

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senate Legislative Record
One Hundred and Twenty-Third Legislature
State of Maine

Daily Edition

Second Regular Session
January 2, 2008 to March 31, 2008

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**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
JOURNAL OF THE SENATE**

In Senate Chamber
Wednesday
January 2, 2008

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 5, Part 1, Section 1 of the Constitution and the laws of the State of Maine, the Senate convened in the Senate Chamber at 1:40 in the afternoon and was called to order by President **BETH EDMONDS** of Cumberland County.

Prayer by Reverend Frank J. Murray of Sacred Heart, Saint Louis and Saint Philip Catholic Churches of Auburn, Saint Catherine Catholic Church of Norway and Our Lady of Ransom of Mechanic Falls.

REVEREND MURRAY: Let us pray. We gather today to again begin yet another regular session of the Maine Legislature. The challenging work of this great institution and that of the State of Maine is daunting, but the resolve of our people and the determination of the members of this State Senate are even greater. We come together today aware of our collective gifts, ready to find effective ways to use them and humbly asking for God's grace to bring all these things together.

Loving God, we ask You to send Your spirit upon us today and every day of this Second Regular Session of the 123rd Legislature. Help us appreciate the challenges, the proposals, the debates, the differences, the compromises and the solutions which lie ahead for this Legislative Body. Please give us the wisdom and the energy to do the work necessary to discern Your will and create a better State of Maine. We ask this prayer this day in Your name. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Dennis S. Damon of Hancock County.

QUORUM CALL

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#253)

PRESENT: Senators: BARTLETT, BENOIT, BOWMAN, BRANNIGAN, BRYANT, COURTNEY, DAMON, DIAMOND, DOW, GOOLEY, HASTINGS, HOBBS, MARTIN, MCCORMICK, MITCHELL, NASS, NUTTING, PERRY, PLOWMAN, RAYE, ROSEN, ROTUNDO, SAVAGE, SCHNEIDER, SHERMAN, SMITH, SNOWE-MELLO, STRIMLING,

SULLIVAN, TURNER, WESTON, THE PRESIDENT
- BETH G. EDMONDS

32 Senators having answered the Roll, the Chair declared a quorum present.

At this point, a message was received from the House of Representatives, borne by Representative **PINGREE** of North Haven, informing the Senate that a Quorum of Representatives was assembled for the consideration of such business as may come before that Body.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator **MITCHELL** of Kennebec, the following Senate Order:
S.O. 19

Ordered, that a message be sent to Governor John E. Baldacci, informing him that a quorum of Senators is assembled in the Senate Chamber for the consideration of such business as may come before the Senate.

READ and PASSED.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Kennebec, Senator **MITCHELL** to deliver the message to the Governor. The Senator was escorted to the Governor's Office.

Subsequently, the Senator from Kennebec, Senator **MITCHELL** reported that she had delivered the message with which she was charged.

Senate at Ease.

Senate called to order by the President.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator **MARTIN** of Aroostook, the following Senate Order:
S.O. 20

Ordered, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives informing that Body that a quorum of Senators is present for the consideration of such business as may come before the Senate.

READ and PASSED.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Aroostook, Senator **MARTIN** to deliver the message to the House. The Senator was escorted to the House of Representatives.

Subsequently, the Senator from Aroostook, Senator **MARTIN** reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

Senate at Ease.

Senate called to order by the President.

Off Record Remarks

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.P. 742

**123RD MAINE LEGISLATURE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333**

November 28, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds
President of the Senate
123rd Legislature

Honorable Glenn Cummings
Speaker of the House
123rd Legislature

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker:

On November 28, 2007, 1 bill was received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, this bill was referred to a Joint Standing Committee on November 28, 2007, as follows:

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding School Funding" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 741) (L.D. 1932) (Sponsored by Senator BOWMAN of York) (Cosponsored by Representative NORTON of Bangor and Senators: TURNER of Cumberland, MITCHELL of Kennebec, Representatives: STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland, MILLETT of Waterford, CAIN of Orono) (Submitted by the Department of Education pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Sincerely,

S/Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate

S/Michael J. Cote
Assistant Clerk of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Following Communication: S.P. 744

**123RD MAINE LEGISLATURE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333**

December 10, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds
President of the Senate
123rd Legislature

Honorable Glenn Cummings
Speaker of the House
123rd Legislature

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker:

On December 10, 2007, 1 bill was received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, this bill was referred to a Joint Standing Committee on December 10, 2007, as follows:

Natural Resources

Bill "An Act To Extend the Deadline for Applications for Loans Associated with the Remediation of a Waste Oil Site in Plymouth" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 743) (L.D. 1933) (Sponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Sincerely,

S/Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate

S/Millicent M. MacFarland
Clerk of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Following Communication: S.P. 748

**123RD MAINE LEGISLATURE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333**

December 11, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds
President of the Senate
123rd Legislature

Honorable Glenn Cummings
Speaker of the House
123rd Legislature

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker:

On December 11, 2007, 3 bills were received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to the Joint Standing Committees on December 11, 2007, as follows:

Labor

Bill "An Act To Require the State To Divest Itself of Funds from Companies Doing Business with Iran" (S.P. 745) (L.D. 1934) (Sponsored by Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative DUPREY of Hampden and Senators: SULLIVAN of York, DOW of Lincoln, Representatives: JACKSON of Allagash, TUTTLE of Sanford) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Utilities and Energy

Bill "An Act To Promote Competition in Maine's Electric Industry" (S.P. 746) (L.D. 1935) (Sponsored by Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Include the Town of Nobleboro within the Service Area of the Great Salt Bay Sanitary District" (S.P. 747) (L.D. 1936) (Sponsored by Senator DOW of Lincoln) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Sincerely,

S/Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate

S/Millicent M. MacFarland
Clerk of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Following Communication: S.P. 803

**123RD MAINE LEGISLATURE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333**

December 18, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds
President of the Senate
123rd Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Glenn Cummings
Speaker of the House
123rd Legislature
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker:

On December 18, 2007, 54 bills were received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to the Joint Standing Committees on December 18, 2007, as follows:

