor Percival Baxter. To be sure, the text included stories of his dogs and other personal anecdotes, but it focused on his gift of the land surrounding Mount Katahdin, Baxter State Park, to the people of Maine. Many of the youngsters had already climbed that fabled mountain with their families, and after this presentation most of the rest wanted to.

As I walked out into the parking lot afterwards, I thought about those eager, enthusiastic minds, their aspirations and dreams, their hard working families. That day they were in the capable hands of their teacher, Mrs. Walsh. But before too long, most would need advanced education. They would be coming our way, I thought. Would they be able to go on in life to get the higher education they needed so they could get the jobs and income necessary to stay in their home community? Would they

be here to send their kids to schools in good communities like Hampden, Maine, and countless others across this beautiful state? Would they climb Maine's highest mountain with their families one day?

Five years ago, the answers to those questions were in doubt. For many, the doorway to higher education and a better future was blocked, and more and more of our talented young people left their homes, their communities, and their state after high school graduation only to return for an occasional vacation.

But today, thanks to decisions made by the Governor, and you and your predecessors, more and more Mainers are able to get the education they need here at home.

#### **Positive Results**

Allow me to share some of the positive results of your policies.

We all know that historically Maine suffered from an education gap. There existed a wide gulf between the numbers of talented high school students walking across their graduation stage in June and those entering college or university as first year students in September.

Thanks to the policies and initiatives you have supported, the education gap in Maine is, we hope, becoming a bit of history, while high educational achievements are becoming more a part of our future.

Because of your support, more Mainers enrolled in the University of Maine System this year than last, continuing a 3 year trend. 32,372 students enrolled in fall, 2000, an increase of 7.8 percent statewide. 75 percent of those students are receiving some form of financial aid, making it possible for more middle and lower income students to undertake college level study.

The increase in enrollment is not confined to our larger campuses, either. For example, Fort Kent has seen an enrollment increase of 28 percent over a three year period.

Nor is it confined only to on-campus enrollments. An additional 4,000 students are taking college courses through our ten University System Centers statewide, a number which keeps increasing year by year. These Centers are really community-based doorways to the new economy. As the University of Maine System's chief component of the Community College Partnership with the Technical Colleges, these Centers offer two and four-year degrees through both on-site and electronically delivered instruction. I know I'm speaking for Charlie Lyons, who, in addition to his duties at Fort Kent, leads the Centers, when I say how proud we all are of the students and faculty and staff who make these community based programs work so well.

Two hundred seventy-five of the students enrolled through our University System Centers are taking their first college course this year through the Osher Scholarship II program, which is funded partly by a one-time matching grant you provided last fiscal year.

These are Mainers who thought college was out of reach for them. The Osher Scholarship program provides an opportunity for them to take a first college course at no cost to see if they might want to pursue higher education.

We still have many people in Maine, who for a variety of reasons, feel that college is not in their future. Often, if they have a opportunity to experience college and the possibilities it opens up in life, they feel very differently.

Ryan Wheaton from up in the County is a good example. Ryan worked 30-40 hours a week during his high school years at low paying jobs. He carried what was essentially a "D" average. Then something happened. One of the great programs we have in high schools, the Jobs for Maine Graduates, pulled Ryan in. He began to see that there might be much better job possibilities in his future if he worked at getting a good education. He pulled up his GPA and was able to enter the University of Maine at Presque Isle. He is a sophomore now, on the Dean's List, very active in community service with groups like Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and is a member of the Student Senate and Student Activities Board. Ryan intends to enter the insurance business and eventually he hopes to take a seat in this chamber as an elected legislator.

That's what can happen when Mainers realize college is really possible for them. We did reach Ryan, but we still are not reaching everyone who might benefit from higher education, and we've got to keep on working so that we can.

We've also got to work harder to let our graduating high school students know there is a quality educational experience waiting for them here in Maine. We still lose more capable young people to other states than any of us would like. But I'm happy to report that our campuses are attacking this exodus head-on, and effectively. The University of Maine, for example, has instituted a "Top Scholars" program. The University of Maine offers a full tuition scholarship to any valedictorian or salutatorian at any Maine high school. This academic year, 92 of Maine's year 2000 high school valedictorians and salutatorians are enrolled. That number represents one-third of the 280 valedictorians and salutatorians at the 140 high schools in Maine. These students could have attended just about any college or university they wanted but they chose the University of Maine.

I would like to see the percentage of top high school grads staying in state rise toward 100 percent over time. I believe it will if we can keep improving our University System and keep letting our high school grads know what great educational opportunities reside right here in Maine.

There are very high quality educational options right here in Maine. The University of Maine at Farmington, as its President Theo Kalikow will be happy to tell you, is again ranked by US News and World Report as the best public liberal arts college in the Northeast.

