

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

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

Daily Edition

Second Regular Session

January 4, 2012 – May 31, 2012

pages 1084 - 1604

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
3rd Legislative Day
Tuesday, January 10, 2012

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

Prayer by The Reverend John A. Balicki, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Waterville.

National Anthem by Frances Howard-Girard, Rockport.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Robert Struba, MD, MPH, PhD, Belfast.

The Journal of Thursday, January 5, 2012 was read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 279)

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

January 5, 2012

The 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 am pleased to appoint Senator Garrett P. Mason of Androscoggin to the Government Oversight Committee. With this appointment Senator Mason will be replacing former Senator A. David Trahan of Lincoln on the Government Oversight Committee.

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

Sincerely,

S/Kevin L. Raye

President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 280)

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001**

January 6, 2012

The Honorable Robert W. Nutting

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Nutting:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Patrick C. Keliher of South China for appointment as Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources.

Pursuant to Title 12, MRSA, §6022, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage

Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 281)

STATE OF MAINE

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

January 9, 2012

The Honorable Heather J.R. Priest

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Priest:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (J) I am appointing Representative Mark N. Dion of Portland to the House Standing Committee on Ethics replacing former Representative Cynthia A. Dill of Cape Elizabeth. This appointment is effective immediately.

Sincerely,

S/Robert W. Nutting

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

At this point, the Speaker recognized the Representative from Biddeford, Representative BEAUDOIN, and the Representative from Gorham, Representative KNAPP, and they were added to the roll call of the Second Regular Session of the 125th Legislature.

**PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING
REFERENCE**

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

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Pull Events Commission"

(H.P. 1294) (L.D. 1759)

Sponsored by Representative CRAY of Palmyra.

Submitted by the Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Bill "An Act To Ensure Notification to Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking When Defendants Are Released on Bail" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1295) (L.D. 1760)

Sponsored by Representative CASAVANT of Biddeford.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BEAVERS of South Berwick, BRIGGS of Mexico, CHASE of Wells, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, PARRY of Arundel, ROCHELO of Biddeford, RUSSELL of Portland, Senator: HOBBS of York.

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

EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Bill "An Act To Authorize the Commissioner of Education To Allow Access to Criminal History Record Information to Entities Providing Document Management and To Remove Applicants' Fingerprints from the Fingerprint File"

(H.P. 1301) (L.D. 1767)

Sponsored by Representative RICHARDSON of Carmel.

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

ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

Bill "An Act To Improve and Ensure Adequate Funding for E-9-1-1 Services" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1296) (L.D. 1761)

Sponsored by Representative FITTS of Pittsfield.

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

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Bill "An Act To Improve the Department of Environmental Protection's Annual Waste Discharge License Fee System"

(H.P. 1302) (L.D. 1768)

Sponsored by Representative KNAPP of Gorham.

Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

Bill "An Act Regarding Subrogation of Medical Payments Coverage"

(H.P. 1303) (L.D. 1769)

Sponsored by Representative PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield.

Cosponsored by Senator WHITTEMORE of Somerset.

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

MARINE RESOURCES

Bill "An Act To Sustain the Elver Fishery"

(H.P. 1298) (L.D. 1765)

Sponsored by Representative TILTON of Harrington.

Cosponsored by President RAYE of Washington and Representative: BURNS of Whiting.

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

TAXATION

Bill "An Act To Prohibit Municipalities from Imposing Fees on Ice Fishing Shacks" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1288) (L.D. 1747)

Sponsored by Representative SHAW of Standish.

Cosponsored by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland and Representatives: BRIGGS of Mexico, CLARK of Millinocket, CRAFTS of Lisbon, DAVIS of Sangerville, FITTS of Pittsfield, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, SARTY of Denmark, Senator: GOODALL of Sagadahoc.

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

Bill "An Act To Conform the Maine Tax Laws for 2011 to the United States Internal Revenue Code" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1289) (L.D. 1748)

Sponsored by Representative KNIGHT of Livermore Falls.

Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Tax Laws"

(H.P. 1290) (L.D. 1749)

Sponsored by Representative KNIGHT of Livermore Falls.

Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act To Create the Maine Board of Tax Appeals" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1291) (L.D. 1750)

Sponsored by Representative KNIGHT of Livermore Falls.

Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Resolve, Authorizing the State Tax Assessor To Convey the Interest of the State in Certain Real Estate in the Unorganized Territory

(H.P. 1292) (L.D. 1751)

Sponsored by Representative KNIGHT of Livermore Falls.

Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act Concerning Technical Changes to the Tax Laws"

(H.P. 1293) (L.D. 1752)

Sponsored by Representative KNIGHT of Livermore Falls.

Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act To Prohibit Computer Software Programs Used To Evade Sales Tax" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1297) (L.D. 1764)

Sponsored by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham.

Cosponsored by Senator WOODBURY of Cumberland and Representatives: HASKELL of Portland, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls, PLUMMER of Windham.

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

Pursuant to Statute

Department of Education and the State Board of Education

Representative RICHARDSON for the Department of Education and the State Board 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 61: Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education and the State Board of Education (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1300) (L.D. 1766)

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.

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

ORDERS

On motion of Representative STRANG BURGESS of Cumberland, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 1299) (Cosponsored by Representatives: AYOTTE of Caswell, BEAUDOIN of Biddeford, BEAULIEU of Auburn, BEAVERS of South Berwick, BECK of Waterville, BELIVEAU of Kittery, BENNETT of Kennebunk, BERRY of Bowdoinham, BICKFORD of Auburn, BLACK of Wilton, BLODGETT of Augusta, BOLAND of Sanford, BOLDUC of Auburn, BRIGGS of Mexico, BRYANT of Windham, BURNS of Whiting, BURNS of Alfred, CAIN of Orono, CAREY of Lewiston, CASAVANT of Biddeford, CEBRA of Naples, CELLI of Brewer, CHAPMAN of Brooksville, CHASE of Wells, CHIPMAN of Portland, CLARK of Millinocket, CLARK of Easton, CLARKE of Bath, CORNELL du HOUX of Brunswick,