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Agricultural Marketing and Bargaining" (S.P. 786) (L.D. 1992) (Sponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Representative JACKSON of Allagash and Representatives: THERIAULT of Madawaska, FISCHER of Presque Isle) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Reduce Wild Blueberry Theft" (S.P. 795) (L.D. 2001) (Sponsored by Senator WESTON of Waldo) (Cosponsored by Representative PIEH of Bremen and Senators: RAYE of Washington, SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin, SHERMAN of Aroostook, DIAMOND of Cumberland, Representatives: BLANCHETTE of Bangor, MAREAN of Hollis, TIBBETTS of Columbia, McFADDEN of Dennysville) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Bill "An Act To Ensure Continued Operation of the Poison Hotline" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 785) (L.D. 1991) (Sponsored by President EDMONDS of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative WEBSTER of Freeport and Senator: MARRACHE of Kennebec, Representative: CAIN of Orono) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)
Business, Research and Economic Development

Bill "An Act Regarding the Training of Applicants for a Limited Radiographer License by Licensed Practitioners" (S.P. 757) (L.D. 1963) (Sponsored by Senator TURNER of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative: MILLETT of Waterford) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Strengthen the Maine Small Business and Entrepreneurship Commission" (S.P. 789) (L.D. 1995) (Sponsored by Senator BROMLEY of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative SMITH of Monmouth and Senators: HOBBS of York, SCHNEIDER of Penobscot, NUTTING of Androscoggin, Representatives: BEAUDETTE of Biddeford, PINGREE of North Haven, SAMSON of Auburn, SILSBY of Augusta, EBERLE of South Portland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Provide Accessible Higher Education Financial Assistance for Maine Families" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 792) (L.D. 1998) (Sponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Kennebec) (Cosponsored by Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland and Senators: MILLS of Somerset, BOWMAN of York, President EDMONDS of Cumberland, Representatives: EDGECOMB of Caribou, SIMPSON of Auburn, PRESCOTT of Topsham, PINGREE of North Haven, NORTON of Bangor) (Submitted by the Finance Authority of Maine pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Bill "An Act To Create the Southern York County Regional Development Authority" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 797) (L.D. 2003) (Sponsored by Senator BOWMAN of York) (Cosponsored by Representative GOULD of South Berwick and Representatives: WHEELER of Kittery, CHASE of Wells, WEAVER of York, HILL of York) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Bill "An Act To Exempt Certain Facilities from Increased Fire Sprinkler Requirements" (S.P. 775) (L.D. 1981) (Sponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Kennebec, Representative ANNIS of Dover-Foxcroft and Senators: WESTON of Waldo, DAMON of Hancock, SMITH of Piscataquis, Representative: JACKSON of Allagash) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Resolve, To Prevent Domestic Violence and Protect Our Citizens (S.P. 784) (L.D. 1990) (Sponsored by Senator SULLIVAN of York) (Cosponsored by Representative SMITH of Monmouth and Senators: BROMLEY of Cumberland, DAMON of Hancock, Representatives: GERZOFKY of Brunswick, FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, SIMPSON of Auburn, HASKELL of Portland, CHASE of Wells, EBERLE of South Portland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Amend Criminal Laws against Domestic Violence To Ensure Appropriate Recognition of Prior Convictions" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 793) (L.D. 1999) (Sponsored by President EDMONDS of Cumberland) (Under suspension of the rules, cosponsored by Representative SIMPSON of Auburn and Senators: HOBBS of York, DIAMOND of Cumberland, McCORMICK of Kennebec, BENOIT of Sagadahoc, Representatives: PERCY of Phippsburg, FLOOD of Winthrop, GERZOFKY of Brunswick, Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland, BERRY of Bowdoinham, HASKELL of Portland, STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act To Improve the Compliance and Accountability of the Child Development Services System" (S.P. 767) (L.D. 1973) (Sponsored by Senator BOWMAN of York) (Cosponsored by Representative CAIN of Orono and Representatives: HARLOW of Portland, NORTON of Bangor) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Review the Accountability of State Cultural Agencies (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 787) (L.D. 1993) (Sponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Representative MILLS of Farmington and Senator: MITCHELL of Kennebec) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Fully Fund School Breakfast from Kindergarten to Grade 12" (S.P. 791) (L.D. 1997) (Sponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Kennebec) (Cosponsored by Representative FLOOD of Winthrop and Senators: ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, BOWMAN of York, BRANNIGAN of Cumberland, Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, CAIN of Orono, MIRAMANT of Camden) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Health and Human Services

Resolve, To Expand the Case Definition of Lyme Disease for Purposes of Compiling the Annual Lyme Disease Surveillance Report (S.P. 750) (L.D. 1956) (Sponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Representative BRYANT of Windham, Representative CONOVER of Oakland and Representatives: GERZOFKY of Brunswick, BRIGGS of Mexico, JACKSON of Allagash, DRISCOLL of Westbrook, THERIAULT of Madawaska, PATRICK of Rumford) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Repeal the Ban on the Sale and Furnishing of Hard Snuff" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 755) (L.D. 1961) (Sponsored by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative CONNOR of Kennebunk and Senator: MILLS of Somerset) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Establish a Consumer Council System of Maine Consistent with the AMHI Consent Decree and the State's Comprehensive Mental Health Plan" (S.P. 761) (L.D. 1967) (Sponsored by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative FAIRCLOTH of Bangor and Representative: PERRY of Calais) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Promote Awareness of Parkinson's Disease (S.P. 769) (L.D. 1975) (Sponsored by President EDMONDS of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Senator: MARRACHÉ of Kennebec, Representative: MILLER of Somerville) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Resolve, To Establish a Statewide Protocol for the Early Detection and Treatment of Autism (S.P. 771) (L.D. 1977) (Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset) (Cosponsored by Representative: STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Expand the Pool of Qualified Mental Health Examiners for Purposes of Involuntary Treatment" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 780) (L.D. 1986) (Sponsored by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin) (Cosponsored by Representative LEWIN of Eliot and Senators: RAYE of Washington, MARRACHÉ of Kennebec, BRANNIGAN of Cumberland, Representatives: FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, SAVIELLO of Wilton, FINLEY of Skowhegan, GOULD of South Berwick, PIEH of Bremen) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services To Investigate Suspicious Deaths of Children" (S.P. 794) (L.D. 2000) (Sponsored by Senator HASTINGS of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Representative CONNOR of Kennebunk) (Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Bill "An Act To Establish the Department of Substance Abuse Services" (S.P. 798) (L.D. 2004) (Sponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Bill "An Act To Amend the Provisions for All-terrain Vehicles" (S.P. 773) (L.D. 1979) (Sponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Representatives: JACKSON of Allagash, THERIAULT of Madawaska) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Amend Certain Provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Laws" (S.P. 776) (L.D. 1982) (Sponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Representative JACKSON of Allagash and Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, SAVIELLO of Wilton, WHEELER of Kittery, RICHARDSON of Carmel) (Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Judiciary

