

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Senate Legislative Record
One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature
State of Maine

Daily Edition

First Regular Session
beginning December 2, 2020

beginning at Page 1

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
JOURNAL OF THE SENATE**

In Senate Room at the Augusta Civic Center
Wednesday
December 2, 2020

Pursuant to the Provisions of the Constitution and the laws of the State of Maine, the Senators-elect of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature convened in the Senate Room at the Augusta Civic Center and were called to order by **DAREK M. GRANT**, Secretary of the Senate of the One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Legislature.

Prayer by Senator-elect Richard A. Bennett of Oxford County
(read by Senator-elect Mark W. Lawrence of York County).

SENATOR-ELECT LAWRENCE: It is my pleasure to deliver the prayer this morning, especially on behalf of Rick Bennett. Senator-elect Bennett and I have what someone described as a long and complicated history. Some of us would describe us as adversaries in the Legislative process and so this is probably one of the first two times I have to say something about him, since he's not here, and introduce him to the Democrats when he is not in the room to rebut what I'm going to say. Senator Bennet and I were elected to the Legislature at a time of deep partisan division. We had just been through a horrible election in which there were claims of lies and fraud, not this election but this was 25 years ago. The Governor of his party had been reelected and there was claims he had misled the State about the budget and we had a budget short-fall that was about one-third of the State budget and we faced a Legislative session in which the Governor had to raise taxes and the Minority of the Senate, in fact, held the Legislature hostage by shutting down State government. It was a time when I saw, when Rick and I saw, long-term legislative relationships become bitter animus. That was a crucible in which Rick and I learned about the Legislature. It went on and, in fact, when I was elected Minority Leader in this Body I went into the Senate President's Office and presented my committee selections and they said 'Thank you' and they promptly rejected them all and put who they wanted on committees, not who we wanted on committees. So it was with some amusement where two years later, when I became Senate President, they brought in their selections. At the top of the list was a freshman Senator I had served in the House with named Rick Bennett who they wanted on Appropriations. I looked at him and he said 'These are our appointments' and I said, 'Well, doesn't the Senate President do appointments? Isn't that what you told me two years ago?' They kind of said, 'Well, this is who we're selecting.' So my own caucus said, 'Don't put Senator Bennett on Appropriations. He will use that Minority position to close down State government again. He will be a thorn in your side.' In fact, one of the outgoing members of Republican leadership came to me and said, 'I'm not happy with what's going on in Republican leadership, appoint me and I will be your ally on Appropriations.' I thought about it for a minute and I said, 'No, I can't do it. If we're going to put what has happened behind us we have to put it behind,' and I appointed Senator Bennett to Appropriations. He came in to see

me and thanked me for putting him on and I kind of looked at him and said, 'Well, I'm going to have to keep a close eye on you,' because he is very clever and very smart, when you meet him you will know he's clever and smart, but I didn't tell him that I had begun a secret plan of developing a process where we could pass a budget by a majority vote and we did that, and we did that with the alliance of the Governor and passed it and thereby took away that ability to block a budget. Unfortunately, I found myself in a difficult position after that because I needed Rick's help. I had had this plan called Jump Start 2000 to put money into research and development as a way of bringing us out of the economic downturns we had seen in the state of Maine. The Governor was lukewarm on it. The Republicans didn't support it. I brought Rick into my office and said, 'Rick, I need help. Here's why and what I did on the budget I had to do for the best interest of the people of Maine. This is a plan that's for the best interest.' He said, 'Yup, I know it's in the best interest of the people of Maine. In fact, this would have been a proposal Republicans would have come forward with but,' he said, 'nothing with your name on it will pass the Republicans.' I said, 'What do you suggest?' He said, 'Let me think about it.' He came back two days later and he said, 'Here's what I propose. Make a committee to review this. Don't make it Democratic Majority, make it bi-partisan and appoint me as co-Chair.' Again, all my caucus objected to that but I said, 'No.' I said, 'He's not going to steal my thunder, he's not going to steal my idea. If this idea's going to succeed, the way the legislative process works, is that you have to give up control, you have to let everybody else take ownership of an idea because it has to go on, this type of idea would have to go on for decades.' True to his commitment, Rick set up that committee, served on the committee, won the Governor's support, brought his caucus around, and in fact we did pass Jump Start 2000 and it has improved Maine's economy significantly. In fact, part of it, an offshoot of that idea, is now floating in the Gulf of Maine as Dr. Habib's floating wind farm.

We are facing an unprecedented time now. We have the COVID crisis where the next four months are only going to get darker. We're going to see hundreds of Mainers die. Our economy is in distress and we're going to see thousands of Mainers develop COVID. Unless we come together, unless we find a way to do that, we are not going to be able to do that. I think that's the message that President Jackson was trying to set when he selected two former Senate Presidents, one to deliver the prayer, I just lost his prayer so I have to find it again, and one to deliver the pledge. When he asked me, Rick sent me an e-mail and he said, 'Would you be willing to deliver the prayer on my behalf?' I said, 'Certainly.' I did that not just because he was an adversary of mine, somebody I worked with. Excuse me, we're getting the prayer. He sent me the prayer and I said, 'Yes, Rick, I'll do it because you're somebody I worked with, but more than that you are a dear friend.' because during that process Rick and I became very dear friends. I found he was a person I could trust in the opposition. I found he was a person of his word and we found a way to work together. As we face this crisis we're going to have to find a way to work together. Rick put together a very special prayer, which I hope the Secretary can find, thank you, which will demonstrate the type of person he is and how this Legislature needs to think about how we address the crisis. Let's be in a spirit of prayer.

