

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
22nd Legislative Day
Thursday, March 14, 2019

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

Prayer by Thomas P. Goulette, Guilford.
National Anthem by Thomas P. Goulette, Guilford.
Pledge of Allegiance.

At this point, a message came from the Senate borne by Senator LIBBY, of Androscoggin, of that Body, proposing a Joint Convention of both branches of the Legislature to be held in the Hall of the House at 10:45 in the morning for the purpose of extending to the Honorable David Daigler, President of the Maine Community College System, the Honorable James H. Page, Chancellor of the University of Maine System, and the Honorable William J. Brennan, President of the Maine Maritime Academy, an invitation to attend the Joint Convention and to make such communication as pleases them.

Thereupon the House voted to concur in the proposal for a Joint Convention to be held at 10:45 in the morning and the Speaker appointed Representative MOONEN of Portland to convey this message to the Senate.

Doctor of the day, Honorable Patricia Hymanson, M.D., York.

The Journal of Tuesday, March 12, 2019 was read and approved.

At this point, the Speaker announced the presence in the Hall of the House of Representative PERRY of Bangor.

Pursuant to her authority under House Rule 401.1, the Chair assigned Representative PERRY of Bangor to seat 45.

At this point, Representative PERRY of Bangor was added to the roll of the 1st Regular Session of the 129th Legislature.

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

Under suspension of the rules, members were allowed to remove their jackets.

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

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

Recognizing:

the Mt. Ararat and Brunswick Combined Wrestling Team, of Topsham and Brunswick, which won the Class A State Wrestling Championship, the program's first state title. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 121)

Presented by Representative TEPLER of Topsham.
Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Senator CARSON of Cumberland, Representative DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, Representative TUCKER of Brunswick, Representative McCREIGHT of Harpswell.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative TEPLER of Topsham, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER:** The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Tepler.

Representative **TEPLER:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm pleased and excited today to welcome and honor the joint co-ed wrestling team of Mount Ararat and Brunswick High Schools.

These young men and women are the state's Class A champions. I'm very proud of them and I think it's fabulous that they belong to not only a joint team but a co-ed team. And they're very impressive, they've been here with me all morning and they are delightful and interested young men and women. And I want to be very clear that this sentiment was also sponsored by Representative Berry of Bowdoin and Bowdoinham and there was an error in the printing of the sentiment that overlooked his co-sponsorship. Mount Ararat High School is a joint high school for the towns of Bowdoin, Bowdoinham, Harpswell, and Topsham.

So, I'm really, really pleased that these young men and women are here and I'm just going to briefly read their names: Tristan Burch, Isaac Ducatt, Brady Mitchell, Mason Hultman, Adam O'Farrell, Neringa Parutyte - I'm sorry, I hope I pronounced that correctly - Cody Holman, Caden Kowalsky, Ben Laurence, Brett Raio, Bode Matthews, Sam Foye, Jacob Godbout, Andy Murray, Bane Slocum, Alex Beal, Kyle Graffam, Brycen Kowalsky, Spencer LeClair, Hunter Meserve, Kaleb Thompson, and Katherine Heatherman, and their coaches, Eric Jensen, Mark Nowak, Mike Taylor, Rick Black, and Ken Kowalsky. Thank you so much for being here. We're so delighted that you took the championship.

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

Representative **BERRY:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker and Men and Women of the House, I'd be remiss if I didn't add my own voice and just say how proud I am of our young men and women for taking this Class A championship.

For a brief shining moment in high school, I too was a wrestler and I did it just long enough to know how hard it is to win at a match and it only gets harder as you get higher up in the rankings. I was -- I never achieved the greatness -- anywhere near the greatness that these young men and women have, but it taught me the value of hard work, the value of picking yourself up and dusting yourself off and looking ahead, not back, and it is an incredible achievement. It reflects an enormous dedication to the sport and to really all-around fitness, both mental and physical fitness and toughness and resilience. So, congratulations on your grit. It was an honor to see you on Monday night in front of the entire Mt. Ararat High School, receiving your honors. It was an impressive amount of metal for Mt. Ararat High School, at least. This team really represents our flagship team of the winter sports season.

There are three Class A champs individually here as well as the team itself and one of the young ladies on the team came in third as well. So, congratulations to the coaches, congratulations to the student athletes. We're very proud of all of you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Oxford, Representative Dillingham.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: Thank you, Madam Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I am not a wrestler but I would like to congratulate the team along with Coach Jensen. I know that wrestling has been a life-long journey for him and he enjoys coaching, so congratulations, again.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was **PASSED** and sent for concurrence.

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

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

In Convention

The President of the Senate, the Honorable Troy D. Jackson in the Chair.

The Convention was called to order by the Chair.

On motion by Senator LIBBY of Androscoggin, it was ORDERED that a committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable David Daigler, President of the Maine Community College System; the Honorable James Page, Chancellor of the University of Maine System; and the Honorable Dr. William Brennan, President of the Maine Maritime Academy; and the Campus Presidents and their Boards of Trustees to inform them that the two branches of the Legislature are in Convention assembled, ready to receive such communications as please them.

The Order was READ and PASSED.

The Chair will appoint the following:

The Senator from Cumberland, Senator Millett
The Senator from Cumberland, Senator Carson
The Senator from Kennebec, Senator Pouliot
The Representative from Bangor, Representative Kornfield
The Representative from Portland, Representative Brennan
The Representative from Portland, Representative Farnsworth
The Representative from Fort Fairfield, Representative McCrea
The Representative from Belfast, Representative Dodge
The Representative from Arundel, Representative Ingwersen
The Representative from Alfred, Representative Sampson
The Representative from Milford, Representative Drinkwater
The Representative from Augusta, Representative Fecteau
The Representative from Fairfield, Representative Rudnicki

Subsequently, Senator MILLETT of Cumberland, for the Committee, reported that the Honorable David Daigler, President of the Maine Community College System; the Honorable James Page, Chancellor of the University of Maine System; and the Honorable Dr. William Brennan, President of the Maine Maritime Academy would attend forthwith.

The Chair welcomed to the Convention the Honorable David Daigler, President of the Maine Community College System; the Honorable James Page, Chancellor of the University of Maine System; and the Honorable Dr. William Brennan, President of the Maine Maritime Academy, the Campus Presidents, the Boards of Trustees and guests.

The Chair recognized in the House Gallery representing the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees: Jean Ginn Marvin, Chair of the Board of Trustees; William Cassidy, Vice Chair; Larry Grondin; Kim Lindloft; Shawn Moody; Mike Thibodeau; and Commissioner Laura Fortman.

The Chair also recognized in the House Gallery Presidents of the Maine Community College System: Barbara Finkelstein, President of York Maine Community College; Susan Mingo, President of Washington County Community College; Lisa Larson, President of Eastern Maine Community College; Timothy Crowley, President of Northern Maine Community College; Scott Knapp, President of Central Maine Community College; and Joe Cassidy, President of Southern Maine Community College.

The Chair further recognized in the House Gallery representing the University of Maine System Board of Trustees: James Erwin, Chair of the Board of Trustees; Jim Donnelly; Norm Fournier; Trevor Hustus; Lisa Marchese; Shawn Moody; and Betsey Timm.

The Chair also recognized in the House Gallery Presidents of the University of Maine System: Joan Ferrini-Mundy, President of the University of Maine and its Regional Campus, the University of Maine at Machias; Rebecca Wyke, President of the University of Maine at Augusta; Eric Brown, Interim President of the University of Maine at Farmington; John Short, President of the University of Maine at Fort Kent; Ray Rice, President of the University of Maine at Presque Isle; and Glenn Cummings, President of the University of Southern Maine.

The Chair also recognized in the House Gallery Lianne Judd, wife of Chancellor James Page.

Further, the Chair recognized in the House Gallery, guests from the Maine Maritime Academy: Earle Cianchette, Chairman of the Board of Trustees; Jennifer Dejoy, Director of College Relations; Rhonda Varney, Assistant to the President; Amanda Manning, Student Affairs Coordinator; and students: Alexandra Allen; Justin Burgess; Ashley Elder; Oliver Higgins; Keith Jordan; and Paul Woodworth.

The CHAIR: The Chair would now request that the Honorable David Daigler, President of the Maine Community College System, please step forward and address the Joint Convention.

President **DAIGLER**: Thank you. President Jackson, Speaker Gideon, Honorable Members of the 129th State Legislature, Chancellor Page, President Brennan, distinguished guests: I'm honored to come today to discuss the state of what Maine's leading economist, John Dorrer, calls the institution of consequence for workforce development. John is so right. Everything the Maine Community Colleges do, everything we have ever done, has been focused on workforce development.

I started my work with the system as the Director of Finance back at SMTC. I remember a computer technology faculty member by the name of David Pratt showing up at my door. He had weaved a little wire out the lab of -- out the

window of his lab, through the trees, and into the window of my office. With that crude connection, I became the first administrator at SMTC to have an internet connection. A few days later, David showed up at my door. I said David, that was pretty cool. He said yeah, imagine what I could do if you put some money in my budget.

A lot has changed since David snaked that line into my office, but one thing has not; our colleges remain innovative, efficient, and responsive. As I take the reins, three seismic changes compel MCCS to build new, innovative approaches to how we deliver our programming to Maine people: One, the workplace is increasingly automated. In this day and age, moving up - actually, just moving in, in most cases - requires a technical education. Number two, even with all that technology in the workplace, businesses are starving for qualified workers. Demand for skilled labor exceeds supply. Orders are going unfilled, backorders are growing, and Maine's economy is losing ground because of it. Number three, we've become a point and click -- point, click, and deliver society. We expect to get what we want, when we want it, and where we want it.

Those three forces present enormous challenges for those of us charged with educating Maine's workforce. MCCS has responded with a new strategic plan focused on three core principles: Provide students with improved access to quality higher education, work directly with students to help them succeed, and reconnect to students to build a pattern of life-long learning.

A responsive community college needs to develop new ways for students to access higher education when students need it, where students can access it, and in a form that truly improves the student's ability to advance his or her career. So, focusing on the 38% of Maine's high school students who choose not to attend higher education, MCCS offers college to work transition programs called Embark. Built for students who are unsure about what to do after high school, Embark serves 1800 Maine students each year.

To address the 175,000 adults in the workforce with some college but no degree, the Foundation for Maine's Community Colleges secured a \$3.6 million grant from the Harold Alfond Foundation and a \$400,000 grant from the Key Bank Foundation to strengthen programming for adult students. We've built strong teams around the state to coordinate and share curriculum development, to ensure that expertise at one college is available to all the colleges and, where practical, to coordinate the use of capital equipment between the colleges.

Using increases in state appropriation provided by the 128th Legislature, we have invested in over a half-dozen high-quality, high-demand occupational programs across the state. We are also compressing the traditional semester schedule to offer start and end dates that better align with the seasonal needs of certain businesses like hospitality and construction. We have built a regional delivery center for commercial truck driving to make program delivery more efficient and more broadly available.

As we increase access, we must also focus on student success; helping those students achieve the goals and dreams they came to us with. With resources provided by the Kresge Foundation, MCCS was one of the first systems to become part of Achieving the Dream, which is a national network of community colleges using evidence-based strategies to help more students persist and graduate.

Other grants from the John T. Gorman Foundation and Lisa Gorman provide funding for a program we call Navigating Success. We place a counselor, called a navigator, at each of

the colleges. We've learned a lot about student success through that program and we plan to permanently fund navigators at all seven colleges.

Knowing that algebra has kept many capable students from getting a degree, we have worked with the Dana Center at the University of Texas to implement Math Pathways. Students will develop the skills they need for their careers and stay on track to earn a degree. Importantly, we expect Math Pathways to reduce the need for remedial coursework.

We are intent in strengthening our relationship with the Department of Education. As you will hear from Chancellor Page in just a few minutes, we are anxious to build an even stronger operational connection between the secondary and postsecondary systems.

Given the large number of Mainers with some college but no degree, we need to reconnect with our students and build a pattern of lifelong learning for the entire workforce. Each of Maine's community colleges now allows students to earn college credit for knowledge that they've gained on the job, in the military, or through other experiences in life, saving students both time and money.

We've had initial conversations with Commissioner Libby about building educational programs for the corrections community, reducing the likelihood of returns to prison. We are also working in close collaboration with Commissioner Fortman and the Department of Labor as we strive to meet our shared goal of building a workforce with the skills needed to compete in this economy.

New, important work has begun building pathways to career readiness and continuous professional development through a series of micro-credentials we call badges. Pioneering work in badging is underway with the Appalachian Mountain Club. AMC has chapters from Maine to Washington DC and is supporting the development of our rural economy. They are focusing on badging as an employee recruitment and retention tool. John Judge, AMC's president, tells me that he turned to college in another state first. After six months, they were still planning. He then turned to Lisa Larson at Eastern Maine Community College. Lisa had the program up and running in three months. John is here today and happy to talk to you in the Hall of Flags after this assembly.