Resolve, To Extend to January 20, 2008 the Reporting Deadline for the Tribal-State Work Group (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 764) (L.D. 1970) (Sponsored by Senator MITCHELL of Kennebec) (Cosponsored by Representative SIMPSON of Auburn) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.)

Bill "An Act To Protect Persons Responding to an Emergency Situation Involving a Water Utility" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 782) (L.D. 1988) (Sponsored by Senator BRYANT of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Senator HASTINGS of Oxford, Representative CARTER of Bethel and Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, DRISCOLL of Westbrook) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Relating to Marks, Corporations, Limited Partnerships and Limited Liability Companies" (S.P. 788) (L.D. 1994) (Sponsored by Senator HOBBS of York) (Cosponsored by Representative SIMPSON of Auburn and Senator: PERRY of Penobscot, Representatives: Speaker

CUMMINGS of Portland, DILL of Cape Elizabeth, TARDY of Newport, MILLS of Farmington) (Submitted by the Secretary of State pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Labor

Bill "An Act To Allow Changes of Beneficiaries under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System" (S.P. 790) (L.D. 1996) (Sponsored by Senator BENOIT of Sagadahoc) (Cosponsored by Representative PRESCOTT of Topsham and Senator: SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin, Representatives: GILES of Belfast, STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Make Technical Corrections to the Employment Security Law" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 801) (L.D. 2007) (Sponsored by Senator STRIMLING of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative DUPREY of Hampden and Senator: DOW of Lincoln, Representatives: JACKSON of Allagash, THOMAS of Ripley, HASKELL of Portland, TUTTLE of Sanford, HAMPER of Oxford) (Submitted by the Department of Labor pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Legal and Veterans Affairs

Resolve, To Allow John Jorgensen To Sue the State (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 760) (L.D. 1966) (Sponsored by Senator BENOIT of Sagadahoc) (Cosponsored by Representative PERCY of Phippsburg and Representative: GOULD of South Berwick) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Meet the Emergency Needs of Maine Veterans" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 779) (L.D. 1985) (Sponsored by President EDMONDS of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Senators: TURNER of Cumberland, MITCHELL of Kennebec, BENOIT of Sagadahoc, BOWMAN of York, MARTIN of Aroostook, Representatives: WEBSTER of Freeport, Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland, PINGREE of North Haven) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Allow Direct-to-consumer Wine Sales" (S.P. 781) (L.D. 1987) (Sponsored by Senator BROMLEY of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative SMITH of Monmouth and Senators: DAMON of Hancock, NUTTING of Androscoggin, Representatives: DILL of Cape Elizabeth, PINGREE of North Haven, SAMSON of Auburn, SILSBY of Augusta, EBERLE of South Portland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Marine Resources

Bill "An Act To Restore Diadromous Fish in the St. Croix River" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 751) (L.D. 1957) (Sponsored by Senator DAMON of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative EATON of Sullivan and Representatives: PERCY of Phippsburg, BRYANT of Windham, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, MAZUREK of Rockland, MacDONALD of Boothbay, PRATT of Eddington, EBERLE of South Portland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Make Marine Resources Management More Responsive" (S.P. 752) (L.D. 1958) (Sponsored by Senator DAMON of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative EATON of Sullivan and Representatives: PERCY of Phippsburg, WHEELER of Kittery, MAZUREK of Rockland, ADAMS of Portland, MacDONALD of Boothbay) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Preserve the Cobscook Bay Scallop Fishery" (S.P. 774) (L.D. 1980) (Sponsored by Senator DAMON of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative PERCY of Phippsburg and Senators: RAYE of Washington, President EDMONDS of Cumberland, Representatives: KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, MAZUREK of Rockland, ADAMS of Portland, MacDONALD of Boothbay, EMERY of Cutler, PRATT of Eddington) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Give Municipalities Control of Mussels Located in Intertidal Zones" (S.P. 800) (L.D. 2006) (Sponsored by Senator RAYE of Washington) (Cosponsored by Representative TIBBETTS of Columbia and Senator: DAMON of Hancock, Representatives: EMERY of Cutler, McFADDEN of Dennysville) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Natural Resources

Resolve, To Determine Appropriate Buffer Zones for Landfill Construction and Expansion (S.P. 758) (L.D. 1964) (Sponsored by Senator SCHNEIDER of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Representative DUCHESNE of Hudson and Senator: BARTLETT of Cumberland, Representatives: BLANCHARD of Old Town, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, BABBIDGE of Kennebunk, MAKAS of Lewiston, MIRAMANT of Camden, WAGNER of Lewiston, EBERLE of South Portland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Raise the Per Diem Rate for Members of the Board of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission" (S.P. 763) (L.D. 1969) (Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act Concerning Gasoline Station Vapor Recovery Requirements" (S.P. 765) (L.D. 1971) (Sponsored by Senator NASS of York) (Cosponsored by Representatives: Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland, BERRY of Bowdoinham) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Protect Public Safety, Provide for the Prudent Use of Landfill Capacity and Save Taxpayers Money" (S.P. 777) (L.D. 1983) (Sponsored by Senator SCHNEIDER of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Representative DUCHESNE of Hudson and Senator: BARTLETT of Cumberland, Representatives: BLANCHARD of Old Town, KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, BABBIDGE of Kennebunk, MAKAS of Lewiston, MIRAMANT of Camden, WAGNER of Lewiston, EBERLE of South Portland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

