

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Record
House of Representatives
One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State of Maine

Daily Edition

First Regular Session

December 1, 2010 – June 29, 2011

pages 1 - 1067

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
 FIRST REGULAR SESSION
 3rd Legislative Day
 Wednesday, January 5, 2011

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

Prayer by Pastor Jonathan Vogel, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Augusta.

National Anthem by Messalonskee High School Jazz Band, Oakland.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Chris Pezzullo, D.O., Cape Elizabeth.

The Journal of Friday, December 17, 2010 was read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 27)

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

TO: Honorable Heather J.R. Priest
 Clerk of the House
 FROM: S/Robert W. Nutting
 Speaker of the House
 DATE: December 20, 2010
 RE: Committee Appointments
 125th Legislature

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1(l)(a), I have made the following appointments to the various Joint Standing Committees:

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Peter E. Edgecomb, Chair (R-Caribou)
 Dean A. Cray (R-Palmyra)
 Jeffery Allen Gifford (R-Lincoln)
 Russell J. Black (R-Wilton)
 Karen D. Foster (R-Augusta)
 Jeffrey L. Timberlake (R-Turner)
 Jeff M. McCabe (D-Skowhegan)*
 Andrew R. O'Brien (D-Lincolnville)
 Peter S. Kent (D-Woolwich)
 James F. Dill (D-Old Town)

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Patrick S. A. Flood, Chair (R-Winthrop)
 Tom J. Winsor (R-Norway)
 Kathleen D. Chase (R-Wells)
 Tyler Clark (R-Easton)
 Kenneth Wade Fredette (R-Newport)
 Dennis L. Keschl (R-Belgrade)
 Margaret R. Rotundo (D-Lewiston)*
 John L. Martin (D-Eagle Lake)
 David C. Webster (D-Freeport)
 Sara R. Stevens (D-Bangor)

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Gary E. Plummer, Chair (R-Windham)
 David C. Burns (R-Whiting)
 Ricky D. Long (R-Sherman)
 Susan E. Morissette (R-Winslow)
 Deborah J. Sanderson (R-Chelsea)
 Anne M. Haskell (D-Portland)*
 Stephen P. Hanley (D-Gardiner)
 Michel A. Lajoie (D-Lewiston)

Anna D. Blodgett (D-Augusta)

Michael H. Clarke (D-Bath)

Education and Cultural Affairs

David E. Richardson, Chair (R-Carmel)

Peter E. Edgecomb (R-Caribou)

Howard E. McFadden (R-Dennysville)

Peter B. Johnson (R-Greenville)

Joyce A. Maker (R-Calais)

Michael D. McClellan (R-Raymond)

Richard V. Wagner (D-Lewiston)*

Mary Pennell Nelson (D-Falmouth)

Stephen D. Lovejoy (D-Portland)

Helen Rankin (D-Hiram)

Madonna M. Soctomah (Passamaquoddy Tribe)

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Stacey Allen Fitts, Chair (R-Pittsfield)

James M. Hamper (R-Oxford)

Dean A. Cray (R-Palmyra)

Larry C. Dunphy (R-Embden)

Aaron F. Libby (R-Waterboro)

Jon Hinck (D-Portland)*

Alexander Cornell du Houx (D-Brunswick)

Roberta B. Beavers (D-South Berwick)

Mark N. Dion (D-Portland)

Louis J. Luchini (D-Ellsworth)

Environment and Natural Resources

James M. Hamper, Chair (R-Oxford)

Bernard L. A. Ayotte (R-Caswell)

Jane S. Knapp (R-Gorham)

Ricky D. Long (R-Sherman)

James W. Parker (R-Veazie)

Robert S. Duchesne (D-Hudson)*

Melissa Walsh Innes (D-Yarmouth)

Joan W. Welsh (D-Rockport)

Denise Patricia Harlow (D-Portland)

1 Vacancy

Health and Human Services

Meredith N. Strang Burgess, Chair (R-Cumberland)

Leslie T. Fossel (R-Alna)

Richard S. Malaby (R-Hancock)

Beth A. O'Connor (R-Berwick)

Deborah J. Sanderson (R-Chelsea)

Heather W. Sirocki (R-Scarborough)

Mark W. Eves (D-North Berwick)*

Matthew J. Peterson (D-Rumford)

Linda F. Sanborn (D-Gorham)

Peter C. Stuckey (D-Portland)

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Paul T. Davis, Sr., Chair (R-Sangerville)

Ralph W. Sarty, Jr. (R-Denmark)

Dale J. Crafts (R-Lisbon)

Eleanor M. Espling (R-New Gloucester)

Stacey K. Guerin (R-Glenburn)

Stephen J. Wood (R-Sabattus)

Herbert E. Clark (D-Millinocket)*

Jane E. Eberle (D-South Portland)

Sheryl J. Briggs (D-Mexico)

Michael A. Shaw (D-Standish)

Insurance and Financial Services

Wesley E. Richardson, Chair (R-Warren)

Jonathan B. McKane (R-Newcastle)

Joyce A. Fitzpatrick (R-Houlton)

Susan E. Morissette (R-Winslow)

John J. Picchiotti (R-Fairfield)

Sharon Anglin Treat (D-Hallowell)*

Adam A. Goode (D-Bangor)
Henry E. M. Beck (D-Waterville)
Terry K. Morrison (D-South Portland)
Paulette G. Beaudoin (D-Biddeford)

Judiciary

Joan M. Nass, Chair (R-Acton)
G. Paul Waterhouse (R-Bridgton)
Michael G. Beaulieu (R-Auburn)
Ralph W. Sarty, Jr. (R-Denmark)
Bradley S. Moulton (R-York)
Karen D. Foster (R-Augusta)
Charles R. Priest (D-Brunswick)*
Cynthia A. Dill (D-Cape Elizabeth)
Maeghan Maloney (D-Augusta)
Megan M. Rochelo (D-Biddeford)
Wayne T. Mitchell (Penobscot Nation)

Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development

Kerri L. Prescott, Chair (R-Topsham)
Dana L. Dow (R-Waldoboro)
Melvin Newendyke (R-Litchfield)
Amy Fern Volk (R-Scarborough)
Frederick L. Wintle (R-Garland)
John L. Tuttle, Jr. (D-Sanford)*
Timothy E. Driscoll (D-Westbrook)
Paul E. Gilbert (D-Jay)
Robert B. Hunt (D-Buxton)
Erin D. Herbig (D-Belfast)