COTTA of China, CRAFTS of Lisbon, CRAY of Palmyra, CROCKETT of Bethel, CURTIS of Madison, CUSHING of Hampden, DAMON of Bangor, DAVIS of Sangerville, DILL of Old Town, DION of Portland, DOW of Waldoboro, DRISCOLL of Westbrook, DUCHESNE of Hudson, DUNPHY of Embden, EBERLE of South Portland, EDGECOMB of Caribou, ESPLING of New Gloucester, EVES of North Berwick, FITTS of Pittsfield, FITZPATRICK of Houlton, FLEMINGS of Bar Harbor, FLOOD of Winthrop, FOSSEL of Alna, FOSTER of Augusta, FREDETTE of Newport, GIFFORD of Lincoln, GILBERT of Jay, GILLWAY of Searsport, GOODE of Bangor, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, HAMPER of Oxford, HANLEY of Gardiner, HARLOW of Portland, HARMON of Palermo, HARVELL of Farmington, HASKELL of Portland, HAYES of Buckfield, HERBIG of Belfast, HINCK of Portland, HOGAN of Old Orchard Beach, HUNT of Buxton, INNES of Yarmouth, JOHNSON of Eddington, JOHNSON of Greenville, KAENRATH of South Portland, KENT of Woolwich, KESCHL of Belgrade, KNAPP of Gorham, KNIGHT of Livermore Falls, KRUGER of Thomaston, KUMIEGA of Deer Isle, LAJOIE of Lewiston, LIBBY of Waterboro, LONG of Sherman, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, LOVEJOY of Portland, LUCHINI of Ellsworth, MacDONALD of Boothbay, MAKER of Calais, MALABY of Hancock, MALONEY of Augusta, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MAZUREK of Rockland, McCABE of Skowhegan, McCLELLAN of Raymond, McFADDEN of Dennysville, McKANE of Newcastle, MITCHELL of the Penobscot Nation, MONAGHAN-DERRIG of Cape Elizabeth, MORISSETTE of Winslow, MORRISON of South Portland, MOULTON of York, NASS of Acton, NELSON of Falmouth, NEWENDYKE of Litchfield, Speaker NUTTING of Oakland, O'BRIEN of Lincolnville, O'CONNOR of Berwick, OLSEN of Phippsburg, PARKER of Veazie, PARRY of Arundel, PEOPLES of Westbrook, PETERSON of Rumford, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, PILON of Saco, PLUMMER of Windham, PRESCOTT of Topsham, PRIEST of Brunswick, RANKIN of Hiram, RICHARDSON of Carmel, RICHARDSON of Warren, RIOUX of Winterport, ROCHELO of Biddeford, ROSEN of Bucksport, ROTUNDO of Lewiston, RUSSELL of Portland, SANBORN of Gorham, SANDERSON of Chelsea, SARTY of Denmark, SHAW of Standish, SIROCKI of Scarborough, SLAGGER of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, STOCKMAH of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, STEVENS of Bangor, SUCKETY of Portland, THERIAULT of Madawaska, TILTON of Harrington, TIMBERLAKE of Turner, TREAT of Hallowell, TURNER of Burlington, TUTTLE of Sanford, VALENTINO of Saco, VOLK of Scarborough, WAGNER of Lewiston, WALLACE of Dexter, WATERHOUSE of Bridgton, WEAVER of York, WEBSTER of Freeport, WELSH of Rockport, WILLETTE of Mapleton, WILLETTE of Presque Isle, WINSOR of Norway, WOOD of Sabattus, Senators: ALFOND of Cumberland, BARTLETT of Cumberland, BRANNIGAN of Cumberland, COLLINS of York, COURTNEY of York, CRAVEN of Androscoggin, DIAMOND of Cumberland, DILL of Cumberland, FARNHAM of Penobscot, GERZOFKY of Cumberland, GOODALL of Sagadahoc, HASTINGS of Oxford, HILL of York, HOBBS of York, JACKSON of Aroostook, KATZ of Kennebec, LANGLEY of Hancock, MARTIN of Kennebec, MASON of Androscoggin, McCORMICK of Kennebec, PATRICK of Oxford, PLOWMAN of Penobscot, President RAYE of Washington, RECTOR of Knox, ROSEN of Hancock, SAVIELLO of Franklin, SCHNEIDER of Penobscot, SHERMAN of Aroostook, SNOWE-MELLO of Androscoggin, SULLIVAN of York, THIBODEAU of Waldo, THOMAS of Somerset, WHITTEMORE of Somerset, WOODBURY of Cumberland)

**JOINT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING JANUARY 10, 2012
AS INFANT AND TODDLER AWARENESS DAY**

WHEREAS, 14,000 children are born in Maine annually and all parents want their children to grow to be happy, healthy and well educated; and

WHEREAS, young children need positive relationships, rich learning opportunities and safe environments; and

WHEREAS, early experiences determine whether a child's brain architecture will provide a strong or weak foundation for all future learning, behavior and health; and

WHEREAS, the majority of the brain development essential for later academic success has occurred by the time a child is 5 years of age; and

WHEREAS, positive experiences for children prior to entering school lead to better results than do remediation programs at a later age; and

WHEREAS, research shows that high-quality early learning programs cut later crime and improve educational outcomes and that children who attend high-quality early learning programs are less likely to commit crimes when they grow up; and

WHEREAS, research also shows that children in high-quality early learning programs learn to get along better with others and follow directions, which may reduce problem behavior that can lead to youth and adult crime; and

WHEREAS, high-quality early learning programs also show strong results for children in improving language and math skills, reducing grade retention and increasing graduation rates, and this school success can lead graduates of high-quality early learning programs to have higher rates of employment and earnings as adults; and

WHEREAS, the Maine Children's Growth Council and the Children's Cabinet are dedicated to improving the efficacy of the early childhood education system in Maine; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize that January 10, 2012 is Infant and Toddler Awareness Day in the State in order to acknowledge the importance of proper early childhood development for our infants and toddlers.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Cumberland, Representative Strang Burgess.