State and Local Government

Bill "An Act To Amend the Informed Growth Act" (S.P. 756) (L.D. 1962) (Sponsored by Senator HASTINGS of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Representative CROCKETT of Augusta and Senators: ROSEN of Hancock, DIAMOND of Cumberland, MITCHELL of Kennebec, McCORMICK of Kennebec, COURTNEY of York, Representatives: BROWNE of Vassalboro, DILL of Cape Elizabeth, SILSBY of Augusta) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Amend the Lucerne-in-Maine Village Corporation Charter" (S.P. 759) (L.D. 1965) (Sponsored by Senator ROSEN of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative PRATT of Eddington) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Clarify the Election of Municipal Charter Commission Members" (S.P. 762) (L.D. 1968) (Sponsored by Senator BRANNIGAN of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative: Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Resolve, To Prevent the Closing of Store Road in Somerset County (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 768) (L.D. 1974) (Sponsored by Senator MARRACHÉ of Kennebec) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Taxation

Bill "An Act To Provide Property Tax Relief" (S.P. 766) (L.D. 1972) (Sponsored by Senator BARTLETT of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative PINGREE of North Haven and Senators: MARRACHÉ of Kennebec, MITCHELL of Kennebec, PERRY of Penobscot, MARTIN of Aroostook, President EDMONDS of Cumberland, Representatives: FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland, BERRY of Bowdoinham) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Enhance Economic Development in Maine's Aviation Industry" (S.P. 770) (L.D. 1976) (Sponsored by President EDMONDS of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative PINGREE of North Haven and Senators: BENOIT of Sagadahoc, COURTNEY of York, Representatives: GERZOFKY of Brunswick, WATSON of Bath, WEBSTER of Freeport) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Provide a State Income Tax Credit to Dentists for Military Pensions" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 778) (L.D. 1984) (Sponsored by Senator TURNER of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative WEBSTER of Freeport and Senator: President EDMONDS of Cumberland, Representative: GILES of Belfast) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Clarify the Sales Tax on Prepared Meals" (S.P. 799) (L.D. 2005) (Sponsored by Senator HASTINGS of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Representative SYKES of Harrison and Senators: RAYE of Washington, NASS of York, DIAMOND of Cumberland, PERRY of Penobscot, Representatives: SARTY of Denmark, CAIN of Orono, MILLETT of Waterford, HAMPER of Oxford) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Provide Ongoing Funding for the Historic Preservation Tax Credit" (S.P. 802) (L.D. 2008) (Sponsored by Senator COURTNEY of York) (Cosponsored by Representative KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor, Senator HOBBS of York and Senators: MARRACHÉ of Kennebec, NASS of York, Representatives: FAIRCLOTH of Bangor, RECTOR of Thomaston, PILON of Saco, SAMSON of Auburn, NASS of Acton) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Transportation

Bill "An Act To Promote Tourism in Maine and the Purchase of Products Made in Maine" (S.P. 753) (L.D. 1959) (Sponsored by Senator DAMON of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative MARLEY of Portland and Senators: BROMLEY of Cumberland, President EDMONDS of Cumberland, Representatives: CEBRA of Naples, MAZUREK of Rockland, HOGAN of Old Orchard Beach, PEOPLES of Westbrook, CROCKETT of Augusta, EBERLE of South Portland) (Submitted by the Maine Turnpike Authority pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Bill "An Act Regarding Axle Weight on Tri-axle Farm Trucks" (S.P. 754) (L.D. 1960) (Sponsored by Senator DAMON of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative THERIAULT of Madawaska and Senator: MARTIN of Aroostook, Representatives: MARLEY of Portland, CEBRA of Naples, FISHER of Brewer, MAZUREK of Rockland, HOGAN of Old Orchard Beach, PEOPLES of Westbrook, CLEARY of Houlton) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Require the Department of Transportation To Recover for the Highway Fund Any Money Recovered from Those Responsible for Doing Damage to State Roads and Bridges" (S.P. 772) (L.D. 1978) (Sponsored by Senator MILLS of Somerset) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Utilities and Energy

Bill "An Act Regarding Certain Positions at the Public Utilities Commission" (S.P. 749) (L.D. 1955) (Sponsored by Senator BARTLETT of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative BLISS of South Portland) (Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Bill "An Act To Clarify Maine's 'Do Not Call' Laws" (S.P. 783) (L.D. 1989) (Sponsored by Senator BARTLETT of Cumberland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act To Protect Electricity Consumers of Northern Maine" (S.P. 796) (L.D. 2002) (Sponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Representative JACKSON of Allagash and Representative: THERIAULT of Madawaska) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Sincerely,

S/Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate

S/Millicent M. MacFarland
Clerk of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Following Communication: S.C. 567

**123RD LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
3 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0003**

November 26, 2007

Honorable Joy O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Secretary O'Brien:

Pursuant to my authority under Public Laws 2003, Chapter 699, I am pleased to reappoint the following people to the Citizen Trade Policy Commission:
Mr. Peter Connell of Norway, representing a Maine-based manufacturing business with more than 25 employees

Dr. Carla Dickstein of Wiscasset, to represent an economic development organization

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding these appointments.

Sincerely,

S/Beth Edmonds
President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 568

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0148**

December 6, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Edmonds:

The following is a summary of the results of the June 12, 2007, Special Referendum Election, as derived from the accompanying copies of the Governor's Proclamations and the Secretary of State's Official Tabulation of the election results.

Question 1: Bond Issue	
Number of Votes in Favor	83,477
Number of Votes Opposed	33,486

Question 2: Bond Issue	
Number of Votes in Favor	74,893
Number of Votes Opposed	41,483

Sincerely,

S/Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 569

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0148**

December 6, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Edmonds:

The following is a summary of the results of the November 6, 2007, Referendum Election, as derived from the accompanying copies of the Governor's Proclamations and the Secretary of State's Official Tabulation of the election results.