Leveraging that success, we are in exploratory stages with Northern Light Health to begin building a badging program for recruitment and retention of their workforce.

Another innovative partnership is in development with Bath Iron Works. We're going well beyond traditional relationships here. We want to fully support their efforts to build a quality workforce. John Mason, Director of Human Resource Services at Bath Iron Works, is here and eager to talk to you later today.

Colleges from north to south are working with Maine employers to support their workforce development needs. These efforts demonstrate that Maine's community colleges are innovative, efficient, and responsive. Knowing that we are currently educating 35% of our college students on 24% of the higher education budget, I do wonder what we could do with some more money in our budget. But, seriously, even as we build new programs necessary to meet today's critical workforce shortage, we understand that the workplace is undergoing tremendous transformation.

One example: I told you earlier about our regional delivery centers for commercial truck driving. As we expand that program to meet today's needs, we know that futurists are predicting the use of self-driving vehicles by the year 2028. Now, if you're like me, you say no way I'm getting on the road

with one of those trucks without a driver, but pause for a minute and think about the amount of change that we've experienced in the last ten years. It's possible. The workplace is under dramatic transformation.

To fully meet our charge, we need to understand that we need to go beyond training. We need to build an educated workforce. We need a workforce that is adaptive and capable of flourishing in the jobs of the future. We need a workforce that can collaborate, a workforce that can communicate and anticipate challenges, making businesses more efficient and more profitable.

We are partnering with state government agencies, philanthropic organizations, business and industry. We're trying to respond to the changes in this economy. We need the 129th Legislature to be a full partner.

Just over one month ago, Chief Executive Mills stood at this podium and delivered a budget to you that was, in her words, about hope. Appropriately, in my opinion, the Chief Executive proposed making permanent the workforce funding approved in the budget passed by the 128th Legislature. The Chief Executive also proposed a critical increase in the system's base budget. That funding is essential for us to continue the work that we are currently doing. But the demand for workforce development far exceeds our current capacity to deliver. For the budget to provide real opportunity, we need increased funding. Just last month, the Boston Federal Reserve Bank issued a report recommending that policymakers like you provide, and I quote, robust financial support for public education, particularly community colleges, end-quote.

Let me just put one example in front of you that puts a very fine point on how important that is: I told you that we've strengthened our relationship with BIW. We're working with them to build a workforce -- the workforce that they need. BIW's new orders are strong. They reported a new order for a Burke-class destroyer just last week and today's papers report the opportunity for ten more frigates. Good news. But, like so many Maine businesses, many of their current employees are very close to retirement. Through our partnership, we know that BIW will have to hire a thousand new tradespeople this year. A thousand new tradespeople this year. MCCS has nearly exhausted all available funding to support BIW. If we can't support their hiring plan, Huntington Ingalls will have the Mississippi community colleges train the people in Mississippi and Huntington Ingalls will gladly build those ships. More jobs will be lost to another state. More young people moving out. They're moving for opportunities with jobs that have benefits, good-paying jobs that have benefits.

As important as that is and, by gosh, it's important, let's not lose sight of the fact that we need to build a strong, vibrant economy one person at a time. Our partners at Pratt Whitney have pointed out to us the programs we are developing are moving Maine people from poverty to opportunity. One of the most rewarding parts for me of working at MCCS is hearing the students -- is hearing the stories of students who find inner powers they never realized they had and then leverage their newfound strength into lives with purpose and meaning. Maine's community colleges change lives. We change them forever. We provide economic opportunity, but we build confidence and aspiration and the opportunity to dream. It happens in so many ways. It happens when new Mainers bring new resources to our economy, like the Wabwende family. Immigrating from the Democratic Republic of Congo, their three children enrolled at CMCC, gaining the confidence and skills they needed to contribute to the Maine workforce.

Then there's Kate McPherson. Do you realize that Kate registered for college four times before she worked up the courage to actually take a single class? Now, proudly maintaining a 3.7 grade point average, Kate plans to get her bachelor's degree. Good for her. Kate's here today and she'll talk to you about her experiences.

Kendra Cummings is a single mom with four kids. She never saw herself returning to college, but she did. Now she's a registered respiratory therapist and has decided to get a bachelor's degree in healthcare administration.

Lori Cobb struggled in high school. She didn't think she was college material. But after attending KVCC, Lori became a registered nurse. Lori claims, and here I quote, without a shadow of a doubt, KVCC changed her life, giving her purpose, hope, and inspiration.

The list goes on. The faculty and staff at Maine's community colleges change lives every day. We're hard at work changing the lives of 16,622 Mainers right now. But there are 175,000 Maine people in the workforce that lack the education they need to compete in this economy.

Chief Executive Mills is right; education is the key to helping people achieve their full potential. If we increase the funding in their budgets, the community college faculty and staff will help each and every one of them achieve that potential.

Innovative, efficient, responsive. Your community colleges are doing great work. And knowing that 65% of your constituents voted in favor of our bond last November, I'm proud to be a part of that work. Maine people respect and appreciate the work we're doing in your communities. As the new President of MCCS, I am grateful for the opportunity to share just a small piece of the phenomenal work I see on our campuses each and every day.

I would be remiss if I didn't thank the Board of Trustees for their support, John Fitzsimmons, Derek Langhauser, for 20 years of tutelage and guidance, and my wife, Karen, for putting up with me. I am excited about where we are headed. I look forward to working with you and I want to bring hope, opportunity, and knowledge to all Maine people. Thank you very much.

The CHAIR: The Chair would request that the Honorable James Page, Chancellor of the University of Maine System, please step forward and address the Joint Convention.

Chancellor **PAGE**: Thank you. President Jackson, Speaker Gideon, Honorable Members of the 129th Legislature, President Daigler, President Brennan, distinguished guests and friends: On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Boards of Visitors, presidents, faculty, students and staff of your public universities, I extend greetings and thank you for the opportunity to address you regarding the State of Maine's public universities. I have good news to report.

I'd like to begin by introducing in addition to the Board of Trustees, who you've already met this morning, Boards of Visitors who are attending today from throughout the state, representing every campus, as well as our campus presidents, students and faculty representatives to the Board of Trustees, and members of my senior staff who are also here today. Please welcome them.

I want to thank you for your strong policy and fiscal support. We know that trust and confidence is something continually earned and we are committed to earning your confidence every day by focusing on accessible, affordable, and quality education for our students and transparent

accountability with you and with all the people of Maine. I want to thank you especially for authorizing the facilities and infrastructure bond that was approved by the voters this past November. Dozens -- well, hundreds, really, of people worked tirelessly on this bond and of those visiting here today, I wanted especially to acknowledge our Boards of Visitors as well as the State Chamber represented by Dana Connors, for their untiring advocacy on behalf of public education. Thank you.

This is my fourth and final address to you as Chancellor. So, in addition to reporting to you on our universities, I will offer with a great deal of optimism some thoughts about the role of education in Maine's future, and the word you're going to hear throughout is opportunity.

Two years ago in this forum I spoke to you of breaking down walls, building partnerships, and creating opportunities for Maine students and Maine people. Since then, we've made important progress. Working together, working with our businesses and communities across the state, and working closely with you here in the Statehouse, Maine's public universities have made higher education more affordable, more accessible, and more forward-looking. Our guiding principle is One University.

As One University, we set our goals and align our resources in focused support of all Maine families, businesses, and communities. Under One University, we have made our public institution national leaders in affordability, ensuring a college degree is within reach of all Maine families. Some examples: Tuition over the last five years has increased an average of just 1.2% a year. Adjusted for inflation during that same time, it has decreased 3%. Student debt is decreasing. Between 2013 and 2019, we increased institutional financial aid 72%, from 54 million to now 86 million and in the coming budget, north of \$90 million in student financial aid. During that same period, our total student loans decreased 17.5%, and I think you can see the connection there, with Pell eligible students at four of our institutions attending free of tuition and mandatory fees. In 2016, the average University of Maine System graduate's debt was a little over \$28,000, compared to an in-state average of \$31,000 and a national average of over \$37,000. This is good, but it's not good enough, and I'll return to this issue later.

In addition to having previously reduced our annual operating budget by an historic \$80 million annually, system operating costs have increased over the last ten years an average of just 1% per year before inflation. These facts show the University of Maine System puts student affordability front and center.

With One University, we are increasing educational access, and with access comes opportunity. As I reported to you before, in concert with the Community College System, we have instituted the first comprehensive credit transfer program. This past fall, we enrolled more than 29,000 undergraduates, graduates, and early college students, a 2.4% year over year increase, and this is the largest increase of any public university system in New England, bar none.

With your support, in the last five years, early college enrollment has increased 158% so that we now have more than 3,500 participating juniors and seniors. Out-of-state enrollment has increased 44% over the last five years, a number that is especially important as we seek to bring young people to Maine to live and to build their careers. And these facts show the University of Maine System puts educational opportunity front and center.

As One University, we work with businesses and industries statewide to address workforce needs and to catalyze economic growth. Each year, Cooperative Extension addresses and serves more than 5,000 businesses throughout the state. In this past year, the University of Maine's Office of Innovation and Economic Development partnered with more than 250 businesses, with a similar number engaged with the University of Southern Maine. We are committed to setting up active partnerships with every major Maine industry and professional sector by 2020, as we have already done with nursing, engineering, the computer sciences, and other disciplines key to Maine's economic health.

Last year, businesses provided more than 1,350 paid internships for our students, including 187 placed with startups and other Maine companies innovating to bring products to market through UMaine's Innovate for Maine program. We are committed to extending this opportunity so that every University of Maine System student has experiential work opportunities as we know these opportunities provide successful career pathways.

Last year, the University of Maine System leveraged almost \$4 for every \$1 you invested in state-centered research through MEIF, developing new knowledge, technologies, and best practices for the benefit of Maine businesses and industries. Later this month, we will publish the strategic vision for increasing Maine-centered research so that together with our private and nonprofit partners Maine can achieve the 3% GDP benchmark that is the nationally recognized standard for an innovative growing economy, and I look forward to sharing this report with you in the coming weeks. And these facts show the University of Maine System puts economic opportunity front and center.

One University has set us on the right path. It has changed us from a fragmented, often isolated federation of institutions to a single system working in aligned service to our students and all Maine people. It has shown that when we work together, we advance Maine.

Now, our state has many challenges that center on a declining demographic in an uncertain and transitional economy. You've heard a lot of that just now from President Daigler. He's right. Maine needs a bold, focused, comprehensive, bipartisan and long-term economic development plan with educational opportunity at its core. That is why I strongly support Chief Executive Mills' priority emphasis on developing just that plan. It must be bold because business as usual has not delivered enough opportunity. It must be comprehensive because the path forward in Portland will differ in details from the paths forward in Poland or Presque Isle. It must be long-term because success takes more time than the legislative session or even an administration's tenure, and for that reason alone, it must be bipartisan.

I have spoken with Commissioner Johnson about how the University of Maine System can best assist in developing this plan. You can be sure that our full resources are ready and able to support your work in creating this roadmap for statewide success. And, in a moment, I'll say more about why education needs to be at the heart of this plan. Incorporating our research plan, for example, is one way, because research is the very foundation of economic innovation and growth. But today I want to focus more on people.

Education no longer starts at age six and ends 12 or 16 years later. It is now a life-long endeavor that starts with preschool and never ends. The National Bureau of Labor Statistics tells us that someone entering the workforce today

can expect to change employment 12 times before he or she retires. Even more to the point, everyone can expect to have to upgrade their skills on a regular basis even to keep the same job. Educational attainment is more than an individual opportunity, it must be a state priority. Right now, just 42 - although I heard this morning, it's actually 43 (progress) - percent of Maine people have a postsecondary degree or credential, a number far short, however, of the 60% MaineSpark benchmark you have legislatively endorsed and that is required to meet state workforce needs. Yet even if we were successful in getting 100% of our current K-12 students a postsecondary credential, we would only be halfway towards closing that gap, halfway towards meeting that 60% target. We must close this gap, however, and doing so requires we provide more opportunities, more educational opportunities for all our people and especially for our working adults. Those states that have been most successful in doing this, Tennessee, for example, have been successful because their political, business, and educational leadership have made educational opportunities for adults a top state priority and we must do the same. The 60% MaineSpark goal must be at the core of the state's development plan.

The challenges, however, are real. A working parent in Rumford or in Rome cannot move to a campus, is unlikely to be able to take classes on anything like a traditional schedule, and requires very different kinds of advising and support than a recent high school graduate does. We have to meet these folks where they are because when they do -- when we do, they will succeed.