Marine Resources

Windol C. Weaver, Chair (R-York)
Dianne C. Tilton (R-Harrington)
Jane S. Knapp (R-Gorham)
Kimberly N. Olsen (R-Phippsburg)
Wayne R. Parry (R-Arundel)
W. Bruce MacDonald (D-Boothbay)*
Charles B. Kruger (D-Thomaston)
Devin M. Beliveau (D-Kittery)
Ralph Chapman (D-Brooksville)
Walter A. Kumiega III (D-Deer Isle)

State and Local Government

H. David Cotta, Chair (R-China)
Lance Evans Harvell (R-Farmington)
Bradley S. Moulton (R-York)
Michael Celli (R-Brewer)
James S. Gillway (R-Searsport)
Andrea M. Boland (D-Sanford)*
Bryan T. Kaenrath (D-South Portland)
Brian D. Bolduc (D-Auburn)
Alan M. Casavant (D-Biddeford)
Anne P. Graham (D-North Yarmouth)

Taxation

L. Gary Knight, Chair (R-Livermore Falls)
G. Paul Waterhouse (R-Bridgton)
Bruce A. Bickford (R-Auburn)
Paul Edward Bennett (R-Kennebunk)
David R. Burns (R-Alfred)
R. Ryan Harmon (R-Palermo)
Seth A. Berry (D-Bowdoinham)*
Donald E. Pilon (D-Saco)
Mark E. Bryant (D-Windham)
Elspeth M. Flemings (D-Bar Harbor)

Transportation

Richard M. Cebra, Chair (R-Naples)
Kimberley C. Rosen (R-Bucksport)
James S. Gillway (R-Searsport)
Wayne R. Parry (R-Arundel)

Peter B. Rioux (R-Winterport)
Alexander Reginald Willette (R-Mapleton)
Edward J. Mazurek (D-Rockland)*
George Hogan (D-Old Orchard Beach)
Ann E. Peoples (D-Westbrook)
Charles Kenneth Theriault (D-Madawaska)

Veterans and Legal Affairs

Michael G. Beaulieu, Chair (R-Auburn)
Jarrod S. Crockett (R-Bethel)
Michael J. Willette (R-Presque Isle)
Douglas K. Damon (R-Bangor)
David D. Johnson (R-Eddington)
Michael E. Carey (D-Lewiston)*
Linda M. Valentino (D-Saco)
Diane Russell (D-Portland)
Thomas R. W. Longstaff (D-Waterville)
Benjamin M. Chipman (U-Portland)

*Ranking Democratic Member

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 28)

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

December 29, 2010
Honorable Heather J.R. Priest
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0002

Dear Clerk Priest:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (l)(a), I have appointed Representative Joan M. Nass of Acton as a member of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

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

Sincerely,
S/Robert W. Nutting
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 29)

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

TO: Honorable Heather J.R. Priest
Clerk of the House
FROM: S/Robert W. Nutting
Speaker of the House
DATE: December 20, 2010
RE: Appointments Standing Committees of the House
125th Legislature

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (J), I have made the following appointments to the Standing Committees of the House.

Bills in the Second Reading

David E. Richardson, Chair (R-Carmel)
R. Ryan Harmon (R-Palermo)
Aaron F. Libby (R-Waterboro)
Deborah J. Sanderson (R-Chelsea)
Mark W. Eves (D-North Berwick)

Timothy E. Driscoll (D-Westbrook)
Anne P. Graham (D-North Yarmouth)
Megan M. Rochelo (D-Biddeford)

Elections

Andre E. Cushing III, Chair (R-Hampden)
Stacey Allen Fitts (R-Pittsfield)
Michael G. Beaulieu (R-Auburn)
Kenneth Wade Fredette (R-Newport)
Seth A. Berry (D-Bowdoinham)
Sharon Anglin Treat (D-Hallowell)
Henry E. M. Beck (D-Waterville)
Melissa Walsh Innes (D-Yarmouth)

Engrossed Bills

Wesley E. Richardson, Chair (R-Warren)
David R. Burns (R-Alfred)
Douglas K. Damon (R-Bangor)
Kimberly N. Olsen (R-Phippsburg)
Elsbeth M. Flemings (D-Bar Harbor)
Andrea M. Boland (D-Sanford)
Walter A. Kumiega III (D-Deer Isle)
Thomas R. W. Longstaff (D-Waterville)

Ethics

Richard M. Cebra, Chair (R-Naples)
Joan M. Nass (R-Acton)
David C. Burns (R-Whiting)
G. Paul Waterhouse (R-Bridgton)
Mark E. Bryant (D-Windham)
Cynthia A. Dill (D-Cape Elizabeth)
Sara R. Stevens (D-Bangor)
Maeghan Maloney (D-Augusta)

Leaves of Absence

James M. Hamper, Chair (R-Oxford)
Susan E. Morissette (R-Winslow)
John J. Picchiotti (R-Fairfield)
Alexander Reginald Willette (R-Mapleton)
Helen Rankin (D-Hiram)
Alexander Cornell du Houx (D-Brunswick)
Sheryl J. Briggs (D-Mexico)
Charles B. Kruger (D-Thomaston)

Rules and Business of the House

The Speaker, Ex Officio
Philip A. Curtis (R-Madison)
Emily Ann Cain (D-Orono)
Tereasa Hayes (D-Buckfield)

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 30)

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

December 20, 2010
Honorable Heather J.R. Priest
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear Clerk Priest:

Pursuant to my authority under Joint Rule 371, I have appointed the following members to the Government Oversight Committee:

David C. Burns, Chair (R-Whiting)
Leslie T. Fossel (R-Alna)
Joyce A. Fitzpatrick (R-Houlton)
Donald E. Pilon (D-Saco)*

Andrea M. Boland (D-Sanford)
Stephen D. Lovejoy (D-Portland)
*Ranking Democratic Member
Sincerely,
S/Robert W. Nutting
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 31)
**SENATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

December 22, 2010
Honorable Heather J.R. Priest
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0002
Dear Clerk Priest:

Pursuant to my authority under Senate Rule 201.3, I have made the following appointments to various Joint Standing Committees.