Representative **STRANG BURGESS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I have presented a Joint Resolution today that all of you were also co-signers and I thank you very much for doing that. It is the 8th annual Infant and Toddler Awareness Day and I'd like to think that everybody pretty much understands the importance of infant and toddler awareness. After all, I think we've all heard enough facts and figures around here about our brains. Basically by the time we are three years old, brains are very well formed, so in my case, my kids are really messed up. But today we've got some wonderful, wonderful folks who are here with us in the State House, down in the Hall of Flags. They are very well organized this year and you have a number of pieces of paper on your desk to remind you all when we adjourn today to please join us in the Hall of Flags. We have representatives from all of the 16 counties. They have done a great job setting it up, so you can go and find the county from which you represent and you will meet folks who are currently in charge and actually fostering a lot of young, wonderful minds in your area.

You will also have an opportunity to get a list of all the child care folks that are working in your district and you can send them a little note saying we really appreciate the extra effort that they're doing with Maine's youth. And one of the fun things that we've done is, you know, every year there is a little contest

around here to have the best premium. Well, I think this year I think the infant and toddlers are winning hands down. There are many reasons for you to go to the Hall of Flags, but if you make it down there you might find a golden egg that would give you your very own reminder of your youth and toddler and childhood days, a little Silly Putty. So we've tried to make it a little fun because, after all, working and interacting with our youngsters should be fun as well as educational. At 11:30 we'll be having some remarks at a brief press conference and would invite you folks to stick around and I also can tell you there is some incredible yummy food down there. So thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bowdoinham, Representative Berry.

Representative BERRY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. As the other House member of the Maine Children's Growth Council, I just want to underscore that today truly is an important day for us to celebrate the good news about how far we've come in recognizing and building on the importance of early childhood and also to imagine what is possible in Maine's future if we continue on the road that we've been going down together.

Downstairs today we will all be reminded of the report that came out last week, a joint report from the Maine Chamber of Commerce and the Maine Development Foundation making clear that the economics of early childhood have never been stronger than they are today and the opportunities have never been more powerful, that early childhood education and early childhood care are in fact the foundation of our economy and a pivotal way to create jobs. The report will be available downstairs and you will hear from business leaders speaking to the importance of early childhood.

We can celebrate too the good news of a \$30 million grant that we received late in the last calendar year from the Federal Government to help move Maine forward in integrating its home visiting programs, and the wonderful thing about home visiting is that it actually reaches infants and toddlers. Before age three is when 90 percent of brain development happens and so many of the things that we think of as early childhood measures, such as preschool, for example, actually do not reach that most critical, most important age. And so as we imagine what is possible today here in this body and also downstairs at 11:30, we should be thinking about that 90 percent of brain development that does happen by age three and the return on investment, between \$4 at the low end and \$17 at the high end, that the public sector alone can gain from each dollar of investment. Four to \$17 for each dollar investment and that doesn't account for the increased productivity and the increased quality of life that early childhood investments yield.

Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House, 38 children a day are born in Maine, just 38 children a day. I know that for each of us those 38 children are each a precious resource, an indispensable resource. They are our future. They are our future caregivers, our future business leaders, our future members of this body. And so along with the good Representative from Cumberland I ask you to join me in celebrating their potential today. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from North Berwick, Representative Eves.

Representative EVES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I am pleased to rise today in support of the Joint Resolution designating today as Infant and Toddler Awareness Day. The research clearly shows that ensuring young children have the right start in life is not only the right thing to do but it is an important investment that pays off in the long run.