So, let me tell you about UMA student Emily Christianson(sp?). Emily is a Maine native and graduate of Hall-Dale High School in Farmingdale. Like so many of our young people, following 9/11 she answered the call of duty and enlisted in the US Army, becoming a Black Hawk helicopter mechanic. Honorably discharged, Emily has worked in various law enforcement roles for the past 12 years and is now a proud member of the Kennebec County Sheriff's Office. Emily understands how education creates opportunity. So, at the same time that she's meeting all her personal responsibilities as a wife and mother, as well as her professional responsibilities as a member of the Sheriff's Office, Emily enrolled as a UMA online student where she will graduate this summer with her AA in Justice Studies. Following graduation, she plans to go on to obtain her BA with a goal of attending the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. Emily has chosen a career dedicated to public service. She represents the best of Maine. Our priorities must be that all the Emilys of Maine have the opportunity to realize their goals of building stronger Maine communities. Emily is with us today, along with her boss and mentor, Sheriff Ken Mason, and I understand some of the faculty who have been instrumental in her progress. Please join me in welcoming Emily, congratulating her on her many accomplishments, and thanking her for extraordinary commitment to serving our nation and state.

One element in meeting working adults like Emily where they are is adequate broadband. I know this topic is under your adequate consideration and I'll add only this; broadband access, especially rural broadband access, is a matter of economic necessity and social equity.

Now, student success follows many paths. While adult learners need ready access to quality educational opportunities, they do not always need degrees. An accountant in Skowhegan may want to expand his financial skills to advance professionally, but he may not need a degree to do so. He does need confirmation of his expanded skills in

a form that is meaningful to him, his employers, and his profession. The University System is therefore expanding how we validate educational attainment to include credentialing, badging, and other emerging models in a way that is most responsive to working people and employees. And, this afternoon when President Daigler and I meet with the Education Committee, we will talk more about this cooperative plan to open up this greater opportunity for our working adults, and expect this to be an important way in which we work to close the attainment gap.

And we now have several years of good experience of increasingly close collaborations between Maine's three public higher educational institutions as evidenced by credit transfer, programmatic alignment, and other cooperative initiatives. Yet if public education is to be truly efficient and effective, we must break down that final bureaucratic barrier between secondary and postsecondary education. A barrier that has long outlived its usefulness.

Commissioner Makin and I have spoken about this and we are in strong agreement because there is really only one story to tell here, and that is how education advances all Maine people, whatever their age and wherever they are. And early college is one way that cooperative story is developing. Maine enjoys an enviable high school graduation rate but lags substantially in postsecondary attainment. One of our most effective programs to combat this trend is early college. I've already reviewed some of the numbers with you, and we know that by giving Maine high school students the opportunity to do college-level work, more will pursue higher education, they will be better prepared academically, more confident in their own abilities, and more likely to complete their degrees on time and enter the workforce with less debt.

When I last addressed you, I said that with your support we would work to make early college opportunities available in every high school throughout the state, with a next-stage goal of enrolling 20% of all high school juniors and seniors, and I have very good news to report on this. This year, early college is available in 129 of 137 of our high schools, that's 94%, and we'll get that last 6% right away.

We have 3,527 students now taking courses and we are on schedule to award 20,935 credit hours, a 19% increase over just last academic year, all fully transferrable into our institutions. If these credits all transferred into one of our universities, the savings to students and their families alone would be more than \$5 million a year.

The four of us - President Brennan, President Daigler, Commissioner Makin, and I - believe that we best serve our students when we work together. Towards this end, we are forming a liaison team drawn from our senior leadership that will meet regularly to ensure we are actively creating a more integrated and seamless public educational system. We look forward to briefing the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee on concrete steps we are taking to achieve this strategic vision of a seamless approach in service to our students. Now, throughout all of these discussions looms the question of student debt. Debt robs opportunity, and despite our progress in this area, there is more that must be done.

I know this issue is important to all of you and to the Chief Executive; it is to us. Now, please remember that debt reduction is not the same as debt forgiveness. Both are important, but they serve different ends. Debt forgiveness typically worked through tax policy is an important tool for workforce attraction and retention but a student graduating with debt must go where the jobs are that can discharge that debt. So, accruing debt in the first place puts our rural communities

at particular risk. The best way to control debt is never to take it on in the first place. Your public higher educational institutions are good at controlling costs and reducing debt. We've shown that. Work closely with us. We are committed to working with you right now to find the right combination of policies and practices that will best serve our students and our communities. Working together, Maine could be a national leader, providing quality, accessible, relevant, and affordable education to all our people. It could be a centerpiece of our state plan and it could be a great attractor for people, for businesses, for investments. The winners will be Maine people, the Maine economy, and Maine communities.

Towards all these ends, I have three budgetary asks. You knew I had to get there eventually. First, the Chief Executive's budget includes a 3% increase in educational and general funding for each of the two biennial years. We ask you to support this. E&G is by far the largest form of state support for our basic operations including classroom instruction, scholarships, and general maintenance. The budgeted increase will enable us to keep pace with the state economists' cost of living estimates and is consistent with our pledge not to burden Maine students and taxpayers with an unsustainable expenditure base.

The other two requests speak directly to the priorities I've just mentioned. I ask you to support the governor's budget request of \$4.1 million over the biennium, identified to support adult educational attainment along with a small appropriation of \$430,000 over the biennium to support New Ventures Maine in their highly successful outreach to adult learners and entrepreneurs. These investments will be used to develop enhanced navigator models specifically designed to assist place-bound adult learners and to advance new and updated degree and credential programs tailored to meet student and employer needs.

And, third, I ask for your support for the governor's budget request of \$3.1 million over the biennium to sustain and advance our progress in early college. These are all investments that repay Maine taxpayers with economic opportunity and stronger communities.

Now, finally, I'll be retiring this summer after the legislative session has ended. I began seven years ago with a promise that we would be good stewards, working on behalf of Maine families and Maine taxpayers, that we would expand opportunities, and that we would always put students and state first. We've made good progress and you should be confident that the work we've started will grow stronger and even more successful in the coming years. I'm leaving your universities on a good path and in great hands.

I've had no greater honor than the opportunity to serve Maine in this role. I want to thank you for everything you have done for our students and universities. It has been a great pleasure working with each and every one of you. We share the deepest commitment to our people and our state and, as I've said each time I've had the privilege of addressing you, our success will always be measured by the success of Maine people. It remains that simple. Thank you.

The CHAIR: The Chair would now request that the Honorable Dr. William Brennan, President of the Maine Maritime Academy, please step forward and address the Joint Convention.

President **BRENNAN**: President Jackson, Speaker Gideon, legislative leaders, Members of the 129th Maine

Legislature, and guests: Thank you for inviting me to share with you the State of the Academy.

I recognize the awesome responsibility of being the last presenter; to finish with enthusiasm so as to help keep you awake, but to get it done and to get it done soon.

I'm not going to put any of my students on the spot by recognizing them by name, but I will tell them that the assignment for making up for the lost time in class today is to do a report on what you heard here and to report on which one of the speakers you think was the best. And I know how you can get an A.

It gives me great pleasure to be here with my new colleague from the Community College System, President Daigler, and I look forward to continuing the close working relationship between our institutions under his leadership. It is also quite special for me to join my friend and colleague, Chancellor Page, for his last presentation in this forum. I appreciate the leadership he has shown over the past several years and I thank him for all the help he has given me and the Academy. Thank you, Jim.

I'm very pleased with the opportunity for collaboration that we have had with the university and the community colleges. From joint appointments to graduate assistance, cooperative research, our prep program, and other supporting endeavors including investment management and legal counsel, Maine Maritime Academy benefits significantly from the guidance and assistance that exists in the much larger sister institutions. The three institutions represented before you today, despite having different individual missions and purposes, have truly worked as a higher education partnership. That has paid dividends for the people of Maine and brought great benefits to the college-bound students of this state. I look forward to expanding that collaborative relationship as we explore how to support the Chancellor's call to build upon an even stronger operational connection between the secondary and postsecondary systems.

Speaking now for my institution, I am very pleased to tell you that at the present time, Maine Maritime Academy is in a strong and vibrant position. Our applications are robust and many programs are already at capacity for the coming academic year. On the outcome side, our job placement rate is exceptional. We are able to consistently place more than 90% of our graduates in jobs within their career fields within 90 days of graduation. This is a major advantage that comes with a diploma from Maine Maritime Academy and it adds substantial value for our students and their families who are investing in an MMA education.

Maine Maritime Academy has been consistently recognized for providing a high-value education by organizations such as the Brookings Institution, US News and World Report, and Money Magazine. We are extremely proud to be ranked so highly in educational quality, affordability and career outcomes, and we believe that there are a number of factors that contribute to our success. First, approximately 85% of our applicants choose Maine Maritime Academy as their first-choice school and our persistent rate for first-time full-time undergraduate students who continue at Maine Maritime Academy from their first fall to their first spring semester is 92%. According to the National Centers for Education Statistics, our retention rate, defined as the number of students who successfully complete their first fall and transition to their second full semester, is approximately 85% and our six-year graduation rate for first-time freshmen, which is the standard measure used by higher education institutions nationally, is at 76% for our entire student cohort.

We have much to be proud of when it comes to our programs and statistics, and I think the numbers become much more substantial when you look at the ways that make us such a unique member of the higher education partnership in the State of Maine.

Maine Maritime Academy is a small co-educational college located in Downeast Maine. The school was established by act of the Maine Legislature in 1941. Our mission at the outset was to train mariners to support the war effort and I'm proud to tell you that my father and two of my uncles were members of the Academy's first classes. After a career in the Navy, my father returned to the Academy in 1966 as a first commandant of midshipmen, so I literally grew up on the campus.

With the state's support, Maine Maritime Academy has substantially diversified over the years. While adhering to our original purpose of graduating merchant mariners, we have in true Maine spirit worked to maximize what we have and what we do best, evolving into a contemporary college offering 22 programs of study. We are a focused STEM institution and we also offer a very specialized program of study in engineering, management, science, and transportation prescribed by the United States Maritime Administration and the United States Coast Guard. And Maine Maritime Academy is unique because we are one of only six such state colleges in the country that offer this specialized program of study. We have an enrollment of about 1,000 students, more than 70% of whom are residents of the State of Maine, and approximately 60% of whom are in a regimental program of study. Nearly 40% of our students who make up the class of 2022 are the first in their family to attend college. 66% of those students are from Maine. Given the nature of our specialized form of education, the majority of our students are in a compulsory drug testing program due to the requirements of the license they seek upon successful completion of their studies. Our students are focused and driven and in many respects that helps define us and set us apart from many other colleges.

We are successful for all those reasons, including our dedicated faculty and staff. Another important reason for that success is the strong connection that exists between our students and the Maine Maritime Academy alumni, enabling us to have a job placement rate that other colleges envy. Our alumni provide field experience and cadet shipping opportunities for our students and then they provide job opportunities for our graduates.

As the Academy moves into its eighth decade, the most important message that I can convey is that Maine Maritime Academy is doing great. We continue to maintain an extraordinary placement rate and we are providing amazing careers for young women and men. But we're at a critical crossroads, constrained as we are in the harbor village of Castine, and facing the pressure to grow, as would any business in a difficult economic time. As I pointed out, Maine Maritime Academy is one of six state maritime academies in the country. All of these schools have essentially the same program of study, we have approximately the same number of students, faculty, and staff, and approximately the same operational cost. We thus represent a perfect basis for assessing the difference in regional cost of higher education. California Maritime Academy, for example, offers tuition at half of what I can offer because it receives 53% or approximately \$30 million in annual state appropriations, whereas Maine Maritime Academy received last year about \$9 million in state appropriations towards our budget. All of the other academies offer lower tuition than I can for the same reason.

Massachusetts Maritime Academy receives 44% of its budget from the state and SUNY Maritime Academy receives 53% of its operations budget in the form of state appropriations.

At its founding, Maine Maritime Academy's operational expenses were covered completely by the state and the federal governments, and the state paid for the construction and maintenance of our facilities. Over time, that relationship has changed such that the federal contribution is primarily in relation to the 500-foot training ship, the State of Maine, that we operate in a custodial arrangement with the Maritime Administration. The state's contribution to our operating expenses has declined over time from as much as 50% of the total 20 years ago to less than a quarter of that now. While I recognize that significant increases in our base budget are unreasonable, I have typically sought additional one-time funding to address aging infrastructure on our campus. To some, the items laid out in our appropriations request would seem mundane, but they are critical to our effective and efficient operation.

We at the Academy, the faculty, staff, and students, are appreciative of your effort to help us address some of the obstacles we confront. The state's budget support makes a critical difference in mitigating some of the impacts of cost escalation and ultimately enables Maine's students to enjoy both the intellectual and economic benefits of a Maine Maritime Academy education. Nevertheless, renovation of several state-owned buildings that are more than a hundred years old and the 100-year-old wooden schooner Bowdoin that we maintain for the people of Maine is a significant cost burden on the backs of tuition-paying students and their hardworking parents.

I believe it is time for the state to address the question of how we are to maintain the state's higher education infrastructure and I am pleased to learn that legislation to that effect will soon be introduced. That having been said, you need to know that we at Maine Maritime Academy are actively working to develop an ancillary source of income to lower our budgetary reliance upon tuition and lower the cost of attendance for students and their families, thus fulfilling one of my dearest goals; that any qualified Maine student who wants a Maine Maritime Academy education, can afford to attend regardless of their financial circumstance.