The University of Maine has stellar programs in Forestry, Marine Sciences, and Engineering, among others. The University of Southern Maine offers an outstanding Extended Teacher Education Program as well as high quality, high visibility Health and Public Policy Programs. The University of Maine at Augusta provides career preparation in several key professions via the Internet for those who cannot attend college in a traditional way. It's distance Education offerings in Library Science and Information Technology and in Dental Hygiene not only offer our people opportunity, they offer all of us the possibility of increased availability of critical services in years to come. In Fort Kent, the Acadian Archives, Archives Acadiennes, housed at the University of Maine at Fort Kent offer a rich resource for our students and our state, a state in which use of the French language is second only to English. The University of Maine at

Machias has developed a Marine Biology Program in cooperation with the Beals Island Regional Shellfish Hatchery. And the University of Maine at Presque Isle offers nationally recognized college level studies in Recreational Management and Outdoor Recreation, programs that will only become more visible and valuable with the opening of the Biathlon Training Center in the area.

Impressive as these educational offerings may be, and as impressive as the enrollment statistics that I mentioned a moment ago may be, they really represent a collection of individual stories. A few stories may give you an idea of the difference that college can make in the lives of our people.

Kimberly Cook, a native of Milo, is an example of how important it is for us to extend the opportunity for a college education to all of our people. A single mom on welfare who had extricated herself from an abusive relationship, Kim enrolled at the University of Maine and commuted from Milo year round to complete her college education. Today, she is Dr. Kim Cook, a professor herself at the University of Southern Maine and an expert in criminology. In fact, she has just been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to do a study of restorative justice. If it hadn't been for the financial assistance Kim was able to obtain from our social service and educational system, no one, including Kim, knows where she would be today. But we did invest in her, and she is repaying the investment. In her own words, she moved back to Maine because "I'm a product of the Maine education system and the Maine welfare system. I appreciated the way Maine taxpayers invested in me and I'm proud to be paying Maine taxes."

Most Mainers over the years have gone straight from high school into the work force. Some have kept the hope alive of going to college some day. We also need to accommodate those people in our University System—people like Houlton native Brian Alward. Brian worked as an insurance underwriter for most of his life. After a successful battle with cancer, he fulfilled a lifelong desire to return to school. The 60-year-old geography and anthropology major will graduate this spring from USM and plans to use his degree to address environmental issues. Brian recently was one of just 22 students nationwide selected for a paid, three-month internship with the National Geographic Society in Washington D.C.

I could go on and on, and frankly, I'd love to. But I think you get the point: given the opportunity to move their lives ahead through education, Mainers will take that opportunity and run with it. When they do, they not only better their own lives, they better our overall social and economic environment here in Maine.

#### **Research Makes Sense for the Maine Economy**

You have made a commitment to investing in University-based R&D—and the results are beginning to show.

Members who have served in earlier legislatures will remember that the R&D strategy has two parts. The first phase is to use state dollars to match federal funds to bring grants to Maine. Right now that matching rate is about four to one—for every dollar you provide for laboratories and scientists and student support, the federal government provides four more, dollars that are largely spent here in Maine.

The second phase, the long term pay off, happens as ideas developed in the labs by the scientists and their students become commercialized in the market place. This transfer from the lab helps to sustain our traditional industries and to prepare Maine and Maine people for the new economy.

There was over \$90 million in research and development activity in the UMS this year alone—over \$80 million of it from federal and other non-state sources. These are dollars that are at work already—buying supplies, supporting undergraduate and graduate students, attracting top-notch faculty to our campuses. But these dollars are also seeds that will bring forth more economic activity in Maine in years to come. Here are just a few of many examples of research dollars at work for Maine.

The Agent Institute at the University of Maine is helping Maine businesses to understand and become part of "the next big thing" in information technology. Software and hardware agents will be everywhere in the next few years—in our cars, kitchens, and computers. The Agent Institute will help Maine businesses understand the opportunities in this marketplace and muster the technical resources necessary to bring new products to market.

Downeast, Professor William Walton in Machias is working to transform the European Green crab from a predator that is wreaking havoc in some of the state's clam flats into a delicacy that diners will pay a premium price for. The secret is being able to predict when the crabs will shed their shells. There is a six-hour window of opportunity when the crabs have no shells and are thus suitable for harvesting. If Professor Walton and his team can crack the life cycle code for the crabs, not only will they provide another product for Maine's fisheries, trapping them will also provide relief for the clam flats they now decimate. As Johnny Cox, a clam digger up in Jonesboro puts it, "It could be a good thing in more ways than one."