I think we can be proud of the investments we have made in this state by helping to fund early Head Start, home visiting programs and child care subsidy programs. These programs provide critical support to families with very young children. The child care subsidy program helps families with low income to afford child care, providing them the peace of mind that they can leave their young children in a safe and healthy environment when they go to work. By investing in early Head Start for infants and toddlers, we are able to reach children at a very young age with the benefits of the Head Start program and ensure that the positive effects of the program, such as greater success in school, are long lasting. And home visiting has been proven to promote healthy child development.

We must continue and build upon these important investments. It is critical for the future of this state that we work toward building a comprehensive early childhood system that provides the foundation for all of our children to succeed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Subsequently, the Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.
Sent for concurrence.

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

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

Recognizing:

Edward Strong, of Kittery, on his retirement after serving as the Chief of Police of the Kittery Police Department for 25 years. Chief Strong is a decorated veteran of the United States Army Special Forces, known as the Green Berets, who served 2 tours of duty in Vietnam and he is the recipient of 2 Purple Hearts. He came to the Kittery Police Department in 1978 as a patrolman and worked his way up to Chief of Police. We send him our appreciation for his commitment to his profession, to the community and to the State and congratulate him on his retirement after 34 years of service in law enforcement;

(SLS 537)

On **OBJECTION** of Representative BEAVERS of South Berwick, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Berwick, Representative Beavers.

Representative BEAVERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I was unable to attend the change of command retirement ceremony for Kittery Police Chief Edward Strong on Friday where he was presented the legislative sentiment just read by the Honorable Walt Wheeler, former member of this body. Today I am proud to honor him for his 34 years of service in law enforcement in the Kittery Police Department, with 25 years as chief as already noted. Although he serves in the good Representative from Kittery, Representative Beliveau's, district, he and his lovely wife Gail live in Eliot which is in my district. Ed is especially known for his leadership during the base realignment and closure process in the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in 2005. Thank you Chief Strong for your commitment to your profession, to both Kittery and Eliot, as well as to Maine and the nation. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, thank you for joining me in extending our appreciation to Chief Strong and his family.

Subsequently, the Sentiment was **PASSED** in concurrence.

Recognizing:

Hobbs Funeral Home, of South Portland and Scarborough, on its 70th anniversary. For the past 70 years, the Hobbs family has been serving the southern Maine community with a locally owned, family-run, independent funeral home. Hobbs Funeral Home was founded by Frank H. Hobbs, Sr., and Elizabeth A. Hobbs in 1941 and is now run by their son Jeffrey R. Hobbs and grandson Jeffrey D. Inman. We extend our congratulations and best wishes to the Hobbs family;

(HLS 909)

Presented by Representative EBERLE of South Portland. Cosponsored by Senator DILL of Cumberland, Representative MORRISON of South Portland, Representative KAENRATH of South Portland, Senator BARTLETT of Cumberland, Representative VOLK of Scarborough, Representative SIROCKI of Scarborough.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative EBERLE of South Portland, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Portland, Representative Eberle.

Representative **EBERLE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I am proud to stand today to recognize Hobbs Funeral Home, as you just heard, founded by Frank Hobbs and Elizabeth Hobbs in 1941. Their first funeral was in notable coincidence on December 7, 1941.

Ten years ago, the Hobbs family purchased the property just behind the funeral home in South Portland and created the Hobbs Hospitality Center, which has been used by many families as an alternative location for the gathering of friends and relatives after a funeral service, and in 2009, Hobbs expanded again by purchasing and completely renovating a property in Scarborough into a new funeral home and hospitality center to serve southern Maine. Co-owner and matriarch Betty Hobbs once said if we are not going forward, we are going backward.

Hobbs also is a local physical landmark for anyone giving directions in South Portland. "Well, you know where Hobbs is..." and then it's one way or the other from there. And though every funeral is unique and significant in its own right, it's hard to forget the procession for a well-known motorcycle gang member with dozens and dozens of motorcycles roaring through town paying their last respects.

Hobbs has remained an independent, family-owned and locally operated home that makes all decisions here and not at a corporate headquarters. They have now served the southern Maine community this way for three generations. That has become unique in the business. They believe that Maine people prefer a local and independent funeral home offering highly personalized, thoughtful service during an extremely stressful time. They are dedicated to being professional, personal, caring, community-minded caregivers by a local at its very personal best. Hobbs is a family caring for families. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Portland, Representative Morrison.