We have entered into a purchase and sale agreement to acquire property at the former Verso Paper Mill in Bucksport to establish a new Center for Professional Mariner Development. The new center will both support our mission and programs but, more importantly, it will generate revenue to help sustain the college's financial future. An expansion of our continuing education department, the facility will offer state of the art training for professional mariners and provide workforce development opportunities. We will develop the center in phases, allowing us to test in a measured way the demand for highly specialized courses that enable working professionals to receive the training, certification, and credentialing to meet regulatory and industry sector demands. The center will be a public-private venture. Our phased approach will ensure that we can steward the finite resources MMA has to devote to the enterprise, while simultaneously cultivating private funding. Having attended Bucksport Junior High School, and with many family and friends who were affected by the closing of the mill there, I am very proud now to be in a position to help that community revitalize itself.

An affordable education for all, including students of limited means, is a goal we embrace at Maine Maritime Academy, but it is clear that in a world of ever-increasing costs,

identifying the means of mitigating the cost of our education requires creativity. We want to continue to be an economic engine and a higher education success story in Maine and, most importantly, we want to continue to provide a high-value education and experience for our students, who we prepare to be successful not only in their careers but in their lives as citizens of the State of Maine and of the world.

At the outset, I told you we are a very small college with a focused program of study and we operate in a very conservative fiscal fashion in an effort to attempt to keep our tuition costs such that any qualified Maine student who wants a Maine Maritime Academy education, can afford to attend. There is no doubt that much work and commitment is necessary to address the fundamental challenges that you and I share in meeting the higher education needs of our students so that they can be as successful as possible in their academic pursuits, in their careers, and in their lives.

Maine Maritime Academy, its Board of Trustees, and I, indeed all of our staff, faculty, and students, appreciate the commitment to our excellence demonstrated by you. So, on their behalf, let me thank you again, President Jackson and Speaker Gideon, for the opportunity to address this Joint Convention. We are proud of our history and especially proud of our alumni who are working here in Maine and all over the world. Due to the legislative support over the years, our students learn to embrace challenges, develop hands-on experience, and upon graduating are prepared to achieve their goals as leaders in the fields of engineering, science, management, and transportation. They are skilled, hard-working, and dedicated leaders who carry the reputation of the State of Maine with them around the world. Thank you all very much.

Chancellor Page, President Daigler, and President Brennan withdrew amid the applause of the Convention, the audience rising.

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

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

(After the Joint Convention)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

Representative MOONEN of Portland assumed the Chair. The House was called to order by the Speaker Pro Tem.

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

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

Recognizing:

the Woolwich Central School Boys Basketball Team, which won the Busline League Championship. Members of the team include Gavin Baillargeon, David Brown, Andrew Card, Nicholas Pesce, Atticus Simpson-Brown, Rainier Eich, Teagan Slone, Stone Medina, Sam Wilson, Isaiah Kilton, Sebastian Lafer, Trace McFarland and Thomas MacMahan; manager Sophie Harrigan; and coach Shawn Elwell. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 126)

Presented by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich. Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative HEPLER of Woolwich, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ and PASSED and sent for concurrence.

Recognizing:

the Woolwich Central School Girls Basketball Team, which won the Southern Division Championship. Members of the team include Edie McKay, Madyson Rittell, Alexandria Hall, Michaela Pettersen, Hollis James, Gretchen Johnston, Haley Kirkpatrick, Emaleigh Moniz, Chasity Rutledge, Apple Smith, Alexis Melvin and Izzabella Simmons; manager Sophie Harrigan; and coach Shawn Elwell. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 127)

Presented by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich. Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative HEPLER of Woolwich, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Woolwich, Representative Hepler.

Representative **HEPLER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The students were here this morning and they unfortunately had to leave before they could be recognized, but I did want to recognize that -- first of all, thank the Clerk for reading off all those names so I don't have to, and they did indeed have an outstanding season, with 11-1 records in the regular season and the team leaders attribute this to extraordinary teamwork, awesome team defense, and genuine sportsmanship.

Shawn Elwell, who coached both teams this year five days a week, three hours a day, told me a story that defined this team. Where late in one game the boys were way ahead so they simply began to play in a way to help the opposing team make some baskets. Because we were good, he said, some teams hated us, which actually makes me recognize some other New England teams, but the team members disarmed that attitude with sportsmanship and respect. This is called the Woolwich way and it pervades the school, it always has.

I'd also like to recognize and thank the principal, Jason Libby, for his encouragement of the team, noting that both teams played with, quote, passion, intensity, and respect for their opponent. I am proud to live amongst such fine young people. Thank you.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was **PASSED** and sent for concurrence.

Recognizing:

Thomas P. Goulette, of Guilford, who is retiring as Town Manager of Guilford after over 20 years of public service, with 18 years of service as town manager. Mr. Goulette is a past president of the Maine Town, City and County Management Association and has received the association's Leadership Award. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 131)

Presented by Representative STEARNS of Guilford.
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative STEARNS of Guilford, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Guilford, Representative Stearns.

Representative **STEARNS**: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, today I stand to inform the Members of the House of the pending retirement of Guilford's Town Manager, Mr. Thomas Goulette.

I've known Tom since 1978, when he sold me his newly-built home in Guilford. When I thanked him for the sale, he said very good, now I've got to go home and tell my wife we're moving. Needless to say, he's a character.

For many years, Tom ran WG Blake's Agency, which was the premier real estate and insurance agency in our town. Tom is a Master Mason of Kineo Lodge, past president of the Guilford Kiwanis, 37-year veteran of the fire department, a licensed funeral attendant, past president of the Piscataquis Economic Development Council, executive board member of the senior citizens complex, and was the recipient of the 2017 Maine Town and County Management Association Leadership Award.

Tom has consistently gone far beyond the duties and expectations of a town manager for the past 18 years. Along with the usual assignments and duties, Tom can be seen officiating at funerals, performing weddings, winding the town clock, trimming town gardens, removing trees from roads at all hours, and even finds time to preach at a local nursing home. Not only that, but as we heard this morning, he can sing nearly as well as me.

I've mentioned but a few of the contributions that he has made. He is truly Mr. Guilford. He's a good friend and I thank him for his service.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was **PASSED** and sent for concurrence.

In Memory of:

John Menario, of Yarmouth, former Portland City Manager. Mr. Menario served in the military during the Korean War and later worked for the City of Portland for 14 years, including as city manager from 1967 to 1976. He was known as a dedicated public servant who oversaw the growth of downtown business. The Portland City Council honored him in 2016 by renaming the plaza next to the Temple Street Parking Garage as John Menario Plaza. After his service to the city, he worked for the Greater Portland Chamber of Commerce and had his own consulting firm. He ran for governor in 1986 as an independent candidate and from 1988 to 2003 worked as a banking executive. Mr. Menario will be long remembered and sadly missed by his family and friends and all those whose lives he touched;

(SLS 78)

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

READ.

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

In Memory of:

Janice Reed, of Rumford. Mrs. Reed was a licensed real estate broker, working for Shea Real Estate and then Century 21, later forming her own company, Sunnyside Properties, and retiring in 1997. She was very active in the community, having served as President of the Greater Rumford Chamber of Commerce and as a long-term officer of the Rumford Community Home Board of Directors. She was a charter member of the Rumford Book Club for over 45 years and served in various leadership positions. She served as a ballot clerk, was a Christmas in the Valley volunteer for many years and was a longtime member of the Rumford Polar Bears Snowmobile Club. Mrs. Reed will be long remembered and sadly missed by her husband of over 50 years, Thomas, by her family and friends and by all those whose lives she touched;

(HLS 133)

Presented by Representative DOLLOFF of Rumford.

Cosponsored by Senator KEIM of Oxford.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative DOLLOFF of Rumford, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Rumford, Representative Dolloff.

Representative **DOLLOFF**: Thank you. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, Janice was a special person. There isn't anything if was needed in the community, she would be the first to jump in. We worked together in the local flower shops when the holidays come for extra help and -- I'm not going to lie that we had more fun than we did work, but that was Janice. Janice walked into a room and it just lit up. She always smiled, always had the best outlook on life. She truly cared about the community, she truly cared about people, and we'd be blessed if we had more people like her in this world. She surely will be missed by all. Thank you.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was **ADOPTED** and sent for concurrence.

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

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Resolution: (S.P. 370)

JOINT RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE RATIFICATION OF THE 19th AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION PROVIDING FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

WHEREAS, at the time of the country's and the State of Maine's founding, women were not recognized as citizens and were unable to vote;

WHEREAS, on July 19-20, 1848, the first national women's rights convention, including a call for women's suffrage, was held in Seneca Falls, New York;

WHEREAS, on January 29, 1873, the first Maine Woman Suffrage Association meeting was held;

WHEREAS, on September 23-24, 1885, the first statewide suffrage convention in Maine was held at the Methodist Episcopal Church on Chestnut Street in Portland;

WHEREAS, from 1886 to 1915, several bills in support of suffrage were submitted to the all-male Maine Legislature and all were defeated;

WHEREAS, on September 10, 1917, a statewide referendum on the suffrage issue in Maine was defeated by a 2-to-1 margin of voters, all male;

WHEREAS, in June 1919, the United States Congress passed and submitted to the states for ratification the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which prohibited the Federal Government and the States from denying the right to vote to United States citizens on the basis of sex;

WHEREAS, on November 6, 1919, during an emergency legislative session, Maine became the 19th state to ratify the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution;

WHEREAS, on August 18, 1920, the proposed 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution achieved the ratification by 3/4 of the states necessary for women's suffrage to become law;

WHEREAS, in 1923, the first woman was elected to the Maine House of Representatives; in 1926, the first woman was elected to the Maine Senate; in 1940, the first woman was elected to represent Maine in the United States House of Representatives; in 1948, the first woman was elected to represent Maine in the United States Senate; in 1996, the first woman was elected Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives; in 2003, the first woman was elected President of the Maine Senate; in 2009, the first woman was elected Attorney General of Maine; and, in 2018, the first woman was elected Governor of Maine;

WHEREAS, the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Maine now includes 71 women Legislators, the largest number in Maine history;

WHEREAS, the Maine Suffrage Centennial Collaborative is committed to commemorating the centennial without repeating the discriminatory and exclusionary aspects of the original suffrage movement and encourages all Maine people to participate in numerous events to celebrate the centennial all over the State, including an exhibit in the Maine State Museum that opens to the public on March 23, 2019; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, recognize the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage and the opportunity it offers to encourage civic engagement and voting today; and be it further

RESOLVED: That We hereby honor the suffragists who struggled for decades to fulfill the promise that all Americans are equal under the law and urge everyone to recommit themselves to ensuring that all Maine citizens have their voices heard through the election process; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this Joint Resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Maine Suffrage Centennial Collaborative.

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

READ.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Portland, Representative Reckitt.

Representative **RECKITT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hopefully my voice will hold out. I'm speaking to you today about the Resolution commemorating the suffrage in the United States and in Maine. I'm doing it as a member of the

Maine Suffrage Centennial Collaborative, of which I've been totally unable to attend a single meeting because of my duties here. However, I want to bring your attention to the fact that on 23rd of this month there's going to be a museum opening at the Maine State Museum and I'm proud to say that that opening and that exhibit contains several items that belong to me. I have a letter from Susan B. Anthony, I have buttons including the Maine Suffrage button that I've loaned to the museum for the year for this exhibit, and I hope that you'll be able to appreciate them.

I also want to speak to you of an old friend of mine from my early days in Maine in the '70s. She was an elderly woman even then. Her name was Gladys Jarrett and she was from Portland and she had been the president of the YWCA in Portland where I was then working. Gladys was a suffragist and she used to talk to me about the suffrage parades in Portland, and how she always asked if she could stand on the inside of the sidewalk so that she didn't get splattered up by the horses or have apples and other effluvia thrown at her by the crowds. She was a brave woman in the teens of that century.

This Resolution talks to you about many women in Maine who have done firsts, and from its founding until 1920, unfortunately women were not recognized as citizens in Maine and were unable to vote. For nearly 30 years, from 1886 to 1915, several suffrage bills were submitted to this legislature and all defeated. On the 10th of September of '17, a statewide -- that's 2017 -- I mean, 1917, a statewide referendum on suffrage was defeated in the State of Maine, two to one, by the voters of Maine, all of which, I would point out to you as an aside and with no bad feelings intended, those voters who defeated suffrage in 1917 were all males. But, to cut to the chase, in November of 1919, the Maine Legislature ratified the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution, and in 1920 on August 20th, women finally received the vote in Maine. And I want to bring this to your attention so that you remember. We've got a year to celebrate the vote in Maine and it's a really important thing. The group of women who have been working - - and men, who have been working around the state for the last year or so and will continue another at bringing hard -- are doing well in bringing this forward for your attention and for the attention of the students of Maine. So, I thank you again for your time.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Yarmouth, Representative Cooper.

Representative **COOPER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My mother was born in 1920, the year the 19th Amendment was ratified by enough states to make it the law of the land. And so at least with respect to my family, it's been one generation where enormous cultural changes have come to this country with respect to gender equality.