Question 1: Citizen Initiative	
Number of Votes in Favor	130,164
Number of Votes Opposed	142,458

Question 2: Bond Issue	
Number of Votes in Favor	138,615
Number of Votes Opposed	132,080

Question 3: Bond Issue	
Number of Votes in Favor	139,505
Number of Votes Opposed	132,424

Question 4: Bond Issue	
Number of Votes in Favor	171,892
Number of Votes Opposed	100,580

Question 5: Referendum	
Number of Votes in Favor	88,832
Number of Votes Opposed	181,588

Sincerely,

S/Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 570

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND
FORESTRY**

December 11, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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. 680	An Act To Increase Funding for the Spaying and Neutering of Companion Animals
----------	---

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. John M. Nutting
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Wendy Pieh
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 571

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

December 7, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

- L.D. 270 Resolve, Establishing the Task Force To Eliminate Outdated or Unnecessary Laws and Rules To Stimulate Job Creation
- L.D. 1128 An Act To Require Electronic Monitoring of Secondary Sales Transactions
- L.D. 1210 An Act Concerning the Diagnosis, Service and Repair of Motor Vehicles

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Lynn Bromley
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Nancy E. Smith
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 572

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

November 16, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

- L.D. 1152 An Act To Improve Public Education in Maine
- L.D. 1426 An Act To Enhance the Prekindergarten Experience for Maine Children

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Peter B. Bowman
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Jacqueline Norton
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 573

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

December 14, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

- L.D. 196 An Act To Modify the Maine Learning Results System

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Peter B. Bowman
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Jacqueline Norton
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 574

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

November 16, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

L.D. 1082 An Act To Create a Maine-based Independent Nonprofit Health Insurance Company (EMERGENCY)

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nancy B. Sullivan
Senate Chair

S/Rep. John R. Brautigam
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 575

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**

December 6, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

L.D. 1203 An Act To Amend the Laws Respecting Assignments for the Benefit of Creditors

L.D. 1667 An Act To Require Health Insurers To Provide Coverage for Nutritional Wellness and Prevention

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nancy B. Sullivan
Senate Chair

S/Rep. John R. Brautigam
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 576

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

December 17, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

L.D. 367 An Act To Protect Emergency Room Personnel from Civil Liability

L.D. 469 An Act To Disseminate "Lessons Learned" from Medical Injury Claims

- L.D. 608 An Act To Extend the Statute of Limitations for Certain Medical Malpractice Cases
- L.D. 684 An Act To Permit Medical Providers an Opportunity To Express Regret for a Medical Error
- L.D. 857 Resolve, To Create A Medical Malpractice Study Group
- L.D. 1271 An Act To Establish Health Care Practitioner Immunity for Consulting Physicians in Critical Specialties or Subspecialties

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Barry J. Hobbins
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Deborah Simpson
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 577

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR**

November 30, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

- L.D. 297 Resolve, Authorizing Elizabeth O'Connor To Rejoin the Maine State Retirement System
- L.D. 869 Resolve, Directing the Maine State Retirement System To Recalculate the Retirement Benefits of D'Lila Terracin

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Ethan Strimling
Senate Chair

S/Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr.
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 578

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR**

December 11, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

- L.D. 1060 Resolve, To Study the State's Career Center Network and Create a Sustainable System
- L.D. 1345 An Act To Simplify Standards for Determining Independent Contractor Status for Unemployment Compensation Purposes
- L.D. 1585 An Act To Assist the Independent Medical Examiner Program for Workers' Compensation

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Ethan Strimling
Senate Chair

S/Rep. John L. Tuttle, Jr.
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 579

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

November 16, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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. 1150 An Act To Establish Random Audits of Voting Machines

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Lisa T. Marraché
Senate Chair

S/Rep. John L. Patrick
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 580

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON MARINE RESOURCES**

December 6, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

L.D. 798 An Act To Standardize Inshore Dragging Seasons for Scallops and Sea Cucumbers

L.D. 1570 An Act To Support Commercial Groundfishing (EMERGENCY)

L.D. 1594 An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Closed Periods for the Hauling of Lobster Traps

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Dennis S. Damon
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Leila J. Percy
House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 581

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

December 4, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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. 1155 An Act To Include Fuel Economy when Calculating the Excise Tax on Motor Vehicles

L.D. 1725 An Act To Modernize the Alcohol Tax by Imposing It on a Per Drink Basis

L.D. 1788 An Act To Equalize Tax Filing Status

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph C. Perry
Senate Chair

S/Rep. John F. Piotti
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 582

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

December 11, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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. 530 An Act To Encourage Open Space through Current Use Taxation of Open Space Land Set Aside for Long-term Protection from Development
- L.D. 1109 Resolve, To Establish a Study Commission To Reform Taxes and Spending in Maine (EMERGENCY)
- L.D. 1772 An Act To Require Nonresidents To Pay Sales Tax on Snowmobiles and ATVs

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph C. Perry
Senate Chair

S/Rep. John F. Piotti
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 583

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

December 7, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

- L.D. 6 Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Improve Guardrails on Portions of Interstate 295
- L.D. 1818 An Act To Enhance Public Safety, Facilitate the Coordination of Traffic Control Signal Systems and Promote More Equitable Use of Public Highway Rights-of-way (EMERGENCY)

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Dennis S. Damon
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Boyd P. Marley
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 584

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES AND ENERGY**

November 16, 2007

Honorable Beth Edmonds, President of the Senate
Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker of the House
123rd Maine Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

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

- L.D. 1098 An Act To Promote Electricity Transmission Independence
- L.D. 1099 An Act To Encourage Wind Energy Development

L.D. 1216 Resolve, To Establish a Study Commission To Stimulate Telecommunications Investment, Economic Development and Job Creation

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

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Philip L. Bartlett II
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lawrence Bliss
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 585

**STATE OF MAINE
JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY GROUP
111 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333**

July 24, 2007

Dear Governor Baldacci and Members of the 123rd Legislature:

In accordance with Title 34A M.R.S.A. §1209 2. G. Submit to the Governor and the Legislature, at least annually, recommendations with respect to matters related to its functions, including recommendations on state compliance with the requirements of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act the statutorily created Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG) presents to you the 2006 Annual Report. For many years now the JJAG has been a leader in promoting innovative funding opportunities, as well as advice to the legislature on many sensitive issues that involve those juveniles who come in contact with the criminal justice system.