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Roger L. Sherman, Chair (R-Aroostook)
Michael D. Thibodeau (R-Waldo)
Elizabeth M. Schneider (D-Penobscot)
Appropriations and Financial Affairs
Richard W. Rosen, Chair (R-Hancock)
Roger J. Katz (R-Kennebec)
Dawn Hill (D-York)

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Garrett P. Mason, Chair (R-Androscoggin)
Rodney L. Whittemore (R-Somerset)
Stanley J. Gerzofsky (D-Cumberland)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Brian D. Langley, Chair (R-Hancock)
Garrett P. Mason (R-Androscoggin)
Justin L. Alfond (D-Cumberland)

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Michael D. Thibodeau, Chair (R-Waldo)
Christopher W. Rector (R-Knox)
Philip L. Bartlett II (D-Cumberland)

Environment and Natural Resources

Thomas B. Saviello, Chair (R-Franklin)
Roger L. Sherman (R-Aroostook)
Seth A. Goodall (D-Sagadahoc)

Health and Human Services

Earle L. McCormick, Chair (R-Kennebec)
Nichi S. Farnham (R-Penobscot)
Margaret M. Craven (D-Androscoggin)

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Thomas H. Martin Jr., Chair (R-Kennebec)
A. David Trahan (R-Lincoln)
John L. Patrick (D-Oxford)

Insurance and Financial Services

Rodney L. Whittemore, Chair (R-Somerset)
Lois A. Snowe-Mello (R-Androscoggin)
Joseph C. Brannigan (D-Cumberland)

Judiciary

David R. Hastings III, Chair (R-Oxford)
Richard Woodbury (I-Cumberland)
Lawrence Bliss (D-Cumberland)

Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development

Christopher W. Rector, Chair (R-Knox)
Thomas H. Martin Jr. (R-Kennebec)

Troy D. Jackson (D-Aroostook)

Marine Resources

Lois A. Snowe-Mello, Chair (R-Androscoggin)

Brian D. Langley (R-Hancock)

Nancy B. Sullivan (D-York)

State and Local Government

Douglas A. Thomas, Chair (R-Somerset)

Ronald F. Collins (R-York)

Nancy B. Sullivan (D-York)

Taxation

A. David Trahan, Chair (R-Lincoln)

David R. Hastings III (R-Oxford)

Richard Woodbury (I-Cumberland)

Transportation

Ronald F. Collins, Chair (R-York)

Douglas A. Thomas (R-Somerset)

G. William Diamond (D-Cumberland)

Veterans and Legal Affairs

Nichi S. Farnham (R-Penobscot)

Debra D. Plowman (R-Penobscot)

John L. Patrick (D-Oxford)

Sincerely,

S/Kevin L. Raye

President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 32)

**SENATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

December 22, 2010

Honorable Heather J.R. Priest

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0002

Dear Clerk Priest:

Pursuant to my authority under Joint Rule 371, I am pleased to appoint the following people to the Government Oversight Committee, the committee having oversight responsibility for the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability:

Senator Roger J. Katz of Kennebec, Chair

Senator A. David Trahan of Lincoln

Senator Earle L. McCormick of Kennebec

Senator Elizabeth M. Schneider of Penobscot

Senator Lawrence Bliss of Cumberland

Senator Nancy B. Sullivan of York

If you have any questions regarding these appointments, please contact my office.

Sincerely,

S/Kevin L. Raye

President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 33)

**STATE OF MAINE
Office of the Secretary of State**

January 5, 2011

To the Speaker of the House in the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Legislature:

I, MATTHEW DUNLAP, Secretary of State, in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Maine, having tabulated the returns of the votes cast for Governor at the General Election

held on the second day of November in the year two thousand and ten;

REPORT AS FOLLOWS; that Paul R. LePage, having received a plurality of the votes cast, appears to have been elected Governor of the State of Maine:

General Election – November 2, 2010

Governor

Eliot R. Cutler

Cape Elizabeth

Independent

Androscoggin	13,316
Aroostook	7,478
Cumberland	53,036
Franklin	4,495
Hancock	11,258
Kennebec	17,146
Knox	7,327
Lincoln	6,598
Oxford	8,416
Penobscot	24,150
Piscataquis	2,809
Sagadahoc	6,796
Somerset	6,814
Waldo	6,684
Washington	4,846
York	27,031
State UOCAVA	70
Total	208,270

Paul R. LePage
Waterville
Republican

Androscoggin	18,007
Aroostook	11,353
Cumberland	38,984
Franklin	5,877
Hancock	9,056
Kennebec	23,567
Knox	6,830
Lincoln	7,196
Oxford	10,281
Penobscot	25,721
Piscataquis	3,724
Sagadahoc	6,495
Somerset	9,994
Waldo	7,088
Washington	5,586
York	28,103
State UOCAVA	203
Total	218,065

LEGISLATIVE RECORD - HOUSE, January 5, 2011

Elizabeth Libby Mitchell
Vassalboro
Democrat

Androscoggin	6,838
Aroostook	5,307
Cumberland	27,097
Franklin	2,571
Hancock	4,445
Kennebec	11,406
Knox	3,970
Lincoln	3,304
Oxford	4,659
Penobscot	8,253
Piscataquis	837
Sagadahoc	3,330
Somerset	2,703
Waldo	3,053
Washington	1,858
York	19,456
State UOCAVA	300
Total	109,387

Shawn H. Moody
Gorham
Independent

Androscoggin	1,566
Aroostook	2,030
Cumberland	8,423
Franklin	520
Hancock	774
Kennebec	1,482
Knox	442
Lincoln	516
Oxford	1,437
Penobscot	1,856
Piscataquis	235
Sagadahoc	647
Somerset	699
Waldo	614
Washington	475
York	7,026
State UOCAVA	14
Total	28,756

Kevin L. Scott
Andover
Independent

Androscoggin	511
Aroostook	581
Cumberland	684
Franklin	183
Hancock	182
Kennebec	463
Knox	124
Lincoln	121
Oxford	805
Penobscot	515
Piscataquis	80
Sagadahoc	140
Somerset	243

Waldo	143
Washington	178
York	701
State UOCAVA	10

Total 5,664

Others

Androscoggin	1,638
Aroostook	3
Cumberland	197
Franklin	58
Hancock	8
Kennebec	157
Knox	8
Lincoln	20
Oxford	402
Penobscot	12
Piscataquis	1
Sagadahoc	40
Somerset	15
Waldo	7
Washington	3
York	53
State UOCAVA	2

Total 2,624

I, MATTHEW DUNLAP, Secretary of State, hereby certify that the foregoing report is a true tabulation of the votes cast for Governor at the General Election, as reported to me on the returns from the cities, towns and plantations of the State.