One forgets how different it was then. Women were considered to be the wards of their husbands, they had no property rights, they had no right to the custody of their children, and so on and so forth. It was a time which continued from time immemorial where women were considered second-class citizens at best.

When I went to law school, I was one of 20 women. The class preceding me and all the previous classes had no more than five or six women in them. Now, the percentage of women in law school and medical schools and other professional schools is at least half. And there have been great gains in the number of women in trades and every profession and type of job that we have in this great country.

So, I'd like to just have you reflect on the enormous speed with which we have moved forward. It's not always been easy, old habits and biases die hard, we still are seeing vestiges of those attitudes, but we have come to a new place and there is no going back. Thank you.

Subsequently, the Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Raise the Floor of State Education Funding"

(S.P. 356) (L.D. 1170)

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

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

Resolve, To Require the Approval by the Public Utilities Commission of a Proposal for a Long-term Contract for Deep-water Offshore Wind Energy (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 284) (L.D. 994)

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

On motion of Representative FECTEAU of Biddeford, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** in concurrence and later today assigned.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act To Appropriate Funds To Provide Sea Protection and Public Access to the Historic Whaleback Lighthouse in Kittery"

(H.P. 117) (L.D. 135)

Majority (8) **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-4)** in the House on March 7, 2019.

Came from the Senate with the Minority (5) **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** **READ** and **ACCEPTED** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

The House voted to **INSIST**.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act To Eliminate Gross Metering" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 77) (L.D. 91)

PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED in the House on February 28, 2019.

Came from the Senate **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY SENATE AMENDMENT "A" (S-4)** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 112)

**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SPEAKER'S OFFICE**

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

March 13, 2019

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (l) (a), I have appointed Representative Pinny Beebe-Center of Rockland to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources, replacing Representative Michael G. Devin of Newcastle for the duration of his absence, effective March 14, 2019.

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

Sincerely,

S/Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 113)

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

March 13, 2019

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (l) (a), I have appointed Representative Lydia C. Blume of York to the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, replacing Representative Michael G. Devin of Newcastle for the duration of his absence, effective March 14, 2019.

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

Sincerely,

S/Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 114)

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

March 13, 2019

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (l) (a), I have appointed Representative Joseph Perry of Bangor to the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, replacing Representative Ryan M. Fecteau of Biddeford, effective March 14, 2019.

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

Sincerely,

S/Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 116)

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

March 13, 2019

To Sara Gideon, Speaker of the House in the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth 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 State Representative District 124 at the Special Election held on the twelfth day of March in the year Two Thousand and Nineteen;

Report as Follows; that the following named person having received a plurality of the votes cast, appears to have been elected:

Perry, Joseph C., Sr. 719

White, Thomas M. 390

I, Matthew Dunlap, Secretary of State, hereby certify that the foregoing report is a true tabulation of the votes cast for State Representatives at the March 12, 2019 Special Election, as reported to me on the returns from the municipalities of Bangor and Orono.

S/Matthew Dunlap

Secretary of State

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 117)

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

March 13, 2019

To Robert B. Hunt, Clerk of the House, in the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Legislature:

I, Matthew Dunlap, Secretary of State, pursuant to the provisions of Title 3 MRSA, Section 1, hereby certify that the following is the name and residence of the Representative-elect to the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Legislature, in accordance with the tabulation submitted to the Governor on March 13, 2019:

DISTRICT 124 Joseph C. Perry, Sr., Bangor

In Testimony Whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed, given under my hand at Augusta this thirteenth day of March in the year Two Thousand and Nineteen.

S/Matthew Dunlap

Secretary of State

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 111)

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

March 14, 2019

Honorable Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Gideon:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the following Joint Standing Committees have voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass:"

State and Local Government

L.D. 42 An Act To Provide for Nonpartisan Elections for the Office of District Attorney

L.D. 370 An Act To Facilitate State Employee Service in the Legislature

L.D. 481 An Act To Allow the Expansion of the Types of Newspapers That Qualify as Legal Notice Publishers by Removing the 2nd Class Postal Matter Requirement

L.D. 482 An Act To Reduce the Participation Thresholds for Various Municipal Referenda and To Change the Measurement of Those Thresholds from Votes Cast for and against the Question to Votes in Favor of the Question

L.D. 489 An Act To Allow Municipalities To Enforce New Noise Ordinances on Existing Shooting Ranges

Transportation

L.D. 10 An Act To Provide That Inspections of New Motor Vehicles Are Valid for 2 Years

L.D. 57 An Act To Require the Maine Turnpike Authority To Accept E-Z Pass Payments of Any Amount by Telephone

L.D. 117 An Act To Exempt Motor Vehicles Less Than 5 Years Old from Inspection

L.D. 120 An Act To Rebrand Maine's License Plate Slogan from "Vacationland" to "Staycationland"

L.D. 323 An Act To Set the Minimum Penalty for Littering on State Highways at \$1,000

L.D. 389 An Act To Require Biennial State Motor Vehicle Inspections

L.D. 597 Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Project Authorizing the Use of Traffic Surveillance Cameras on Castine Road in Orland

L.D. 656 An Act To Increase the Penalty for Passing a School Bus with Its Red Lights Flashing

Veterans and Legal Affairs

L.D. 418 An Act To Implement the National Popular Vote for President

L.D. 715 An Act To Change the Allocation Formula for Revenue from Slot Machines

L.D. 874 An Act To Conform the Clean Election Financing Laws to the Judicially Determined Procedures

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of House

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 115)

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

March 14, 2019

Honorable Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Gideon:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Joint Select Committee on Judiciary has approved the requests for "Leave to Withdraw" by the following sponsors:

Representative Farnsworth of Portland
L.D. 588 An Act To Confer Maine Jurisdiction in Civil Suits Involving Certain Contracts

Representative Warren of Hallowell
L.D. 634 An Act Regarding Implementation of Differentiated Case Management in the Judicial Branch

Sincerely,
S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

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

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Update the Civil Animal Welfare Laws"
(H.P. 891) (L.D. 1230)

Sponsored by Representative NADEAU of Winslow.
Cosponsored by Senator BLACK of Franklin and Representatives: COREY of Windham, DUNPHY of Old Town, HICKMAN of Winthrop, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, O'NEIL of Saco, SKOLFIELD of Weld, Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DILL of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act To Protect the Health and Safety of Maine State Park Visitors and Staff"
(H.P. 907) (L.D. 1246)

Sponsored by Representative CAIAZZO of Scarborough.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, DOUDERA of Camden, HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, SKOLFIELD of Weld, Senators: BLACK of Franklin, CARPENTER of Aroostook, FARRIN of Somerset.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Authorize General Fund Bond Issues To Address Changes in Sea Level, Geospatial Data Acquisition by Communities and the Increase in Ocean Acidity"
(H.P. 885) (L.D. 1224)

Sponsored by Representative DEVIN of Newcastle.
Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc and Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, BLUME of York, GROHOSKI of Ellsworth, HEPLER of Woolwich, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, McDONALD of Stonington, STOVER of Boothbay, Senator: CARSON of Cumberland.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Prohibit the Abuse and Isolation of Older and Dependent Adults"
(H.P. 910) (L.D. 1249)

Sponsored by Representative VEROW of Brewer.

Cosponsored by Representatives: STANLEY of Medway, WHITE of Waterville, Senator: CARPENTER of Aroostook.

Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Allow Parents To Apply to the Commissioner of Education To Enroll Their Children in a Receiving School Administrative Unit and To Remove Limitations on Which Students May Be So Enrolled"
(H.P. 888) (L.D. 1227)

Sponsored by Representative HANLEY of Pittston.
Cosponsored by Senator FARRIN of Somerset and Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, GRIFFIN of Levant, LOCKMAN of Bradley, Senator: CYRWAY of Kennebec.

Resolve, To Advance College Affordability by Convening a Task Force To Recommend a Sustainable Funding Model for Maintaining Maine's Public Higher Education Infrastructure (EMERGENCY)
(H.P. 925) (L.D. 1283)

Sponsored by Representative JORGENSEN of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland and Representatives: DUNPHY of Old Town, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, KORNFIELD of Bangor, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, PIERCE of Falmouth, STEWART of Presque Isle.

Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.

Resolve, To Direct the ConnectME Authority To Report on the Progress of the Detailed 2019-2021 Strategic Plan for Broadband Service in Maine
(H.P. 909) (L.D. 1248)

Sponsored by Representative MORALES of South Portland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ACKLEY of Monmouth, BERRY of Bowdoinham, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, MARTIN of Sinclair, PIERCE of Falmouth.

Bill "An Act To Establish a Green New Deal for Maine"
(H.P. 924) (L.D. 1282)

Sponsored by Representative MAXMIN of Nobleboro.
Cosponsored by Senator BELLOWS of Kennebec and Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, EVANGELOS of Friendship, HEPLER of Woolwich, HICKMAN of Winthrop, INGWERSEN of Arundel, Senator: CHENETTE of York.

Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Protect the Penobscot River and Penobscot Bay from Mercury Contamination"
(H.P. 929) (L.D. 1287)

Sponsored by Representative DODGE of Belfast.
Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox and Representatives: ACKLEY of Monmouth, BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, CUDDY of Winterport, DOUDERA of Camden,

EVANGELOS of Friendship, PEBWORTH of Blue Hill, PLUECKER of Warren, RISEMAN of Harrison.

Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Create the Science and Policy Advisory Council on the Impact of Climate Change on Maine's Marine Species"

(H.P. 926) (L.D. 1284)

Sponsored by Representative BLUME of York.

Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and Representatives: HEPLER of Woolwich, JORGENSEN of Portland, KESCHL of Belgrade, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, McDONALD of Stonington, RECKITT of South Portland, TUELL of East Machias, Senator: VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** suggested.

On motion of Representative TUCKER of Brunswick, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

Bill "An Act To Increase Funding for Home Visiting Programs"

(H.P. 886) (L.D. 1225)

Sponsored by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham.

Cosponsored by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec and Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, GATTINE of Westbrook, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, PERRY of Calais, STOVER of Boothbay, Senator: LAWRENCE of York.

Resolve, Requiring the Department of Health and Human Services To Create a Limited Benefit MaineCare Card for Individuals Eligible for the Medicare Savings Program

(H.P. 889) (L.D. 1228)

Sponsored by Representative McCREIGHT of Harpswell.

Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and Representatives: HEAD of Bethel, HYMANSON of York, KORNFELD of Bangor, PERRY of Calais, SCHNECK of Bangor, STOVER of Boothbay, TEPLER of Topsham, Senator: MOORE of Washington.

Bill "An Act To Increase Safety in Health Care Facilities"

(H.P. 896) (L.D. 1235)

Sponsored by Representative RISEMAN of Harrison.

Cosponsored by Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, DOUDERA of Camden, Senator: DOW of Lincoln.

Resolve, To Change the Work Requirement Rules under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program

(H.P. 908) (L.D. 1247)

Sponsored by Representative MADIGAN of Waterville.

Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, DOORE of Augusta, FARNSWORTH of Portland, HYMANSON of York, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, PERRY of Calais, TEPLER of Topsham, TIPPING of Orono.

Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Adopt Rules To Streamline and Remove Barriers for Reimbursement for Providers of Dental Care Services

(H.P. 920) (L.D. 1259)

Sponsored by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, BROOKS of Lewiston, FAY of Raymond, FOLEY of Biddeford, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, SHARPE of Durham.

Bill "An Act To Establish a MaineCare Reimbursement Rate Review Process and the MaineCare Independent Rate Commission"

(H.P. 930) (L.D. 1288)

Sponsored by Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, HANDY of Lewiston, HICKMAN of Winthrop, HYMANSON of York, MADIGAN of Waterville, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, RECKITT of South Portland, WARREN of Hallowell.

Resolve, To Reduce the Incidence of Infants Exposed to Illegal Substances

(H.P. 931) (L.D. 1289)

Sponsored by Representative CRAVEN of Lewiston.

Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Clarify the Laws Governing the Licensing of Paramedics"

(H.P. 897) (L.D. 1236)

Sponsored by Representative HANDY of Lewiston.

Bill "An Act To Assist Small Businesses in Providing Health Care for Their Employees"

(H.P. 904) (L.D. 1243)

Sponsored by Representative MORALES of South Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FOLEY of Biddeford, GATTINE of Westbrook, PICKETT of Dixfield, TEPLER of Topsham.

Bill "An Act Regarding Short-term, Limited-duration Health Plans"

(H.P. 921) (L.D. 1260)

Sponsored by Representative FOLEY of Biddeford.

Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: DOUDERA of Camden, FECTEAU of Biddeford, MEYER of Eliot, TEPLER of Topsham, Senators: CLAXTON of Androscoggin, SANBORN, H. of Cumberland, SANBORN, L. of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Authorize Certain Health Care Professionals To Perform Abortions"

(H.P. 922) (L.D. 1261)

Sponsored by Speaker GIDEON of Freeport. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Cosponsored by Senator SANBORN, H. of Cumberland and Representatives: BROOKS of Lewiston, HYMANSON of York, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, PERRY of Calais, Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, GRATWICK of Penobscot, SANBORN, L. of Cumberland, VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

Resolve, To Create a Committee To Explore Regional Cooperation for Affordable Health Insurance

(H.P. 923) (L.D. 1281)

Sponsored by Representative TEPLER of Topsham.