Inland from the clam flats, there is a tremendous need for electronic sensors that can work reliably in very harsh temperature and stress conditions such as in industrial processing plants. Researchers at the Laboratory of Surface Science and Technology are working with BIODE, Inc., a Maine business based in Bangor, to develop such sensors. The University lab is doing the basic research and BIODE will take the results of that research and develop commercial sensor products. The University of Maine's LSSAT, by the way, is the same lab that is cooperating with SRD, a company that used sensor technology to land a \$10 million contract from the Navy.

Research activity not only can help improve our economic environment, it can also directly affect the quality of life for our citizens and children.

For example, we all know that children, teachers, and staff spend 6-7 hours a day in school, yet we have no idea how much radon gas they are exposed to through the water coming into the school. A team of experts at the University of Maine that played a key role in establishing radon exposure safety standards in home environments is conducting research in a number of Maine schools to find out.

Governor King has declared Domestic Violence in Maine as Public Enemy Number One. The University of Maine Law School applied for and received a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice to help combat domestic violence by providing legal representation to women in two Maine District Court jurisdictions. In addition, the program is providing education on domestic abuse to about half of our graduating law students, and is

providing advocacy training to law students and victims' advocates.

In short, our investments in R&D and in higher education are beginning to pay off not just for the economy but for the communities of Maine. But we still have a ways to go.

#### **The Maine Idea**

A fair summary of what policy leaders in Maine, the Governor and the Legislature, and the University have achieved over the past four years would sound something like this: more Maine people are getting the education they need to be prepared for life, work, and citizenship in the 21st century.

That is exactly what I mean by *The Maine Idea*. More Maine people are prepared to appreciate, relish and sometimes just cope with the human condition, to engage successfully in the fast changing world of work, and to thoughtfully undertake their responsibilities as citizens now and in the future.

Let me explain *The Maine Idea* in another way. Suppose your daughter or son, or a favorite niece or nephew, or anyone you deeply cared for still in their formative years looked up to you and asked, "What will it take to succeed in the next twenty or thirty years?" Perhaps you have been asked. Please think of what you would say for a moment or two.

I've posed that question to Maine people across the state. I've asked some of our wealthiest and most successful business people, as well as hundreds of the ordinary-extraordinary people from all walks of life. I've asked young parents and empty nesters, and I've presented it to the teaching faculty from universities across the state.

And you know, whether you have a GED or a Ph.D., the answers are pretty much the same. People tell me that to make it in the future you need things like good communications skills, and the ability to work well in task groups. You need both solid mathematics skills and high competence with computers. You need to understand the realities of a global economy and to appreciate the many creeds and colors and cultures represented in our own country and across the globe.

To paraphrase Joseph Conrad, we all need to know how "to be" as human beings. We also need to know what "to do" as workers in a new economy based on knowledge and intellectual skill.

A university education already engenders these skills and these attitudes of intellectual inquisitiveness, thoughtful open mindedness, and strong professional competence. The core of *The Maine Idea* is to develop them more fully and more broadly over the next five years.

The five goals of *The Maine Idea* are not just nice ideas. They are absolutely essential if Maine is to succeed in the altered world economy. Professor Barry Bozeman of Georgia Tech examined technology-based economic development programs at the state level around the country and I think his conclusions will sound very familiar to us here in Maine. After a good bit of analysis, he winds up concluding that, "A poorly prepared labor force acts as a ceiling on economic development."

Members of the Maine Software Developers Association and labor economists at the University of Maine have come to the same conclusion. Companies are having a difficult time finding educated, skilled labor and it is limiting their own development and expansion.



Besides limiting overall economic development, a poorly educated labor force also limits our people's economic well being. To take one example, the income gap between a male high school graduate and a male college graduate in 1998 was 68 percent. Back in 1979, it was only 29 percent. It's not hard to see what's going on in the economy. In Professor Bozeman's words: "The U.S. economy seems to be settling on high-value-added products...There is a shortage of labor for many such new economy jobs at the same time as there is a lagging and underskilled mass of working poor."

Our goal is to ensure that UMS graduates have strong cognitive skills, the technical competence necessary to function in the new economy, and experience in both work and service learning so that they will be able not only to survive, but to prosper as family members, community members, workers, and citizens in the 21st century.

How is all this related to your work over the coming weeks and months? Simply put, we need to work to make sure that more Maine people across the state get the knowledge and education they need to prosper in the years ahead. To do this, we must build on the successes of the past four years.

To deliver for Maine people, we need to achieve only four things. We need to keep higher education affordable, to maintain the momentum on R&D which is building our economy, to make sure that wherever they live and work, Maine people have access to critical information for their businesses and professions. And we need a program, which combines state with federal and private support to upgrade and expand our physical facilities, our laboratories, libraries and classrooms.