The JJAG is made up of a tremendous group of Maine's best leadership from a large variety of disciplines as well as youth, former offenders, and parents of offenders. We use this collective power to work on behalf of some of Maine's most challenging children. As many parents know, involvement in the juvenile justice system and working with their at-risk child is an extremely difficult task. The members of the JJAG are consistently working to reduce this impact and see that this population of kids becomes valuable and productive citizens of Maine.

In this Report you will read about challenges and successes.

- The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention allocations continue to decline.
- The Juvenile Drug Treatment Court has been absorbed into departmental budgets.

- Congressman Michael Michaud provided a Congressional earmark in support of this project to bridge the gap in the transition from Federal to State Funding.
- A Pilot project using the Massachusetts Youth Screening Instrument (MAYSI) for mental health screening of pre-adjudicated youth.
- The JJAG funded many tested effective prevention programs in communities.
- The Disproportionate Minority Contact study trained the gatekeepers of the juvenile justice system in best practice of sensitively determining race and ethnicity and reporting that information.
- The JKAC provided information to a variety of legislative committees and the Governor on bills that impact the juvenile justice system.

The JJAG thanks the Governor and the Legislature for listening to us and supporting our challenges. We hope you find the following report enlightening and informative. We, the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group, consider ourselves honored to provide our services to the Maine youth.

Sincerely,

S/Paul K. Vestal, Jr.
Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 586

**BUREAU OF CORPORATIONS, ELECTIONS AND COMMISSIONS
DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
101 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0101**

August 10, 2007

Honorable Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Dear Secretary O'Brien,

Enclosed please find a certified copy of Resolution Number 07-25-07-06 of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians Council certifying its agreement of P.L. 2007, c. 149. This document is being forwarded to you pursuant to the provisions of Title 3, Section 601.

Sincerely,

S/Julie L. Flynn
Deputy Secretary of State

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 587

**BUREAU OF CORPORATIONS, ELECTIONS AND COMMISSIONS
DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
101 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0101**

August 24, 2007

Honorable Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Dear Secretary O'Brien,

Enclosed please find a certified copy of Resolution Numbers 08/09/07-1A, 08/09/07-1B and 08/09/07-1C of the Joint Tribal council of the Passamaquoddy Tribe certifying its agreement of the following 2007 Public Laws: P.L. 2007, c. 223; P.L. 2007, c. 221; and P.L. 2007, c. 149.

A facsimile of these filings was received in the office of the Secretary of State on August 17, 2007, followed by copies of the original documents that were received in the office of the Secretary of State on August 21, 2007.

The originals of these documents were received in the office of the Secretary of the Senate on August 20, 2007, and were forwarded to the office of the Secretary of State on August 21, 2007, to be placed on file. These documents are being forwarded to your pursuant to the provisions of Title 3, Section 601.

Sincerely,

S/Julie L. Flynn
Deputy Secretary of State

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 588

**BUREAU OF CORPORATIONS, ELECTIONS AND COMMISSIONS
DEPARTMENT OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
101 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0101**

August 30, 2007

Honorable Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Dear Secretary O'Brien,

Enclosed please find a certified copy of Certification of Motion Number 08-20-07-01 of the Governing Body, of the Penobscot Nation certifying its agreement of P.L. 2007, c. 149.

A facsimile of this filing was received in the office of the Secretary of State on August 21, 2007. This document is being forwarded to you pursuant to the provisions of Title 3, Section 601.

Sincerely,

S/Julie L. Flynn
Deputy Secretary of State

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 589

**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
45 COMMERCE DRIVE, P.O. BOX 259
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0259**

September 7, 2007

The Honorable Beth Edmonds, President
Maine State Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Dear President Edmonds:

In accordance with Title 5, M.R.S.A., §13070-J, we are pleased to submit the "agency report" for the Governor's Training Initiative (GTI). GTI has been instrumental in the creation and retention of high skill, quality employment for Maine residents since its inception in 1996.

In calendar year 2006, thirty two companies received GTI reimbursement payments totaling \$10,000 or more. The attached report lists the amounts paid and the anticipated job growth and retention associated with those funds. Because the GTI funding cycle is spread over a two-year period, funds related to the Economic Development Incentive Report (EDIR) reporting requirements for calendar year 2006 may be associated with GTI contract allocations spanning three funding cycles (program years 2004, 2005 and 2006).

Statistics included in this report indicate the public benefit derived from GTI assistance, including actual private dollars leveraged via company match for direct training related activity. A short

selection of company comments has been provided representative of responses received regarding company and public benefit.

GTI ensures that the needs of small firms are addressed via the scoring process, and requires applicants to identify the public benefit resulting from proposed training projects. GTI continues to be a primary vehicle for achieving sustainable long-term economic growth for Maine. Incumbent and new hire worker training continue to be referenced in numerous benchmarks of the "Measures of Growth" report submitted annually by the Maine Economic Growth Council.

Sincerely,

S/Laura A. Fortman
Commissioner

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 590

**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AUDIT
66 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0066**

September 11, 2007

Senator Beth Edmonds
President of the Senate

Representative Glenn Cummings
Speaker of the House of Representatives

The Honorable John E. Baldacci
Governor of Maine

I am pleased to submit this Single Audit of the State of Maine for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006. The audit was conducted in accordance with Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the requirements of the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996; and the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations. This report complies with the State's audit responsibilities, required for the receipt of over \$2.8 billion in federal financial assistance during the fiscal year.

This document contains the following reports and schedules:

- Independent Auditor's Report
- Basic Financial Statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis, and Notes to the Financial Statements
- Report on Compliance and on Internal Control over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial

Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards

- Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to each Major Program and Internal Control over Compliance in Accordance with OMB Circular A-133
- Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
- Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
- Financial Statement Findings
- Indexes to Federal Program Findings
- Federal Findings, Questioned Costs and Corrective Action Plan
- Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings

On behalf of the Department of Audit, I thank employees throughout Maine government who have assisted us during our audit. I know that we all work to improve financial reporting and accountability for our citizens and our State.