S/MATTHEW DUNLAP
Secretary of State

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 34)

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

December 28, 2010

Dear Governor Baldacci and Members of the 125th Legislature: The statutorily created Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG) of Maine presents to you the 2009 Annual Report. We think you will find the information quite enlightening with regard to the activities of the JJAG and its work in the criminal justice arena as it impacts Maine's most precious commodity, our youth.

Over the years, the JJAG has gone through many changes and made many improvements. You can see from our membership that we are quite diverse and look at the criminal justice system from a variety of perspectives, always seeking better solutions and methods of dealing with juveniles who become involved with the criminal justice system.

It is truly a great honor for each and every one of us to serve the state and its youth in our appointed capacities. We hope you find the information valuable and useful to you in your coming deliberations.

Sincerely,
S/Paul K. Vestal, Jr.
Chair

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 35)

STATE OF MAINE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

December 29, 2010
Honorable Robert M. Nutting
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Nutting:

The following is a summary of the results for Question 1 of the November 2, 2010 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 284,934

Number of Votes Opposed 280,211

A recount was conducted for Question 1 on December 2-13, 2010. At the conclusion of the recount, the above-referenced vote totals were agreed to by the participants. These totals include the recount results for those municipalities that were recounted, as well as election night totals for the municipalities that were not recounted.

Sincerely,

S/Matthew Dunlap

Secretary of State

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

At this point, a message came from the Senate borne by Senator COURTNEY of York of that Body, proposing a Joint Convention of both branches of the Legislature to be held at 11:30 in the morning at the Augusta Civic Center for the purpose of administering to the Honorable PAUL RICHARD LePAGE, Governor-elect, the oaths required by the Constitution to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of his official duties and to receive such communication as he may be pleased to make.

Thereupon the House voted to concur in the proposal for a Joint Convention to be held at 11:30 in the morning at the Augusta Civic Center and the Speaker appointed Representative CURTIS of Madison to convey this message to the Senate.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 36)

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

January 3, 2011

Honorable Kevin L. Raye, President

Maine State Senate

Honorable Robert W. Nutting, Speaker

Maine House of Representatives

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Raye and Speaker Nutting:

Pursuant to House Paper 1262, the Joint Select Committee on Health Care Reform Opportunities and Implementation is pleased to submit its final report. Copies of the full report have been distributed to committees or individuals as directed by law and copies have been placed on file with the Law and Legislative

Reference Library. Others may access the full report online through the website of the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis at www.maine.gov/legis/opla.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph C. Brannigan

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Sharon Anglin Treat

House Chair

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

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

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

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

Bill "An Act To Revise Notification Requirements for Pesticides Applications Using Aircraft or Air-carrier Equipment"

(H.P. 8) (L.D. 16)

Sponsored by Representative TIMBERLAKE of Turner.

Cosponsored by Senator MASON of Androscoggin and Representatives: BLACK of Wilton, CRAFTS of Lisbon, DAVIS of Sangerville, DUNPHY of Embden, LIBBY of Waterboro, LONG of Sherman, VALENTINO of Saco, WOOD of Sabattus.

Bill "An Act To Reform the Land Use and Planning Authority within the Unorganized Territories of the State"

(H.P. 9) (L.D. 17)

Sponsored by Representative DAVIS of Sangerville.

Cosponsored by Senator THOMAS of Somerset and Representatives: AYOTTE of Caswell, BLACK of Wilton, CRAFTS of Lisbon, FREDETTE of Newport, HANLEY of Gardiner, LONG of Sherman, TIMBERLAKE of Turner, Senator: THIBODEAU of Waldo.

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act To Extend the School Year"

(H.P. 10) (L.D. 18)

Sponsored by Representative EDGECOMB of Caribou.

Cosponsored by Senator SHERMAN of Aroostook and Representative: AYOTTE of Caswell.

Bill "An Act To Change the Annual Meeting Date and Fiscal Year of Mount Desert Island Regional School District" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 11) (L.D. 19)

Sponsored by Representative FLEMINGS of Bar Harbor.

Cosponsored by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock and Representatives: CHAPMAN of Brooksville, KUMIEGA of Deer Isle, LUCHINI of Ellsworth.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Resolve, To Improve Access to Employment Opportunities for Persons with Intellectual Disabilities and Autistic Disorders (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 20) (L.D. 28)

Sponsored by Representative FLOOD of Winthrop.

Cosponsored by Senator CRAVEN of Androscoggin and Representatives: STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland, STUCKEY of Portland, WEBSTER of Freeport.

Bill "An Act To Limit Salaries of Hospital Administrators"

(H.P. 21) (L.D. 29)

Sponsored by Representative BOLDUC of Auburn.

LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Bill "An Act To Clarify the Laws Governing Non-compete Clauses in Broadcast Industry Contracts"

(H.P. 22) (L.D. 30)

Sponsored by Representative BRYANT of Windham.

Cosponsored by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland and Representative: PLUMMER of Windham, Senator: GERZOFSKY of Cumberland.

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

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Bill "An Act Designating March 29th Vietnam Veterans Day" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 12) (L.D. 20)

Sponsored by Representative BRIGGS of Mexico.

Cosponsored by Senator PATRICK of Oxford and Representatives: CLARK of Millinocket, CORNELL du HOUX of Brunswick, DION of Portland, FITTS of Pittsfield, TUTTLE of Sanford, Senators: JACKSON of Aroostook, PLOWMAN of Penobscot, SAVIELLO of Franklin.

TAXATION

Bill "An Act To Exempt from the Sales Tax Meals Provided at Retirement Facilities"

(H.P. 13) (L.D. 21)

Sponsored by Representative MCKANE of Newcastle.

Cosponsored by Senator TRAHAN of Lincoln and Representatives: CAIN of Orono, CHASE of Wells, CRAFTS of Lisbon, FOSSEL of Alna, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls, OLSEN of Phippsburg, PRESCOTT of Topsham, VALENTINO of Saco.

Bill "An Act To Improve the Maine Seed Capital Tax Credit"

(H.P. 14) (L.D. 22)

Sponsored by Representative VALENTINO of Saco.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, CHASE of Wells, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls, NELSON of Falmouth, PILON of Saco, Senators: BARTLETT of Cumberland, COURTNEY of York, CRAVEN of Androscoggin.

TRANSPORTATION

Bill "An Act To Authorize the Inclusion of Information Regarding Blood Type on Driver's Licenses"

(H.P. 15) (L.D. 23)

Sponsored by Representative DAVIS of Sangerville.