Cosponsored by Senator FOLEY of York and Representatives: BLIER of Buxton, BROOKS of Lewiston, FOLEY of Biddeford, GATTINE of Westbrook, PERRY of Calais, Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, GRATWICK of Penobscot, SANBORN, H. of Cumberland.

Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Snowmobile Registration Fees"
(H.P. 913) (L.D. 1252)

Sponsored by Representative HEAD of Bethel.
Cosponsored by Senator HAMPER of Oxford and Representatives: DOLLOFF of Rumford, HANINGTON of Lincoln, PERKINS of Oakland, PRESCOTT of Waterboro.

Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Provide Career and Technical Training Options for Electricians"

(H.P. 901) (L.D. 1240)

Sponsored by Representative HANDY of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Senator HERBIG of Waldo and Representatives: BABINE of Scarborough, CARNEY of Cape Elizabeth, CUDDY of Winterport, DOORE of Augusta, FAY of Raymond, FECTION of Biddeford, MELARAGNO of Auburn, SYLVESTER of Portland.

Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Fund Energy Efficiency Programs through a Fee on the Sale of Unregulated Heating Fuels"

(H.P. 892) (L.D. 1231)

Sponsored by Representative KESSLER of South Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland and Representatives: BABBIDGE of Kennebunk, DODGE of Belfast, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, HARNETT of Gardiner, PEBWORTH of Blue Hill, RYKERSON of Kittery, WARREN of Hallowell.

Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** suggested.

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

Resolve, To Establish the Committee To Study and Develop Recommendations To Address Guardianship Challenges That Delay Patient Discharges from Hospitals

(H.P. 890) (L.D. 1229)

Sponsored by Representative McCREIGHT of Harpswell.
Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: COOPER of Yarmouth, HANDY of Lewiston, JAVNER of Chester, KORNFELD of Bangor, MADIGAN of Waterville, PERRY of Calais, SCHNECK of Bangor, STOVER of Boothbay.

Bill "An Act Regarding Offers of Settlement"

(H.P. 894) (L.D. 1233)

Sponsored by Representative BAILEY of Saco.

Cosponsored by Representative: CARDONE of Bangor.

Bill "An Act To Protect Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence in Certain Provisions under the Maine Human Rights Act"

(H.P. 906) (L.D. 1245)

Sponsored by Representative STOVER of Boothbay.

Cosponsored by Representatives: DENK of Kennebunk, EVANGELOS of Friendship, FAY of Raymond, HARNETT of Gardiner, LANDRY of Farmington, MATLACK of St. George, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, WARREN of Hallowell.

Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Ensure the Right To Work without Payment of Dues or Fees to a Labor Union as a Condition of Employment"

(H.P. 893) (L.D. 1232)

Sponsored by Representative LOCKMAN of Bradley.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: AUSTIN of Gray, BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, DeVEAU of Caribou, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, JOHANSEN of Monticello, O'CONNOR of Berwick, REED of Carmel, STETKIS of Canaan.

Bill "An Act To Simplify Municipal Collective Bargaining by Removing the 120-Day Notice Required Prior to Certain Negotiations"

(H.P. 898) (L.D. 1237)

Sponsored by Representative HANDY of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representative: SYLVESTER of Portland.

Bill "An Act To Mandate Paid Maternity and Parental Leave"

(H.P. 900) (L.D. 1239)

Sponsored by Representative COLLINGS of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator SANBORN, H. of Cumberland and Representatives: CARDONE of Bangor, CUDDY of Winterport, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, McDONALD of Stonington, PERRY of Calais, ROBERTS-LOVELL of South Berwick, TALBOT ROSS of Portland, WARREN of Hallowell.

Bill "An Act To Prohibit Sexual Harassment as a Subject Matter of Mandatory Arbitration in Employment Contracts"

(H.P. 911) (L.D. 1250)

Sponsored by Representative TIPPING of Orono.

Cosponsored by Senator LAWRENCE of York and Representatives: BAILEY of Saco, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MELARAGNO of Auburn, SYLVESTER of Portland, Senator: POULIOT of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act To Make Agricultural Workers and Other Workers Employees under the Wage and Hour Laws"

(H.P. 912) (L.D. 1251)

Sponsored by Representative HARNETT of Gardiner.

Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, BROOKS of Lewiston, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DODGE of Belfast, MORALES of South Portland, PLUECKER of Warren, STOVER of Boothbay, SYLVESTER of Portland.

Bill "An Act To Fairly Compensate for Fatal Accidents under the Maine Workers' Compensation Act of 1992"

(H.P. 914) (L.D. 1253)

Sponsored by Representative SYLVESTER of Portland.

Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Improve Survival Rates of Salmon and Other Migratory Fish Transitioning from Freshwater to Saltwater Environments"

(H.P. 902) (L.D. 1241)

Sponsored by Representative DODGE of Belfast.

Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and Representatives: AUSTIN of Skowhegan, BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, BLUME of York, HARNETT of Gardiner, INGWERSEN of Arundel, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, PLUECKER of Warren, Senator: CARSON of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Establish Criteria for a Permit To Conduct Research in the Intertidal Zone"

(H.P. 927) (L.D. 1285)

Sponsored by Representative BLUME of York.

Bill "An Act To Allow the Deposition of Oyster Shell Cultch To Ameliorate Ocean and Coastal Acidification"

(H.P. 928) (L.D. 1286)

Sponsored by Representative BLUME of York.

Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Expand the Value of the Homestead Exemption to \$25,000 and State Reimbursement to 100 Percent of Lost Property Tax Revenue"

(H.P. 895) (L.D. 1234)

Sponsored by Representative AUSTIN of Skowhegan.

Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of Androscoggin and Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, HARNETT of Gardiner, HEPLER of Woolwich, LANDRY of Farmington, MADIGAN of Waterville, RISEMAN of Harrison, SKOLFIELD of Weld, STANLEY of Medway.

Bill "An Act To Exempt Certain Print Publications from Sales Tax"

(H.P. 899) (L.D. 1238)

Sponsored by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich.

Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and Representatives: BABINE of Scarborough, COLLINGS of Portland, EVANGELOS of Friendship, LANDRY of Farmington, MAXMIN of Nobleboro, TUCKER of Brunswick, Senator: MIRAMANT of Knox.

Bill "An Act To Reinstigate the State Property Tax Deferral Program for Seniors"

(H.P. 903) (L.D. 1242)

Sponsored by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot, Senator LIBBY of Androscoggin and Representatives: CAIAZZO of Scarborough, CRAVEN of Lewiston, DENK of Kennebunk, FOLEY of Biddeford, HANDY of Lewiston, HARNETT of Gardiner, MATLACK of St. George, TERRY of Gorham.

Bill "An Act To Authorize a Local Option Sales Tax on Meals and Lodging and Provide Funding To Treat Opioid Use Disorder"

(H.P. 915) (L.D. 1254)

Sponsored by Representative SYLVESTER of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland and Representatives: FARNSWORTH of Portland, FOLEY of Biddeford, HARNETT of Gardiner, KESSLER of South Portland, MOONEN of Portland, O'NEIL of Saco, SCHNECK of Bangor.

Bill "An Act To Provide a Health Care Preceptor Tax Credit"

(H.P. 917) (L.D. 1256)

Sponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais.

Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and Representatives: McCREIGHT of Harpswell, MEYER of Eliot, Senator: SANBORN, L. of Cumberland.

Committee on **TAXATION** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Traffic Movement Permit Process To Incorporate a Multimodal Approach to Infrastructure Planning"

(H.P. 884) (L.D. 1223)

Sponsored by Representative MORALES of South Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, COLLINGS of Portland, KESSLER of South Portland, McLEAN of Gorham, SYLVESTER of Portland.

Bill "An Act To Prepare Maine for a Low-carbon Transportation Future"

(H.P. 918) (L.D. 1257)

Sponsored by Representative BRYANT of Windham.

Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox and Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, McLEAN of Gorham, RYKERSON of Kittery, SHEATS of Auburn, Senators: CHIPMAN of Cumberland, CLAXTON of Androscoggin.

Bill "An Act To Increase Access to Transportation for Workforce and Other Essential Transportation Needs"

(H.P. 919) (L.D. 1258)

Sponsored by Representative SHEATS of Auburn.

Cosponsored by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland and Representatives: BRYANT of Windham, COLLINGS of Portland.

Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Make Criteria for State Veterans' Benefits Consistent within the Maine Revised Statutes"

(H.P. 887) (L.D. 1226)

Sponsored by Representative BAILEY of Saco.

Cosponsored by Senator CARPENTER of Aroostook and Representatives: ACKLEY of Monmouth, BABINE of Scarborough, SHEATS of Auburn, Senators: CHENETTE of York, LUCHINI of Hancock.

Bill "An Act To Authorize the Gambling Control Board To Accept an Application from the Passamaquoddy Tribe To Operate 50 Slot Machines in the Tribe's High-stakes Beano Facility"

(H.P. 905) (L.D. 1244)

Sponsored by Representative COLLINGS of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and Representatives: COREY of Windham, HARRINGTON of

Sanford, HICKMAN of Winthrop, JOHANSEN of Monticello, NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PERRY of Calais, TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine To Require Referenda To Receive 60 Percent of the Vote To Become Law

(H.P. 916) (L.D. 1255)

Sponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner. Cosponsored by Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, LOCKMAN of Bradley, O'CONNOR of Berwick, STETKIS of Canaan, STEWART of Presque Isle, SWALLOW of Houlton, Senator: TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

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

ORDERS

On motion of Representative TUCKER of Brunswick, the following Joint Order: (H.P. 883)

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources may report out, to the House, legislation implementing the recommendations contained in the annual product stewardship report by the Department of Environmental Protection.

READ and PASSED.

Sent for concurrence.

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

ORDERED, that Representative John Andrews of Paris be excused February 11 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Danny Edward Costain of Plymouth be excused March 7 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Scott W. Cuddy of Winterport be excused March 7 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Dale J. Denno of Cumberland be excused February 11 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Chad Wayne Grignon of Athens be excused December 5 for personal reasons and February 11 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Christopher J. Kessler of South Portland be excused March 5 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Theodore Joseph Kryzak, Jr. of Acton be excused February 21 for legislative business.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Lester S. Ordway of Standish be excused February 28 for health reasons.

READ and PASSED.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEE
Divided Reports**

Majority Report of the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Practice of Pharmacy"

(S.P. 79) (L.D. 267)

Signed:

Senators:

SANBORN, H. of Cumberland
GRATWICK of Penobscot

Representatives:

TEPLER of Topsham
BRENNAN of Portland
BROOKS of Lewiston
FOLEY of Biddeford
MASTRACCIO of Sanford
MELARAGNO of Auburn

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

Signed:

Senator:

FOLEY of York

Representatives:

MORRIS of Turner
PRESCOTT of Waterboro
SWALLOW of Houlton

Came from the Senate with the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED.**

READ.

Representative TEPLER of Topsham moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report.

Representative STEWART of Presque Isle **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report.

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

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Tepler.

Representative **TEPLER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk a little bit about why the committee chose the Ought Not to Pass Report for this bill.

There's a lot of concern that we have to deal with the cost of healthcare in this country and one of the issues that presents itself to us is increasing the role of some people in the community that enables them to bill particularly through Medicare and Medicaid. And in this case, there was a great deal of concern that by using the word provider to describe pharmacists, we would be creating a situation where they would be able to receive a code to bill Medicare. And that would increase the cost of healthcare for everyone in the United States of America, let alone in Maine. So, that is the concern that we face in addressing this issue and why we voted Ought Not to Pass.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Waterboro, Representative Prescott.

Representative **PRESCOTT**: Thank you, Speaker and Members. The Affordable Healthcare Act is clear about we need to get out in front and be preventative. This is exactly what our pharmacists do for us. Like we do with legislation, they can take one look at a new prescription and look at your history and say these are going to conflict with each other,

they're going to make you worse, let's call your doctor and make sure this is what they want to do.

You know, when it comes to how expensive the medicines are and healthcare is in this country, we not only have to address the cost of each pill, but how much pills are getting dealt. My father, in case, was on like 13 pills. We took him to the VA, they took him off ten, he got better. The insurance company was paying for 13 pills when he should've only been taking three. Our pharmacists offer us this kind of education. Look at the people. They went to high school, they got good grades, they went to college specifically to become pharmacists. They got out and got a job for the degree that they dictated they were going for.

You know, as far as charging -- you're right, so Medicare is going to take a hit, but you know what we'll get in the end? Healthier people, especially our older adults. We've got a serious aging population in this state. It's our pharmacists right now who go above and beyond their job descriptions to help everybody. They sit down and say make sure you take this one in the morning, that one at night, do not take them together. The health and wellbeing of this state is in the hands of the frontline of our pharmacists.