Please contact me if you have questions or comments about the 2006 Single Audit of the State of Maine.

Respectfully submitted,

S/Neria R. Douglass, JD, CIA
State Auditor

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 591

**STATE OF MAINE
MAINE REVENUE SERVICES
24 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0024**

October 1, 2007

Senate President Edmonds
Speaker of the House Cummings
Members of the 123rd Maine Legislature:

Pursuant to 5 MRSA Section 13070-J, the State Tax Assessor is required to submit a report to the legislature identifying the amount of revenues foregone as the result of the Jobs and Investment Tax Credit (JITC), the Research Expense Tax Credit (R&D), the Seed Capital Investment Tax Credit, the Shipbuilding Facility Credit, the Credit for Pollution-Reducing Boilers, and public funds spent on the Business Property Tax Reimbursement Program (BETR). Attached are four reports providing you with this information.

The first table lists corporations that reduced their Maine income tax liability with the JITC, the R&D credit, and/or the Seed Capital credit in tax year 2005, as well as the value of the credits. Table II provides information on individual filers that reduced their Maine income tax liability with the JITC, the R&D credit, and/or the Seed Capital credit by Maine adjusted gross income in tax year 2005. Tax year 2005 is the last year for which we have full information on both corporate and individual filers. Statutes governing the release of confidential taxpayer information prevent us from reporting the names of the corporations or individuals that benefited from these tax credits. No taxpayer took advantage of the Credit for Pollution-Reducing Boilers in tax year 2005.

The third attachment explains the Shipbuilding Facility credit. As required by statute the report provides information on the level of employment, yearly investment and the cumulative amount of investment. Since the inception of the credit, the level of employment has been such that the annual cost to the state treasury has exceeded the base credit amount of \$3 million per year.

The fourth attachment is a list of BETR recipients by municipality. For purposes of this report, businesses that filed for reimbursement during calendar year 2006 are listed. BETR recipients filed between August 1, 2006 and December 31, 2006 for eligible property taxes paid during calendar year 2005. For that period the state reimbursed \$66.6 million to over 1,700 companies. Please note that in FY07 BETR reimbursement was limited to 90% of property taxes paid.

If you have any questions on this report please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

S/Jerome D. Gerard

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 592

**CITIZEN TRADE POLICY COMMISSION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333**

October 31, 2007

The Honorable Beth Edmonds, President
Maine Senate

The Honorable Glenn Cummings, Speaker
Maine House of Representatives

Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Edmonds and Speaker Cummings:

Pursuant to Public Law 2003, c. 699, the Citizen Trade Policy Commission is pleased to submit its annual report. Copies of the report have been placed on file with the Law and Legislative Reference Library.

Sincerely,

S/Senator Margaret Rotundo, Senate Chair

S/Representative John Patrick, House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 593

**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL
REGULATION
35 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333-0035**

November 30, 2007

The Honorable Beth Edmonds
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Re: Annual Report on Charitable Fundraising Activity

Dear President Edmonds:

Pursuant to the Charitable Solicitations Act, 9 MRSA, §5010, enclosed please find the Annual Report on the 2006 fundraising activity of charitable organizations licensed in the State of Maine. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

S/Lloyd P. LaFountain III
Acting Commissioner

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 594

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
148 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, ME 04333**

July 2, 2007

Honorable Joy J. O'Brien
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Secretary O'Brien:

Please find enclosed a certified copy of the proclamation for the citizen initiative, "An Act to Authorize a Tribal Commercial Track and Slot Machines in Washington County", which will be sent to referendum vote on November 6, 2007.

Sincerely,

S/Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

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

Off Record Remarks

THE PRESIDENT: Welcome back. It's very good to see you all again. The messages have already started arriving. I was hoping, and I'm sure, that we were all going to have a happy and healthy New Year and I extend my greetings to all of you. I am especially pleased that you made it through the snow and got here in time and so on.

We are going to have a busy and hard year. The list of legislative items before us is substantial. I'm confident we can and will responsibly address each of them, from jail consolidation to the budget shortfall.

There is a very hard winter ahead and that concerns me and I know it concerns you. I want to talk about that today. What I want to talk about is how Maine people are going to make it through this winter and how they are going to prosper over the next 10 to 20 winters. Largely due to worldwide escalating fuel and food prices, many Maine families are at risk of being cold and hungry this winter. I just filled the tank of my car for \$38. I have a small tank. Last month Maine state leaders called on the federal government to step forward and meet the need regarding fuel assistance. Since then, thankfully, Congress has authorized a \$10 million to \$25 million increase in fuel assistance. That may not be enough.

Also, in an expression of the promise of public/private partnerships, many Maine people and businesses have generously contributed to charities to help their neighbors make it through these cold months. Petroleum delivery companies have donated to the Keep Me Warm Fund and similar charities; for instance, Irving Oil with \$100,000 and Downeast Energy with \$50,000. Numerous food banks are working hard to meet the expanding need. Mainers are clearly demonstrating their commitment to take care of each other. That's the only way we're going to get through this period, together.

In the long run we will continue to encourage and innovate for ways to become a more energy independent state. Those solutions do not come quickly.

We want to prosper. We want every Mainer to have the opportunity to reach their goals. Last November, thankfully, we, the people of Maine, took a major step forward when we approved bonds for research, development and innovation and for higher education. Participating in the new international economy requires a well-educated workforce and support to develop new ideas and to bring them to market. That's not an inexpensive thing, that support. That's the strategy that Maine has been following. The public/private partnerships created when the Maine Technology Institute invests in a new product or company will provide a basis for a stronger and more diverse Maine economy, those are costs.

However, to grow companies here Maine must be a place where people want to be and can operate a business. Maine, as we know just looking outside the window, has many positive attributes. We've even gotten a report, *Quality of Places*, that stated the obvious to us. Increasingly, those things that we cherish most about Maine, it's natural beauty and it's vibrant and livable communities, are prized by those who have the energy and skills to build businesses for the coming century.