Cosponsored by Senator THOMAS of Somerset and Representatives: CRAFTS of Lisbon, FREDETTE of Newport, LONG of Sherman, TIMBERLAKE of Turner, Senators: McCORMICK of Kennebec, SAVIELLO of Franklin, THIBODEAU of Waldo, WHITTEMORE of Somerset.

Resolve, To Name Part of Route 2 in the Town of Lincoln and the Town of Winn the Master Sergeant Gary Gordon Highway

(H.P. 16) (L.D. 24)

Sponsored by Representative GIFFORD of Lincoln.

Cosponsored by Senator SHERMAN of Aroostook and Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, CROCKETT of Bethel, LIBBY of Waterboro, McCABE of Skowhegan, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PARRY of Arundel, SIROCKI of Scarborough.

Bill "An Act To Allow the Registration of a Bus as an Antique Vehicle"

(H.P. 17) (L.D. 25)

Sponsored by Representative STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Senator WOODBURY of Cumberland and Representatives: BLACK of Wilton, CRAFTS of Lisbon, FLOOD of Winthrop, FOSSEL of Alna, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, TIMBERLAKE of Turner, WOOD of Sabattus, Senator: MASON of Androscoggin.

Resolve, To Name a Bridge over the Kennebec River between the Town of Benton and the Town of Fairfield the Brian L. Boker/Frank W. Haskell Medal of Honor Bridge

(H.P. 18) (L.D. 26)

Sponsored by Representative COTTA of China.

Cosponsored by Senator MARTIN of Kennebec and Representatives: CORNELL du HOUX of Brunswick, HARVELL of Farmington, KESCHL of Belgrade, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, MORISSETTE of Winslow, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, WEAVER of York.

Bill "An Act Concerning Maine Veterans License Plates"

(H.P. 19) (L.D. 27)

Sponsored by Representative MCKANE of Newcastle.

Cosponsored by Senator TRAHAN of Lincoln and Representatives: CEBRA of Naples, COTTA of China, DAVIS of Sangerville, FREDETTE of Newport, MORISSETTE of Winslow, SANDERSON of Chelsea, SARTY of Denmark, WEAVER of York.

**Pursuant to Statute
Department of Education**

Representative RICHARDSON for the **Department of Education** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 131: The Maine Federal, State and Local Accountability Standards, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 4) (L.D. 12)

Be REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Report was READ and ACCEPTED and the Resolve REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

**Pursuant to Statute
Public Utilities Commission**

Representative FITTS for the **Public Utilities Commission** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 316: Long-Term Contracting and Resource Adequacy, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 5) (L.D. 13)

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

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.
Sent for concurrence.

Pursuant to Statute

Department of Professional and Financial Regulation

Representative **RICHARDSON** for the **Department of Professional and Financial Regulation** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 285: Adjustment of Non-bank Mortgage Lending Fees, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation (**EMERGENCY**)

(H.P. 7) (L.D. 15)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

Pursuant to Statute

Department of Professional and Financial Regulation

Representative **STRANG BURGESS** for the **Department of Professional and Financial Regulation** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of the Final Repeal of Chapter 270: Adjustment of Volume Fees, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation (**EMERGENCY**)

(H.P. 6) (L.D. 14)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

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

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

On motion of Representative **STRANG BURGESS** of Cumberland, the Resolve was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**, ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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

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

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 14)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the returns of votes for the Governor, given in the several cities, towns and plantations of the State for the political years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014, be referred to a Joint Select Committee of seven on the part of the Senate, with such as the House may join.

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

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

At this point, the Speaker appointed the following members to the Joint Select Committee on the Gubernatorial Vote on the part of the House:

Representative **BEAULIEU** of Auburn
Representative **CROCKETT** of Bethel
Representative **WILLETTE** of Presque Isle
Representative **DAMON** of Bangor
Representative **JOHNSON** of Eddington
Representative **CAREY** of Lewiston
Representative **VALENTINO** of Saco
Representative **RUSSELL** of Portland
Representative **LONGSTAFF** of Waterville
Representative **CHIPMAN** of Portland

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

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

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 15)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that a Committee of three on the part of the Senate, with such as the House may join, be appointed to wait upon the Honorable Paul Richard LePage and inform him that he has been duly elected Governor of the State of Maine for the political years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

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

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

At this point, the Speaker appointed the following members on the part of the House to the Committee to wait upon the Honorable **PAUL RICHARD LePAGE**, and inform him that he has been duly elected Governor of the State of Maine for the political years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014:

Representative **COTTA** of China
Representative **HARVELL** of Farmington
Representative **MOULTON** of York
Representative **CELLI** of Brewer
Representative **GILLWAY** of Searsport
Representative **BOLAND** of Sanford
Representative **KAENRATH** of South Portland
Representative **BOLDUC** of Auburn
Representative **CASAVANT** of Biddeford
Representative **GRAHAM** of North Yarmouth

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

Speaker **NUTTING**: Finally, on a solemn note, I'm sure you all know that Representative Everett McLeod passed away on December 20th. I attended the funeral. It was a very nice service. Representative Curtis spoke as did numerous others. It was well attended, the Chief Executive was there. It was a very nice and moving service. We will miss him. Just for your information, when I adjourn the House finally this afternoon at 4 o'clock I will do so in loving memory of Everett. So if you're not here you can be assured that I will do that.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Millinocket, Representative Clark, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative CLARK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. One thing I think we overlooked going to the funeral for Representative McLeod, on your desk Representative McLeod made it possible for each and every one of us to receive a bible. I hope you take some time to really look at it and keep it as a memory of Representative McLeod. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The House recessed until the Sound of the Bell.

(After Recess)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 38)

**STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

January 5, 2010
Honorable Heather J.R. Priest
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Priest:

In compliance with Joint Order (S.P. 14) , the President has appointed the following members to the Gubernatorial Vote Committee:

- Senator Earle L. McCormick of Kennebec, Chair
- Senator Lois Snowe-Mello of Androscoggin
- Senator Nichi S. Farnham of Penobscot
- Senator Rodney L. Whittemore of Somerset
- Senator G. William Diamond of Cumberland
- Senator Elizabeth M. Schneider of Penobscot
- Senator John L. Patrick of Oxford

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

Sincerely,

S/Joseph G. Carleton, Jr.