You know, I hear a lot of talk about attracting young professionals and retaining the ones we have. Well, you've got a bill right before you that does exactly that. And I'll say, you know, when this bill came to us, it wasn't even about the money, they just wanted a seat at the table, just like we are here right now representing everybody from our areas. That's what they wanted. It was politicians that turned it into a money matter.

You know, we're looking at Medicaid expansion. How many prescriptions do you think are going to be issued now? Wouldn't you like to have somebody at the counter going whoa, whoa, this is going to conflict with that, you don't need this one. What these people bring to the table will be better health. For some, by the way, may or may not charge. Not one person said they were going to charge us. That was politicians. And for the amount of belligerent spending we do in this state, you're worried about professionals? And young professionals -- this is where you're going to draw the line?

You know, it's time -- this one bill is going to send a clear message to our professionals, and not just in pharmacy, we're talking x-ray technicians, architects, engineers; is Maine a state they want to be in? Will politicians step up and support them? Why do I want to be there? Look what they did today. It's time to see who's going to walk the talk. You want to attract people to the state? Support these people. Because other industries are going to look at this vote and they're going to say well, they didn't support them, why would they support us, why should we be in Maine? Thank you.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Buxton, Representative Blier.

Representative **BLIER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Have you ever woken up and been in a situation in your life where one person can come and save the day? For example, you get up in the morning, you flush your toilet and it backs up in your tub and you're like what's going on? You call your contractor, and he tells you you have a failed leech field potentially with a cost of \$10,000, but I'll be right down. And on his way down, you're worried how are you going to pay for that leech bed, and he pulls up into your yard and he finds out it's just roots growing in the intake pipe and it solves the problem and you don't have to spend the \$10,000. And that relief that you have at that moment, you're

thankful and you say what can I pay you for this and he says just recommend me to your friends and neighbors.

Now you're an elderly person, potentially you can't read, you take multiple medications. You go to your pharmacist and he tells you and he figures -- he tells you how to take your medication and you feel that relief because you were confused. And they say all I want is for you to know -- to say that I am a provider of healthcare. Isn't that what they are doing? And as far as the money, if we pay them to provide this service, so what? They'll probably be more enticed to help more people. Isn't that a good thing for people of Maine?

So, I want you to join me today, and not only me, our Senators of this state, and vote no on Ought Not to Pass on this bill. Thank you.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair would remind Members that references to the actions of the other body are out of order.

The Chair advised all members that it is inappropriate to refer to the potential action of the other body in order to influence the vote of the House.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Knox, Representative Kinney.

Representative **KINNEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Little known fact about myself; I studied pharmacy in college, so this is a near and dear piece to my heart.

Our pharmacists are, as the Representative from Waterboro said, are the front-line of defense against drug interactions and overdoses. A lot of people will go to multiple doctors for multiple ailments, yet those same people go to the same pharmacy and they have prescriptions for opiates, narcotics, antibiotics, antihistamines, you name it, they're on a multitude of drugs and they interact with each other in negative ways. Your allergy doctor doesn't know what your pain doctor has prescribed or what your general practitioner doctor has prescribed for an antibiotic for an infection. These drugs interact with each other very negatively and the pharmacist can stop you from dying from what medicines could potentially be helping you.

The drug companies have their representatives who go out and they push the latest and greatest new drug on the market. I know, I've been there, they come in, they give us pens, they give us the pill counters in the pharmacy. The doctor's offices are given incentives to be able -- to prescribe the new drug, and we know this because those doctors start prescribing the brand-new drug when there's a perfectly good drug already on the market.

This bill will help our pharmacists to be able to just do their job in a better way and help more people. Thank you.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Tepler.

Representative **TEPLER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, firstly, I want to say that this bill has absolutely nothing to do with the Affordable Care Act. Let's start there. And then let's talk about what it looks like when you get a bill from a hospital after you've been in the hospital or gone to the emergency room.

The bill includes a variety of things. It includes the cost of the doctors, it includes perhaps cost of anesthesia if you had surgery, it includes your room and board, it includes all of the products that you were given or that you used while you were there. Currently, it does not include the cost of a consultation with a pharmacist. Under Medicare Part D, if you are labeled a provider, you may have a code that would enable you to charge for that sort of service. You would be able -- so, your bill from the hospital would include, in addition to all the other

things if you're 65 or over and receive Medicare payments, would include potentially a consultation with a pharmacist, which currently is covered under the facility fee of that institution. So, I am very, very concerned that this will drive up the cost of healthcare, all due respect to pharmacists, I'm a person who takes quite a bit of different kinds of medication and I know that pharmacists protect me from drug interactions, but that does not mean that I want to label them healthcare providers and enable them to bill people who are on Medicare. Thank you.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Presque Isle, Representative Stewart.

Representative **STEWART**: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I represent Presque Isle and in Presque Isle we have not only a hospital but a couple of pharmacies, as well. And I've gotten a plethora of emails in the last week in regards to this bill from these folks that actually work in that field and trying to explain the significance behind it, why it matters, and why we should pass it. And so I'd like, if you would indulge me briefly, to read to you some of what the essentials are behind LD 267.

First, that there are more than 4,000 licensed pharmacy professionals, which includes pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy interns across Maine, and LD 267 has strong support. No one testified in opposition to this bill. The second point, LD 267 does not change the pharmacist's scope of practice. LD 267 puts the pharmacist's scope of practice into context and formally defines in statute what is already a fact and what we've heard today is already happening and helping to not only improve the health of Mainers, but also potentially save lives.

I think it's important to note there's -- you know, the arguments can go back and forth on this. I think that the most important one is that this is a role that pharmacists are providing to our communities that in some cases are the last line of defense or the first line of defense. If there are sort of interactions among, as others have alluded to, among different medicines that you're ingesting as a patient and one doctor might not be aware of it, that could potentially be a life-saving medical recommendation.

I think, too, it's important to note that not just the price of healthcare that's been skyrocketing is important but also the cost of prescription drugs. And there's a significant amount of overhead cost to those that actually run pharmacies across our state and if there is a way for them to be billing for the services that they're providing, taking time away from doing the work that they're actually doing to provide consultations to folks, particularly if they're on Maine Care, that's going to help to pull down the cost of prescription drugs across the state because you're reducing the overhead and ultimately what they're going to be charging at the pharmacy anyway.

So, I understand that the arguments against it and the concern about sort of providing a carte blanche billing code in some cases, but this -- we're not just talking about pharmacists that are in hospitals but also the ones that own their independent businesses, as well. And so I think that we need to be keeping that in mind as we consider this bill. I would strongly encourage folks in this chamber to look at the calendar, to look at what has happened in the building, and to not only consider the committee report but also the comments that were made here today. And thank you very much.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Fort Fairfield, Representative McCrea.

Representative **McCREA**: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I had not planned on speaking to this. I agree, the

pharmacists are a great line of defense against all of these maladies, and I think if there's an extra billing code it does have a strong possibility of increasing the costs of healthcare. I think in the hospital situation, it's inherent upon that facility to provide this and that there be a code for it. However, when I go to my pharmacist, for years I've always gotten this service. I get good consultation and if I didn't, I would choose a different pharmacy. That's the market. Much like the plumber analogy a minute ago, if you ask what can I owe you and what do I owe you and they say well, just pass the word along to your friends, I would do the very same thing at the pharmacy.

So, I appreciate the counseling, but I would not appreciate having a code and all of a sudden seeing -- even if it's a bill that I don't have to pay, an increased cost to pick up my prescription and have them coordinate the various prescriptions that I bring there to fill and get good counseling. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Dixfield, Representative Pickett.

Representative **PICKETT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Let's talk real life for a moment. I almost lost my brother-in-law two years ago and the reason I did is because he had a cocktail of medication that he was on from three different doctors and it was a pharmacist who picked up on that when my sister was at the drugstore and realized what was going on.

And let's just take a look at this. On that list of things we just talked about, about the list on a hospital bill, I have an idea that this consultation cost would be pretty low on their totem pole as far as amount owed on that. If this bill and if this opportunity is out here so that people, especially elderly people who don't always ask when they're at the counter and they're getting their medications, if they get the kind of consultation they need and if it just saves one life, that's worth it all and worth any amount of money we spend on it. So, I urge you to follow my light and vote no on the pending motion and follow my light afterwards on the Ought to Pass.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Biddeford, Representative Foley.

Representative **FOLEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think that it's important to recognize that no one disagrees with the important role that pharmacists hold in our healthcare system. No one thinks that their work is unimportant and no one thinks that what they do is not valuable. My concern is that the cost of healthcare is so staggering for so many people in our communities that the idea that a consultation fee with my pharmacist due to a rule change or a definition change of who they are and what they do, could prevent me from learning very important things that can affect my health. I think that we -- we're challenged by that, all of us, and pharmacists, while they play an integral part in our healthcare system, cannot do all of the things that doctors could do or else they would be doctors.

I would urge the members of this body to support the original Majority Report of Ought Not to Pass and in doing so, not uphold the decision of the Senate. Thank you.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair will remind members that references to the actions of the other body are out of order.

The Chair advised all members that it is inappropriate to refer to the potential action of the other body in order to influence the vote of the House.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the

Majority Ought Not to Pass Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 10

YEA - Ackley, Austin B, Babbidge, Babine, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Berry, Blume, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Carney, Cloutier, Collings, Cooper, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Daughtry, Denk, Dodge, Doore, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Farnsworth, Fecteau R, Foley, Gattine, Gramlich, Grohoski, Handy, Harnett, Hepler, Hickman, Higgins, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Jorgensen, Kessler, Kornfield, Landry, Madigan C, Martin J, Martin R, Mastraccio, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Meyer, Moonen, Morales, Nadeau, O'Neil, Pebworth, Peoples, Perry A, Perry J, Pluecker, Reckitt, Riley, Riseman, Roberts-Lovell, Rykerson, Schneck, Sharpe, Sheats, Stanley, Stover, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Warren, White B, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin S, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Corey, Costain, Curtis, DeVeau, Dillingham, Dolloff, Drinkwater, Fay, Foster, Griffin, Hall, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Johansen, Keschl, Kinney, Kryzak, Lockman, Lyford, Marean, Martin T, Mason, Millett, Morris, O'Connor, Ordway, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Reed, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Swallow, Theriault, Tuell, Verow, Wadsworth, WhiteD.

ABSENT - Alley, Brennan, Campbell, Cebra, Denno, Faulkingham, Fecteau J, Grignon, Haggan, Maxmin, Pierce T.
Yes, 85; No, 53; Absent, 11; Excused, 1.

85 having voted in the affirmative and 53 voted in the negative, with 11 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** in **NON-CONCURRENCE** and sent for Concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-9)** on Bill "An Act To Fund the School Revolving Renovation Fund"

(H.P. 313) (L.D. 404)

Signed:

Senators:

MILLETT of Cumberland
CARSON of Cumberland

Representatives:

KORNFIELD of Bangor
BRENNAN of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
FARNSWORTH of Portland
INGWERSEN of Arundel
McCREA of Fort Fairfield

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

Signed:

Senator:

POULIOT of Kennebec

Representatives:

DRINKWATER of Milford
FECTEAU of Augusta
RUDNICKI of Fairfield
SAMPSON of Alfred

READ.

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

Representative STEWART of Presque Isle **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

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

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Alfred, Representative Sampson.

Representative **SAMPSON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Although the school revolving renovation fund is indeed being depleted, this initiative will add \$25 million to our current budget and we are currently over budget. So, instead of requesting these funds come from the General Fund, it might be better to have it go as a bond and compete with the other bonds. And we have bonds currently that will be addressing this issue, so I would ask that you vote no on this measure. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 11

YEA - Ackley, Austin B, Babbidge, Babine, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Berry, Blume, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Cloutier, Collings, Cooper, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Daughtry, Denk, Dodge, Doore, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau R, Foley, Gattine, Gramlich, Grohoski, Handy, Harnett, Hepler, Hickman, Higgins, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Jorgensen, Kessler, Kornfield, Landry, Madigan C, Martin J, Martin R, Mastraccio, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Meyer, Moonen, Morales, Nadeau, O'Neil, Pebworth, Peoples, Perry A, Perry J, Pluecker, Reckitt, Riley, Roberts-Lovell, Rykerson, Schneck, Sharpe, Sheats, Stanley, Stover, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Tuell, Verow, Warren, White B, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin S, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Corey, Costain, Curtis, DeVeau, Dillingham, Drinkwater, Foster, Griffin, Hall, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Johansen, Keschl, Kinney, Kryzak, Lockman, Lyford, Marean, Martin T, Mason, Millett, Morris, O'Connor, Ordway, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Reed, Riseman, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Swallow, Wadsworth, White D.

ABSENT - Alley, Brennan, Campbell, Carney, Cebra, Denno, Dolloff, Faulkingham, Fecteau J, Grignon, Haggan, Maxmin, Pierce T, Sylvester, Theriault.