To build these businesses in Maine, they need to be able to efficiently move people and products from Maine to their customers and clients around the world. Unfortunately, Maine's transportation network is in poor condition right now and getting worse every year. The recent report of the Bridge Task Force concluded that an additional \$50 million to \$60 million a year is needed to keep Maine's bridges maintained. That is just maintained. That doesn't begin to address the many other miles of roadway or an entire railroad system. Maine's not alone. The entire U.S. transportation network is in disrepair, as dramatically demonstrated by the recent bridge collapse in Minnesota. The U.S. Department of Transportation has acknowledged as much and urged states to move on their own, would that they could help us more. Those who invest in their own roads and rails will be best positioned for growth in the future.

This does present Maine with historic opportunities. Expanding the Downeaster to Brunswick will opening up passenger rail from Rockland to Boston. It will increase freight opportunities to Augusta and to Lewiston/Auburn. It will begin to lay the groundwork for the mountain division.

Skilled professionals are already fleeing Boston in favor of Maine's quality of life. Imagine how many more will bring their educations and businesses to Maine if they have reliable, hassle free transportation as they go back and forth to Boston on the occasional business trip.

Embracing innovative public and private partnerships will allow Maine to repair its north/south roadways and perhaps build an east/west access. A glance at the map tells us, contrary to some people's opinion, that Maine is not at the end of the line. We are in the middle of a vibrant regional economy that includes New England, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. We need to start acting like that, improving our links with that entire region.

Maine has spent the last 7 years trimming much of its state budget. Adjusted for inflation, our spending has been flat. At the same time, we have met a citizen's initiative mandate to provide 55% of K-12 school funding and managed a double digit inflation in health care costs, which are increasingly a large share of the budget. When you think about rising health care costs remember those increases are imbedded in every aspect of the state budget, from inmate health care within the Correctional system to the cost of contracted services.

Despite these pressures, we have managed to hold the line on taxes by diligently cutting, consolidating and streamlining government. Just last year, we all sat here together and cut \$100 million in order to avoid a tax increase. This year we have to keep everything available and on the table for us.

This year is unlike any since the early 1990s. House prices across America are falling. Foreclosures, bankruptcies are up and fuel and food prices are rising. State agencies, which are struggling to address the unbudgeted increases in gas and heating costs, are being asked to find another \$95 million in cuts just as the need for government assistance is growing. At the beginning of the last decade Maine addressed this budget crunch through a combination of cuts, increased efficiencies and temporary revenue increases. We have to think about where we are now.

After 7 years we have cut all the fat. Now we are down to muscle and bone. If we cut too far our communities will not be able to bounce back when the economy does improve. In the meantime our people will be suffering.

You know, it occurs to me that in time of economic trouble domestic violence increases. All the social services increase their needs. We can't forget that. We can't pretend that those things are not going to happen. I, personally, and we, collectively, will not allow this to happen. I hope everyone in this Chamber, regardless of political party, will join me in making sure that Maine's safety net remains intact. It is our responsibility. It is our job.

I have hope for us. I've worked with you all for many years and I know that you have big hearts and smart minds, that you don't spend injudiciously, that you put behind your work in government the effort that says it's our responsibility to take care of every Mainer and to make sure, as Dr. Seuss would say, the small and the tall are all looked after. I am eager to work with you but I am going to underscore that this is going to be a tough year. I want us to know and face that toughness and realize that all of us are going to have to do things that are challenging for us.

Thank you for your attention and I look forward to this coming period.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act To Provide for the Construction of a Warehouse in Eastport" (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 806 L.D. 2116

Sponsored by Senator RAYE of Washington.
Cosponsored by Representative EMERY of Cutler and Senator: DAMON of Hancock, Representative: McFADDEN of Dennysville.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **REFERENCE**.

Resolve, Requiring the State To Use Valid Risk and Preventive Factors for Youth Programs

S.P. 804 L.D. 2114

Sponsored by Senator WESTON of Waldo.
Cosponsored by Representative RECTOR of Thomaston and Senator: SAVAGE of Knox, Representative: MIRAMANT of Camden.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

On motion by Senator **BOWMAN** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Limit Liability for Businesses and Employees Who Work with Liquefied Petroleum Gas"

S.P. 805 L.D. 2115

Sponsored by Senator WESTON of Waldo.
Cosponsored by Senators: President EDMONDS of Cumberland, ROSEN of Hancock.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

On motion by Senator **HOBBS** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Amend Certain Laws Related to Environmental Protection"

S.P. 809 L.D. 2119

Sponsored by Senator MARTIN of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative KOFFMAN of Bar Harbor and Representative: PINGREE of North Haven.
Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

On motion by Senator **MARTIN** of Aroostook, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Create the Starboard Water District" (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 807 L.D. 2117

Sponsored by Senator RAYE of Washington.
Cosponsored by Representative EMERY of Cutler and Representative: McFADDEN of Dennysville.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

On motion by Senator **BARTLETT** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **UTILITIES AND ENERGY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

**Pursuant to Statutes
Maine Turnpike Authority**

Senator **DAMON** for the **Maine Turnpike Authority**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 23, section 1961, subsection 6 asked leave to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act To Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2009"

S.P. 808 L.D. 2118

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

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

On motion by Senator **DAMON** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent down for concurrence.

All matters thus acted upon were ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Senate

Change of Committee

Senator **BRANNIGAN** for the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act To Increase Health Insurance Coverage for Front-line Direct Care Workers Providing Long-term Care"

S.P. 594 L.D. 1687

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

REFERRED to the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Ought to Pass As Amended

Senator **STRIMLING** for the Committee on **LABOR** on Bill "An Act To Provide a Uniform Retirement Plan for Corrections Officers and Mental Health Workers"

S.P. 424 L.D. 1223

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (S-392)**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

READ ONCE.

Committee Amendment "B" (S-392) **READ**.

On motion by Senator **STRIMLING** of Cumberland, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **ADOPTION** of Committee Amendment "B" (S-392).

Off Record Remarks

All matters thus acted upon were ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

Senator **DAMON** of Hancock was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate off the Record.

Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate off the Record.

Senator **DIAMOND** of Cumberland was granted unanimous consent to address the Senate off the Record.

On motion by Senator **MITCHELL** of Kennebec, **ADJOURNED** to Thursday, January 3, 2008, at 10:00 in the morning.