Secretary of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 39)

**STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

January 5, 2011
Honorable Heather J.R. Priest
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Priest:

In compliance with Joint Order (S.P. 15), the President has appointed the following members to inform the Honorable Paul R. LePage that he has been duly elected Governor of the State of Maine for the political years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

Senator Thomas H. Martin Jr. of Kennebec, Chair
Senator Roger J. Katz of Kennebec

Senator Margaret M. Craven of Androscoggin

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

Sincerely,

S/Joseph G. Carleton, Jr.

Secretary of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Subsequently, Representative COTTA reported that the Committee had delivered the message with which it was charged.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (S.P. 16)

**STATE OF MAINE
125TH LEGISLATURE
JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON GUBERNATORIAL VOTE**

January 5, 2011

Honorable Kevin L. Raye

President of the Senate

The Honorable Robert Nutting

Speaker of the House

State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Raye and Speaker Nutting:

The Joint Select Committee of the One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Legislature on returns of votes for Governor given in the several cities, towns and plantations of this State for the political years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 has attended to its duty and asks leave to report that the tabulation of the return of votes cast for Governor at the General Election held on November 2, 2010 as reported by the Secretary of State Dunlap, is a true and accurate account.

Sincerely,

S/Senator Earle L. McCormick

Senate Chair

S/Representative Michael G. Beaulieu

House Chair

Came from the Senate, **READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE in concurrence.

The House recessed until 11:30 a.m.

(After Recess)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

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

Augusta Civic Center

The 195th Maine Army National Guard Band performed.

The Eagle Drummers performed.

The House was called to order by Speaker Nutting.

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

In Convention

The President of the Senate, the Honorable Kevin L. Raye in the Chair.

The Convention was called to order by the Chair.

On motion of Senator COURTNEY of York, it was ORDERED, that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, the Chief Justice and Justices of the Maine Superior Court, the Chief Judge and Judges of the District Court; and the Federal Judges, inviting them to attend the Convention which has been convened for the purpose of administering to the Honorable Paul Richard LePage, Governor-elect, the oaths required by the Constitution to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of his official duties.

The Chair will appoint:

The Senator from Oxford, Senator Hastings
The Senator from Cumberland, Senator Woodbury
The Senator from Cumberland, Senator Bliss
The Representative from Acton, Representative Nass
The Representative from Bridgton, Representative Waterhouse
The Representative from Auburn, Representative Beaulieu
The Representative from Denmark, Representative Sarty
The Representative from York, Representative Moulton
The Representative from Augusta, Representative Foster
The Representative from Brunswick, Representative Priest
The Representative from Cape Elizabeth, Representative Dill
The Representative from Augusta, Representative Maloney
The Representative from Biddeford, Representative Rochelo
The Representative from Penobscot Nation, Representative Mitchell

Subsequently, Senator HASTINGS of Oxford, for the Committee, reported that the Committee had delivered the message with which it was charged and was pleased to report that the Honorable Members of the Judiciary would attend forthwith.

The Chair welcomed tribal leaders of the Wabanaki People; and foreign dignitaries representing Canada, France, Germany, Pakistan and Ireland. The Chair also welcomed Secretary of State Matthew Dunlap; Attorney General Janet Mills; State Treasurer David Lemoine; State Auditor Neria Douglass; Secretary of State-elect Charles Summers; Attorney General-elect William Schneider; and Treasurer-elect Bruce Poliquin.

At this point, the National Guard escorted the Judiciary to their seats.

The Chair welcomed the Honorable Members of the Judiciary. The Chair also welcomed the Honorable Governor John Elias Baldacci, Governor Angus King, Governor John R. McKernan, Jr., and Governor Joseph Brennan.

The Chair welcomed to the Joint Convention the family of Paul LePage, Governor-elect: Ann LePage, Lindsay McCluskey, Lisa LePage, Lauren LePage, Paul LePage II, and Devon Raymond.

The Chair welcomed under unanimous consent Bruce Myrick of Sabattus for the purpose of addressing the Convention.

Bruce MYRICK: When I first got to know a young boy named Paul LePage, I never would have thought I would be standing here today and Paul becoming Maine's next Governor.

I'm sure most of you have heard about the early parts of Paul's life. His struggles, the difficult circumstances of his family life and the fact that he overcame them. He worked very hard to get through high school, college, then to earn an advanced degree. He became a success in business and now he will be Maine's next Governor.

Paul always gives credit to people like me and my family, Eddie Collins and the Collins family, Peter Snowe and others for helping him along the way. We did, but it was Paul who worked hard to succeed, push himself and overcome. I see that same drive and determination in him today as he takes on Maine's challenges, our economy and tough budgets.

As an owner of a small family business, Paul has helped me get the job done many times. Now I can see he is focused on using that drive and determination to get Maine's job done.

When I look back it makes me realize that many of us never know the things we do, big or small, can truly impact others. As Mainers we should recognize and appreciate the people who volunteer in our community every day and the ones that are there just helping a neighbor. Paul says together we can move Maine forward. He's right and he's a product of that spirit. We're very proud of you, Paul.

On motion of Senator PLOWMAN of Penobscot, it was ORDERED, that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable Paul Richard LePage, Governor-elect, and inform him that the two branches of the Legislature are in Convention assembled, ready to administer to him the oaths required by the Constitution to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of his official duties and receive such communication as he may be pleased to make.

The Chair will appoint:

The Senator from Somerset, Senator Thomas
The Senator from York, Senator Collins
The Senator from York, Senator Sullivan
The Representative from China, Representative Cotta
The Representative from Farmington, Representative Harvell
The Representative from York, Representative Moulton
The Representative from Brewer, Representative Celli
The Representative from Searsport, Representative Gillway
The Representative from Sanford, Representative Boland
The Representative from South Portland, Representative Kaenrath
The Representative from Auburn, Representative Bolduc
The Representative from Biddeford, Representative Casavant
The Representative from North Yarmouth, Representative Graham

Subsequently, Senator THOMAS of Somerset, for the Committee, reported that the Committee had delivered the message with which it was charged and was pleased to report that the Honorable Paul Richard LePage, Governor-elect, would attend forthwith.

The Chair recognized the men and women serving our nation and our state in uniform. In their honor, the Chair noted the empty row of chairs to his right recognizing their absence. The Chair then asked current service members and veterans to rise and accept the greetings of the Convention.

At this point, the 195th Maine Army National Guard Band performed the "Armed Forces Medley."

The Chair welcomed to the Joint Convention Governor-elect Paul Richard LePage.