It is no secret that tuition is high in Maine when compared with family incomes. But this has begun to change. Because you provided adequate base budget support to the university over the past four years, we were able to keep tuition hikes below the inflation rate for Maine students and their families. For families fortunate enough to see their incomes go up by at least the inflation level, this meant tuition took no more of a bite from their budget than the year before.

Let's do it again. It works. More Maine people are enrolled in higher education today than ever before because they can afford it. Let's work together so that, with the combination of fiscal discipline on our part and adequate base support from the Governor and the legislature, we can say to more Maine families that higher education is within their reach.

Financial aid plays a big part in who goes to college and who can't. As I mentioned earlier, when you matched Barney Osher's generous scholarship gift, there was an immediate effect. This year alone, 275 more students were able to take their first college course, and more will follow in years to come.

You will have the chance to review several very effective financial aid proposals this session. They range, to my knowledge, from more scholarship matching funds that effectively combine public and private resources to proposals linked to student improvement on the state's educational assessment exam. These are good initiatives that will work to help families afford higher education. They deserve your support.

We need to continue the R&D effort. It strengthens the educational programs for students, it creates jobs throughout the state through spin-offs and joint business-university projects, and it brings in four dollars for every dollar you contribute. Four years ago the legislature's R&D committee developed a plan which calls for ramping up the university R&D effort from \$400,000 to a

sustained level of twenty million annually. We're halfway there. For the sake of our economic future, we need to make good on this commitment.

Finally, we need to support the physical facilities which underpin the good work of the students and the faculty. The people of Maine recognize the need to invest in higher education facilities. When you permitted us to take an R&D bonding package to the people, over two out of three voters returned a ringing endorsement. We have a major bond request before you. But we commit to funding fully one-third of those capital costs from non-state sources. And the University Trustees regard maintenance of those facilities as a university responsibility.

#### **Lessons of the Past—Lessons for the Future**

A final comment.

Mark Twain said what makes predictions so difficult is that they are about the future.

With all the troubling news about the economy, I suspect that I'm not alone in wondering if Maine is doomed to repeat the cycle of boom followed by very bad bust of the late nineteen eighties and early nineties.

Jim Breece, an economist who helps forecast the state's revenues, tells me that in many ways the economy today looks like that of the late eighties, before the last recession. The Federal Reserve Bank then, as now, had increased interest rates as a way of cooling off a hot economy, then discovered it had gone too far. Energy prices, then as now, began a steep and somewhat unexpected climb. And, then as now, the nation and our state carried a high debt burden. It was largely real estate based debt ten years ago; today it is consumer, credit card debt.

Will the California energy crisis or turmoil in the Middle East push us over the edge from an economic slow down, the so-called "soft landing," to a full fledged recession?

I don't know. But even if we do slide, I do know that we cannot repeat the policy mistakes of the past.

Instead of using the downtime to prepare for the future, we coped day to day. Instead of using that dark opportunity to enable more of our citizens, often unemployed and with free time, to get an education to prepare for the new economy, we made it harder for them to afford education. During that dark period, as family incomes fell, tuition rates at the Universities, at the Technical Colleges, and at the Maritime Academy climbed over 70 percent! I don't want in any way to minimize the bleakness of those times or the difficulty of the choices. But, knowing what we know today, why on earth would we make the climb out of the recession steeper by limiting access to the very tools that prepare us for a brighter future?

Is it any surprise that during that period, Maine's per person income fell from 25th in the country to where it is today, about 35th or 36th or 37th depending on the measure? Some dismiss that 25th standing as a kind of aberration. But we did slip back while other states took our place and their citizens enjoyed a higher standard of living. Is it any surprise that the recession was deeper and lasted longer in Maine when we, not deliberately to be sure, but, in effect, made it more difficult for our people to get the education and training they needed?

The lesson is clear. We know that in difficult economic times we need to enable our citizens to get the knowledge and skill and information they need to make the better times come more quickly.

We know what works. The Governor's and the Legislature's initiatives of the past four years show that by keeping advanced education affordable, by offering the high quality programs that attract students, we can connect more Maine people with the education they need for the future. This is *The Maine Idea*.

We know that by investing in R&D we will bring more federal support to Maine and accelerate our transition to the newer economy. This, too, is *The Maine Idea*.

And we know that in a few short years those students in my neighborhood school, and thousands like them across the state, will be through high school and deciding whether to pursue higher education in Maine or leave their home state. I hope you agree with me that *The Maine Idea* is to provide them with quality higher education at a price they can afford and to help insure there are good jobs for graduates. If we do this, then we'll have done our jobs.

Thank you.

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Chancellor Terrence MacTaggart and President John Fitzsimmons withdrew amid the applause of the Convention, the audience rising.

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

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

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(After the Joint Convention)

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The House was called to order by the Speaker.

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On motion of Representative GAGNE of Buckfield, the House adjourned at 12:02 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 20, 2001 pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 257).