Yes, 85; No, 49; Absent, 15; Excused, 1.

85 having voted in the affirmative and 49 voted in the negative, with 15 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-9)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules, the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-9)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Provide Funding to the Department of Health and Human Services To Support Free Health Clinics in the State" (H.P. 144) (L.D. 181)

Signed:
Senator: MOORE of Washington

Representatives:
HYMANSON of York
GRIFFIN of Levant
JAVNER of Chester
MADIGAN of Waterville
MEYER of Eliot
O'CONNOR of Berwick
STOVER of Boothbay

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-11)** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senators: GRATWICK of Penobscot
CLAXTON of Androscoggin

Representatives:
CRAVEN of Lewiston
PERRY of Calais
TALBOT ROSS of Portland

READ.

On motion of Representative HYMANSON of York, **TABLED** pending **ACCEPTANCE** of either Report and later today assigned.

Majority Report of the Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Simplify Apprenticeship Requirements for Student and Apprentice Lobster and Crab Fishing License Holders" (H.P. 238) (L.D. 314)

Signed:
Senators: MIRAMANT of Knox
VITELLI of Sagadahoc

Representatives:
McCREIGHT of Harpswell
ALLEY of Beals
BLUME of York
HEPLER of Woolwich
McDONALD of Stonington

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-14)** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senator: DOW of Lincoln

Representatives:
FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor
HUTCHINS of Penobscot
JAVNER of Chester
TUELL of East Machias

READ.

On motion of Representative McCREIGHT of Harpswell, **TABLED** pending **ACCEPTANCE** of either Report and later today assigned.

Majority Report of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Increase the Required Number of Qualifying Contributions gubernatorial Candidates Must Obtain To Qualify as Maine Clean Election Act Candidates" (H.P. 165) (L.D. 202)

Signed:
Senators: LUCHINI of Hancock
CYRWAY of Kennebec
HERBIG of Waldo

Representatives:
SCHNECK of Bangor
ACKLEY of Monmouth
COOPER of Yarmouth
HANINGTON of Lincoln
HICKMAN of Winthrop
HUBBELL of Bar Harbor
McCREIGHT of Harpswell

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-15)** on same Bill.

Signed:
Representatives:
ANDREWS of Paris
DOLLOFF of Rumford
STROM of Pittsfield

READ.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR
First Day

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

(H.P. 56) (L.D. 59) Bill "An Act To Establish a Recall Process for Elected Officials in Plantations" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-8)**

(H.P. 132) (L.D. 169) Bill "An Act To Provide Occupants of Motor Vehicles with Gold Star Family Registration Plates Free Entry to State Parks, Camping Areas and Beaches" Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-13)**

(H.P. 357) (L.D. 472) Bill "An Act To Provide Meals to Homebound Individuals" Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-12)**

(H.P. 459) (L.D. 630) Bill "An Act To Clarify That Food and Food Products Containing Hemp-derived Cannabidiol Produced and Sold within the State Are Not Adulterated and To Match the State's Definition of 'Hemp' to the Definition in Federal Law" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-10)**

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

There being no objection, the House Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** and sent for concurrence.

(H.P. 133) (L.D. 170) Bill "An Act To Prohibit Questions Regarding Criminal History on Certain State Employment Applications" Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass**

On motion of Representative STETKIS of Canaan, was **REMOVED** from the First Day Consent Calendar.

The Committee Report was **READ**.

The same Representative **REQUESTED** a roll call on **ACCEPTANCE** of the **Unanimous Ought to Pass Report**.

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

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Canaan, Representative Stetkis.

Representative **STETKIS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, my objection is not about whether or not folks with a criminal history should or should not be employed or considered for employment. We all have friends and loved ones who have had run-ins with the law and are faced with many challenges. But I believe with this legislation that when it comes to hiring individuals, especially those who will be dealing with the public, and in this case with tax dollars, more information is better than less. Restricting any relevant question from a job application is a bad idea. For this reason, I will be opposing this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Sinclair, Representative Martin.

Representative **MARTIN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I just want to remind you, and I'm sure you're all aware of the procedure and why this piece of legislation has been placed on the consent calendar. If it's placed on the consent calendar, it means that the committee of jurisdictions specifically on this bill, the Committee on State and Local Government, every member voted for this bill. It's a unanimous vote, and that includes the Democrats, the Republicans, and our two unenrolled members in our committee. I urge you to continue supporting this piece of legislation. There was no opposition whatsoever during the public hearing. The Maine AFL-CIO supports the bill, the Maine Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers supports the bill, the Maine State Employees Association supports the bill, and the Maine Human Rights Commission supports the bill. So, I would hope when the vote is taken that you follow my light. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Auburn, Representative Sheats.

Representative **SHEATS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to just add that it's fitting that this bill is coming up for a vote today on the Chamber of Commerce Day here at the Statehouse because this bill came as a result of a conversation over brown bag lunch with my Chamber of Commerce because we have a job -- we have a worker shortage in this state and this was one of the Chamber of Commerce's recommended ways of getting more people into the workforce who have given up on job seeking because of discouragement from even putting in applications where one of the main questions is about previous convictions.

Maine has a four-page job application, down from nine pages, but one of the things that they kept is almost a full page dedicated to questions about your criminal convictions to include traffic violations. This would simply not -- this would simply add the line that you don't have to answer those questions on the application unless you are applying for specific jobs like game wardens or people who would carry guns. It would defer those questions to the interview. There is a line on our job application that says that background checks

will be done and that you will have to answer questions about this. It would simply allow the questions about criminal convictions to go into an interview where people could put their best foot forward in the application process and maybe get their foot in the door and answer further along.

I wanted to add one thing; this bill passed unanimously two years ago when it was put in as, again, a workforce option. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Pittston, Representative Hanley.

Representative **HANLEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, permission to ask a question of the chamber?

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Member may proceed.

Representative **HANLEY**: In reading this bill, it only applies to a tiny sliver of employers. If it's such a good idea, how come the bill wasn't statewide, every employer in the state? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Member has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who cares to answer. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Oxford, Representative Dillingham.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: Thank you. If I could also pose a question through the Chair?

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Member may proceed.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: I appreciate the reference to the Maine State Chamber by one of our previous speakers, but I wanted to clarify that this bill is speaking directly to just public employees and not the private employee sector.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Member posed a question through the Chair to anyone who cares to answer. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Auburn, Representative Sheats.

Representative **SHEATS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to confirm what the Representative has said. I wanted to point out that most states, including our neighbors, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Vermont, ban it from both public and private job applications. Over 30 states ban it like we are doing, but there are public employers like Target, Walmart, Home Depot, and Starbucks that have voluntarily struck the question about conviction from their applications because they recognize it as a deterrent to job seekers who they need, as well as an unreliable discriminator to evaluate a candidate. But we have not decided to impose that, strictly make this about our public employees. One reason is, as the Maine Human Rights Council pointed out, our state policy right now already bans discrimination based on job history or, excuse me, criminal history, so if we ban discrimination based on criminal history, why is it on our job application?

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Sinclair, Representative Martin.

Representative **MARTIN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. To respond to the question that was posed by my good friend the Minority Leader, this applies only to state employees. It further stipulates that it does not apply to positions in school administrative units, municipalities, counties, or other political subdivisions of the state.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Knox, Representative Kinney.

Representative **KINNEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was going to also add that there is another bill that is out regarding other employers that are not state employees. And this bill being for state government employees, one of the issues that was brought up was that people aren't getting in for an

interview because they've checked the box that they have a criminal history. That criminal history may be 20, 30, 40, 50 years old and they've had a clean record ever since and so with the testimony we received in committee, that is why we came out with a unanimous report.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Standish, Representative Ordway.

Representative **ORDWAY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just a point of clarification that last session when this bill came up through state and local committee, it was not a unanimous bill.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Unanimous Ought to Pass Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 12

YEA - Ackley, Austin B, Babbidge, Babine, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Berry, Bickford, Blume, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Cloutier, Collings, Cooper, Corey, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Daughtry, Denk, Dillingham, Dodge, Doudera, Drinkwater, Dunphy, Evangelos, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau R, Foley, Gattine, Gramlich, Grohoski, Handy, Harnett, Head, Hepler, Hickman, Higgins, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Jorgensen, Kessler, Kinney, Kornfield, Landry, Madigan C, Marean, Martin J, Martin R, Martin T, Mason, Mastraccio, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Meyer, Moonen, Morales, Nadeau, O'Neil, Pebworth, Peoples, Perry A, Perry J, Pluecker, Reckitt, Reed, Riseman, Roberts-Lovell, Rykerson, Schneck, Sharpe, Sheats, Stanley, Stearns, Stover, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Tuell, Verow, White B, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin S, Blier, Bradstreet, Costain, Curtis, DeVeau, Foster, Griffin, Hall, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Hutchins, Javner, Johansen, Keschl, Kryzak, Lockman, Lyford, Millett, Morris, O'Connor, Ordway, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Swallow, Wadsworth, White D.

ABSENT - Alley, Brennan, Campbell, Carney, Cebra, Denno, Dolloff, Doore, Faulkingham, Fecteau J, Grignon, Haggan, Maxmin, Pierce T, Riley, Sylvester, Theriault, Warren. Yes, 94; No, 37; Absent, 18; Excused, 1.

94 having voted in the affirmative and 37 voted in the negative, with 18 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly the **Unanimous Ought to Pass Report** was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**.

Under suspension of the rules, the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** and sent for concurrence.

ENACTORS
Emergency Measure

An Act To Provide That Persons Who Produce Maple Syrup and Honey Commercially Are Eligible for the Sales Tax Refund and Exemption for Commercial Agricultural Production (H.P. 72) (L.D. 86)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 126 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker Pro Tem and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 122: Grant Application and Award Procedure: Fund for the Efficient Delivery of Educational Services, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education

(H.P. 84) (L.D. 98)
(C. "A" H-3)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 123 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker Pro Tem and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 270: Uniform Reporting System for Quality Data Sets, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization

(H.P. 86) (L.D. 100)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 123 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker Pro Tem and sent to the Senate.

Acts

An Act To Implement the Recommendations of the Government Oversight Committee Regarding Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations Reporting Requirements

(H.P. 26) (L.D. 25)
(C. "A" H-2)

An Act To Clarify Maine Law Regarding the Tips of Service Employees

(H.P. 67) (L.D. 81)

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

Resolves

Resolve, To Rename the Stillwater Bridges in Old Town the Llewellyn Estes Bridge

(H.P. 170) (L.D. 207)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed, **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker Pro Tem and sent to the Senate.

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

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 380)
ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 10:00 in the morning.

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

Bill "An Act To Create Certain Recreational Opportunities on State-owned Land"

(S.P. 390) (L.D. 1270)

Bill "An Act To Ensure Funding for Certain Essential Functions of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension Pesticide Safety Education Program"

(S.P. 393) (L.D. 1273)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Better Enforce the Prohibition against Dangerous Persons Possessing Firearms"

(S.P. 396) (L.D. 1276)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Allow Funds from the Federal E-Rate Program To Be Applied to Maine Preschool Programs"

(S.P. 382) (L.D. 1262)

Bill "An Act To Allow the Awarding of Graduation Credits by Career and Technical Education Centers and Regions"

(S.P. 387) (L.D. 1267)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Modernize Maine's Renewable Portfolio Standard"

(S.P. 399) (L.D. 1279)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Support Access to Health Services for Homeless Youth in Maine"

(S.P. 395) (L.D. 1275)

Bill "An Act To Require the Director of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention To Be Credentialed"

(S.P. 397) (L.D. 1277)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Telehealth"

(S.P. 383) (L.D. 1263)

Bill "An Act Relating to Insurance Coverage for Screening Mammograms"

(S.P. 384) (L.D. 1264)

Bill "An Act To Increase Access to Low-cost Prescription Drugs"

(S.P. 392) (L.D. 1272)

Bill "An Act To Enact the Health Insurance Consumer Assistance Program"

(S.P. 394) (L.D. 1274)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Establish the Maine Buy American and Build Maine Act"

(S.P. 400) (L.D. 1280)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Establish a Maine Low-income Housing Tax Credit"

(S.P. 385) (L.D. 1265)

Bill "An Act To Exempt Permanently Disabled Veterans from Payment of Property Tax"

(S.P. 391) (L.D. 1271)

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Requiring the State To Share Not Less Than 5 Percent of State Sales and Income Tax Revenue with Municipalities

(S.P. 398) (L.D. 1278)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Create Transportation Corridor Districts for the Purpose of Funding Transportation and Transit Services"

(S.P. 386) (L.D. 1266)

Bill "An Act To Update the Laws Governing Child Safety Seats and Seat Belts"

(S.P. 389) (L.D. 1269)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Update and Clarify the Laws Governing Raffles"

(S.P. 388) (L.D. 1268)

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

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

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

On motion of Representative DOLLOFF of Rumford, the House adjourned at 1:33 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 19, 2019, pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 380) and in honor and lasting tribute to Janice Reed, of Rumford.