The colors were presented by the All Service Honor Guard.

The National Anthem was sung by Jillaine McGough.

The Invocation was given by Father Joseph E. Daniels, Pastor of the Corpus Christi Parish of Greater Waterville.

At this point, the Maine Steiners performed.

Thereupon, the Governor-elect, Paul Richard LePage, before the presiding officer of the Joint Convention, the Honorable Kevin L. Raye, in the presence of both branches of the Legislature and the Justices, took and subscribed the oaths required by the Constitution (wife Ann held the Bible) to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of his official duties.

I, PAUL RICHARD LePAGE, DO SWEAR, THAT I WILL SUPPORT THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF THIS STATE, SO LONG AS I SHALL CONTINUE A CITIZEN THEREOF. SO HELP ME GOD.

I, PAUL RICHARD LePAGE, DO SWEAR, THAT I WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITIES, THE DUTIES INCUMBENT ON ME AS GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MAINE, ACCORDING TO THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE STATE. SO HELP ME GOD.

The Chair then called upon the Deputy Secretary of State, Charles Summers, to read the proclamation.

PROCLAMATION

The vote given on the second day of November last, in the cities and towns and plantations of the State of Maine for Governor, the returns of which have been made to the Office of Secretary of State, having been examined and counted by the Legislature which has declared a plurality thereof was given to Paul Richard LePage. And that he is duly elected and he, having in the presence of the two branches of the Legislature in Convention assembled, taken and subscribed the oaths required by him to discharge the duties of that office, I, therefore, declare and make known to all persons in this state who are in the exercise of any public trust, as well as all good citizens thereof, that Paul Richard LePage is Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the State of Maine, and that due obedience should be rendered to all his acts and commands as such.

GOD SAVE THE STATE OF MAINE

The Chair of the Convention then presented the Honorable Governor of the Great State of Maine, Paul Richard LePage, to the Convention, amid applause, the audience rising.

Governor LePAGE: Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, Members of the 125th Legislature, Governor Baldacci, former Governors King, McKernan, Brennan and honored guests. I welcome you and I thank you.

Mainers have a long tradition of being hardworking and working together.

As I begin I would like to thank John Baldacci. John, Karen and his entire administration did everything asked and more to make this transition a success. Ann and I are very grateful, and we join all Mainers in thanking the Baldaccis for their service to city, to state and to the nation.

This morning when I was up and getting ready to come over, my wife handed me a note from my daughter, and I will tell you it was very difficult for me to keep my composure. It was heartfelt, it was absolutely terrific, and I just can't say enough about how proud I am of my wife Ann and my family for being there, for loving, for supporting me these past 16 months.

This campaign started when they said, well, the first week was, who in the heck is this guy? Then about January, you know they're saying there's this LePage fellow out there, you know? And then about the middle of May they're saying, you know, there's a dark horse in the field, and on June 9 they were calling me Secretariat.

Well, first and foremost, I am a businessman who served his community as a Mayor and now as its Governor. My pledge to Maine People is very simple. It's going to be people ahead of politics.

My concern as I enter this new challenge of life is for the parents trying to make a better life for their kids; the retirees trying to survive and keep their homes on a fixed income; the college graduate trying to find a good paying job; the entrepreneurs with the courage to take risks to create jobs; and finally, and the most important, to the Maine taxpayers who are tired of footing the bill for the bloated establishment in Augusta.

It is time to make state government accountable. It is time to deliver value to our taxpayers. It is time to put people ahead of politics.

The word "people," appears in the Maine Constitution 49 times. You cannot find a single mention of the words "politics," "Republican," "Democrat," "Green," or "Independent" in 37 pages of preambles, articles and sections of our Constitution. The framers had it right. People.

Partisan affiliations, political leanings and the obsession with winning and losing have been getting in the way of solving our problems. We need a new approach. It starts here, it starts today and I need all of your help.

I am willing to listen and work constructively with anyone committed to honest solutions that will benefit Maine people. To ensure I get plenty of input, I will be hosting monthly breakfast meetings with groups of teachers, business people, environmental people. And oatmeal and solutions are going to be on the menu.

The last two mornings the staff has made me oatmeal, and it's piling up because I get up and I run out of the house. So be attentive, it's oatmeal.

I intend to re-introduce Governor McKernan's "Capitol for a day program." We are going to have town hall meetings on a monthly basis in all of our counties. It is my intention for myself and our commissioners to go around and learn from Maine people what they want their state to look like.

I will host constituent service hours to meet directly with Maine people. Come in, share your concerns, provide some ideas. If we disagree, I assure you we will talk about areas of common ground so we can inch forward because, folks, I'm not going backwards.

While I will listen to anyone, my Administration will be focused on making Maine work for everyone. There are no favorites, no carve outs, or favors for special interests. Good policy is public policy for everyone in Maine.

There is no greater example of serving the common good than the sacrifice our service men and women make every day. The peaceful transfer of power, our rights and our liberties are not free. They are earned each and every day by those who serve.

Forty-Six service members from Maine have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our state and our nation in the last seven years. I am honored that some of the families of our fallen heroes are here today.

Dan and Suzanne Brochu along with their daughter Sadie are here with us. They lost Private First Class Jordan Brochu in Afghanistan in August of 2009. Starting tomorrow morning, Suzanne will be the receptionist in the Office of the Governor.

The family of Corporal Andrew Hutchins of New Portland is also with us. Corporal Hutchins gave his life in service to Maine and the Nation last November in Afghanistan. Corporal Hutchins' wife Heather is due to give birth to their first child, Allyssa Braelynn, in March.

All of Maine shares the sorrow of the families of our fallen heroes and we honor their service to protect our lives and our liberties. Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in a moment of silence to honor the sacrifices of our fallen heroes and to reflect on the loss their family members continue to endure each day that we remain free. Thank You.

One area where we must put politics and special interests aside is our education system. Students are the most important people in the classroom. Every decision we make and every dollar we spend must be focused on the individualized needs of each child.

Our standards must be higher, administrations must be leaner, the dollars must go to the classroom, and most of all we have to find the solutions to make Maine the number one state that shows the standard for education in this country.

I believe we must bring vocational education back as a priority in our schools. Training our young people in a trade while they earn their diploma is a path to a better life.