Representative **MORRISON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I just wanted to quickly add my well wishes to the family and to the business. They are a phenomenal business in the City of South Portland. I have been a big advocate of small businesses and appreciate their sustainability throughout the community and wish them the best in the future. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Scarborough, Representative Sirocki.

Representative **SIROCKI**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I, too, would like to extend my congratulations to the Hobbs family-owned funeral home. They opened in Scarborough in March 2009 and they are the only funeral home in Scarborough and I again thank them very much and congratulations.

Subsequently, the Sentiment was **PASSED** and sent for concurrence.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Berwick, Representative Beavers, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **BEAVERS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I had the great pleasure and honor of meeting an amazing constituent this past Sunday in Eliot, Maine, as nearly 50 friends and relatives celebrated the 100th birthday of Florence Dunn at the home of Florence's daughter: my friend Diane Burbank and Diane's husband, Tom Burbank. Florence was born in West Roxbury, Massachusetts, exactly 100 years ago today on January 10, 1912. Many of Florence's relatives are here today in the Gallery.

When Florence was a young woman she adopted the name of Joan because of her admiration of a woman with that name, so I will refer to her as Joan for the remainder of my remarks.

Joan has had a successful and fun-filled life. As a young woman, she taught tap dancing and ballroom dancing at the Arthur Murray Studios. Music was a huge part of her life, as her mother and grandfather had both been professional musicians. Joan became a violinist and a pianist. She has composed and published two songs: One is called "Sweet" and one is called "Precious." She married Reginald Addi Dunn in 1935. And she has shared her musical talents with both of her children. Son, Ron, now of Osterville, Massachusetts, made music his career, as choral director of Chappaqua High School and of the Readers Digest Chorus. Daughter Diane became a pianist and singer. Diane still sings with the Community Chorus at South Berwick and the First Congregational Church Choir of Eliot. Diane also won a lead tap dancing roll in Portsmouth's Prescott Park summer presentation of "No, No, Nannette" with the art that her mother taught her.

For thirty years Joan worked in Boston as the Head Guide at the Christian Science Mother Church. Through those years she ushered Presidents, Hollywood stars and hundreds of thousands of tourists from all over the world through the church. She was involved in re-scripting the dialogue during and after the most recent renovation to the church was made.

Joan also served as the First Reader at the Christian Science Church in Belmont, Massachusetts, for a four-year term.

Joan has five grandchildren and two step grandchildren: Stephen and his wife Sarah Porter who live in Orlando, Florida; Susan and her husband John Downey who live in Eliot, Maine; Douglas and his wife Dawn Porter who live in Orlando, Florida; Jonathan and his wife Fabiana Dunn who live in White Plains, New York; Allison Dunn who lives in Natick, Massachusetts; Elizabeth Burbank Conaton and her husband Thomas Conaton of Bedford, New Hampshire; and Cynthia Burbank Billings and her husband Gregory Billings of Keene, New Hampshire.

She also has nine great grandchildren and I believe eight of them are here. Blake and Brooke Downey, Clifford and Zachary Porter, Nathaniel and Sabrina Porter, Thomas and Joseph Conaton and Christopher Billings.

Upon her retirement to the Dunn family home in Pembroke, Massachusetts, Joan continued to volunteer as a library aide, and up to the age of 85 participated in the Line Dancing Club in

Pembroke. As an avid reader and lover of words, she also completed crossword puzzles in INK and still loves scrabble and cards.

Joan maintained her own home until the age of 98 at which time she came to Eliot, Maine, to live with her daughter. Although her memory comes and goes, and her vision is practically gone, she is still a positive, dignified and intelligent lady, and she hopes to reach the age of 105. Thank you.

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

On motion of Representative BEAVERS of South Berwick, the House adjourned at 10:54 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 11, 2012.