In addition, and you're going to find me very passionate about this program, is I believe we need to create a five-year high school program in Maine where students can graduate with an associate's degree as a head's up in going into the workforce or as credit towards a four-year diploma degree at the university or college level. I believe this will do two very important things. It allows our youth to be in their support systems one extra year and it lowers the cost of education, the high cost of education, at the university level. And I really hope that both sides of the aisle can come to grips with educating the most important asset in this state, and it's our kids.

Approximately one in every three Mainers is on some form of state or local government assistance for food, shelter, income or health care. For the truly needy and impaired, these programs are an important lifeline and we must maintain them.

While we are a very generous people, we do not have the ability to pay for everyone and we do have limits on our resources. The programs in Maine need to focus on Maine residents, they must focus our efforts to move people from dependency to self-sufficiency and we must implement a tiered

system that rewards work and progress towards self-sufficiency. And we need to have a limit. It cannot be a lifetime career. It needs to have a start and an end.

I recently met Jennifer Cloukey, a single mother of four children and a full time nursing student. Like me, Jennifer escaped from some very tough times. Jennifer works two or three jobs at any given time but has to rely on Temporary Assistance to Needy Families and the Food Supplement Program to make ends meet for her and her four children. Seven years ago, she built a home through the help of Habitat for Humanity. Jennifer was determined to be a good example to her kids and other single moms. This coming May she will be graduating from Nursing School.

Nearly every day someone asks Jen how she does it. She tells all that will listen that a life well lived does not happen overnight.

Today, Jennifer, all of Maine is listening and I am proud to share your story. In my administration your example will be our goal, and eventually the norm.

Ladies and Gentlemen, there are so many Jennifer's in the State of Maine who want to move ahead. We need to provide the leadership so that they can all move ahead, and we can all applaud people like Jennifer.

My favorite subject, business. Maine is the hardest place in the country to start and grow a business. Consequently, Mainers earn on average 80% of the per capita income in this country and we are failing desperately to make the investments needed to grow our tax base.

Folks, and my staff gets real nervous when I use two words: "quite frankly." That means I am going off on a tangent. Only the private sector can create the jobs and investment we need to move this state forward. Profit is not a dirty word. In fact it is the direct and indirect solution to our challenges.

The search for profit is what drives investment and innovation. Without profit, no one has an incentive to create jobs or build a tax base. Profit is what keeps our youth from leaving Maine in search of better opportunities.

Profit is what makes the public sector possible. Without profit, we do not have economic activity, and we do not have income to grow the tax base. Therefore, profit pays the bills.

Profit leads to more competition. And through competition "We the People" end up with more choice and greater value.

Every private or public sector job, every program, every non-profit, every state service and every advancement in society started because someone took a nickel worth of input and turned it into a dime worth of output. It is a trend that has to continue and here are four steps to make it happen.

One, simplicity: It needs to get a lot easier to do business in the State of Maine. We are conducting a state-wide Red Tape removal audit to identify the statutes, rules and the road blocks that prevent us from creating the jobs that we need. Be mindful. I believe in vigorous regulations. I believe in strong protections. However, the safeguards need to be clear, decisions quick and we need to have a cooperative relationship between regulators and the private sector.

Second, savings: It needs to be less expensive to do business in Maine. Everything from licensing a business, health care, workers compensation and utility costs all need to go down.

Business is nothing but a math game. It is the same for everyone whether you're an international player in the paper industry or the corner deli, you need to reach a breakeven point.

The costs that we can control through public policy need to be addressed. Our forests, fisheries and farmland will never reach their economic potential in Maine if it is cheaper elsewhere to operate factories that turn wood into paper, process fish into

meals and potatoes into my wife's favorite, chips.

Finally, skills: We need to train the next generation of workers in Maine to prepare them for the industries that will offer the most potential. We have one of the world's best Science and Math magnet schools in Limestone, Maine. It is run by motivated teachers, motivated students and affordable access so it can be made to work.

Representative Terry Hayes, the Assistant Democratic Leader in the Maine House of Representatives, is a proud magnet school mom. Her son Danny participated in a one-week summer program and applied and enrolled in the magnet school because he had an interest in math and science.

Ladies and Gentlemen, today Danny is a Dean's list student at the engineering school at the University of Maine who aspires to live in Maine. We the elected officials need to work together to make sure Danny Hayes, and others like him, can stay close to home, earn a living and raise their families.

And I have a lot of finallys. Here is the next one. Scale: We need to provide our industries with competitive advantages in costs, regulatory environment and trained labor for us to succeed. We are fighting for the future of Maine every single day on a global basis. That is how we are going to achieve a competitive nature, is we need to have balance. We need to find the right balance between the environment, between education, and most importantly, competitive workforce. If we do that we can return the State of Maine to a competitive contributor to the world economy, and we will be in a position to attract the new industries of information technology, biotechnology, semi-conductors and all of the new world economies. We need to find balance in Maine, but we need to do it together. It can only be done if we do it together. The Senate, the House, the Governor and, most importantly, the people of the State of Maine.

In closing, I'd like to say I ran for Governor because I know how to run a business, I know how to create jobs. In my experience you build a team, you make decisions and you stand accountable for your actions.

I will spend every day of the next four years working to make Maine a better place for all Maine people. I will start by asking one simple question. Can a Governor do it alone? And the answer is simply, again, no. Exactly. It is going to take hard work from everyone and I am ready to provide the leadership, the focus to move the State of Maine forward.

I do not care about editorials, opinion polls or the next election because, frankly, I have four years and a job to do. In four years I will stand accountable for the jobs that we create, for the prosperity that we bring to our state.

Being Governor is not about me, it is not about my administration, it is not about the Legislature, it is not about Augusta bureaucrats. It is about Maine people, and I am going to let Maine people judge how Maine moves forward in the next four years.

Thank you for being here. Thank you for listening. And let's get to work. Thank you.

At the conclusion of the address, Benediction was given by the Reverend Kenneth Dutille, Jr., Clergy of the Maine Sea Coast Mission of Bar Harbor and Pastor of Swan's Island Baptist Church.

The Governor then withdrew amid the applause from the Convention, the audience rising.

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

The House then retired to its Chamber at the State House.

(After the Joint Convention)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

The House recessed until 4:00 p.m.

(After Recess)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

At this point, the Members of the House stood and joined in a moment of silence in honor of the Honorable Everett W. McLeod, Sr., of Lee.

On motion of Representative GIFFORD of Lincoln, the House adjourned at 4:06 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, January 6, 2011 in honor and lasting tribute to the Honorable Everett W. McLeod, Sr., of Lee.