Almighty God, You have asked all to be one, not the same but one. Not one party, not one race, not one interest. Rather let us be of one heart, one mind, one desire to serve You and place

nothing above or before You. Our founders adopted as a motto of our country 'E Pluribus Unum,' out of many one, to honor the diversity of America while questing for common ground in our shared experience, our mutual respect in our search for unity. May this spirit govern the 130th Maine Legislature. Loving God, You have allowed us and our people, who have chosen us to work for them and to guard, guide, and protect them. Therefore, give us the courage of our convictions while keeping our ears open for Your wisdom. Let us do our work, as President Lincoln asked of our nation just weeks before he was called to You, with malice towards none, with clarity for all, with firmness in the right as God gives us to see the right. May we live up to the words of Ephesians Chapter 4: Therefore, each of you must put off falsehood, speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving to each other just as in Christ God forgave you. May God bless this 130th Maine Senate and each and every one. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator-elect Mark W. Lawrence of York County.

Off Record Remarks

The Following Senate Communication:
S.C. 1

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

November 24, 2020

To Darek M. Grant, Secretary of the Senate 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 are the names and residences of the Senators-elect to the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature, in accordance with the tabulation submitted to the Governor on November 23, 2020:

- District 1 Jackson, Troy Dale, Allagash
- District 2 Stewart, Harold L. III, Presque Isle
- District 3 Farrin, Bradlee Thomas, Norridgewock
- District 4 Davis, Paul T. Sr., Sangerville
- District 5 Dill, James F., Old Town
- District 6 Moore, Marianne, Calais
- District 7 Luchini, Louis, Ellsworth
- District 8 Rosen, Kimberley C., Bucksport
- District 9 Baldacci, Joseph M., Bangor
- District 10 Guerin, Stacey K., Glenburn
- District 11 Curry, Glenn Chip, Belfast
- District 12 Miramant, David R., Camden
- District 13 Maxmin, Chloe S., Nobleboro
- District 14 Bellows, Shenna, Manchester

- District 15 Pouliot, Matthew Gary, Augusta
- District 16 Cyrway, Scott Wynn, Albion
- District 17 Black, Russell J., Wilton
- District 18 Keim, Lisa M., Dixfield
- District 19 Bennett, Richard A., Oxford
- District 20 Claxton, Ned, Auburn
- District 21 Libby, Nathan L., Lewiston
- District 22 Timberlake, Jeffrey L., Turner
- District 23 Vitelli, Eloise A., Arrowsic
- District 24 Daughtry, Matthea Elisabeth, Brunswick
- District 25 Breen, Catherine E., Falmouth
- District 26 Diamond, G. William, Windham
- District 27 Chipman, Benjamin M., Portland
- District 28 Sanborn, Heather, Portland
- District 29 Carney, Anne M., Cape Elizabeth
- District 30 Brenner, Stacy Fielding, Scarborough
- District 31 Bailey, Donna, Saco
- District 32 Deschambault, Susan A., Biddeford
- District 33 Woodsome, David C., Waterboro
- District 34 Rafferty, Joseph E. Jr., Kennebunk
- District 35 Lawrence, Mark W., Eliot

In Testimony Whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be affixed, given under my hand at Augusta this twenty-fourth day of November in the year Two Thousand and Twenty.

S/Matthew Dunlap
Secretary of State

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator-elect from Oxford, Senator **BENNETT**, and the Senator-elect from Franklin, Senator **BLACK**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

QUORUM CALL

32 Senators-elect having answered the Call, the Secretary declared a quorum present.

On motion by Senator-elect **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 1

Ordered, that a message be sent to Governor Janet T. Mills, informing her that a quorum of Senators-elect is present in the Senate Room at the Augusta Civic Center, ready to take and subscribe to the oaths of office required by the Constitution to qualify them to enter upon the discharge of their official duties.

READ and PASSED.

The Chair appointed the Senator-elect from Androscoggin, Senator-elect **LIBBY**, to deliver the message to the Governor. The Senator-elect was escorted to the Governor.

Subsequently, the Senator-elect from Androscoggin, Senator-elect **LIBBY**, reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the Chair.

THE CHAIR: The Chair recognizes the Senator-elect from Androscoggin, Senator-elect Libby.

Senator-elect **LIBBY:** Thank you, Mr. Secretary. Men and women of the Senate, as you all know, Governor Mills is unable to attend this morning, however, Mr. Secretary, I have delivered the message with which I was charged and am pleased to report that Acting Chief Justice Mead will attend upon the Senators-elect forthwith for the purpose of administering to them the oaths of office required by the Constitution.

SECRETARY GRANT: At this time, before we bring the Acting Chief Justice in, Governor Mills did send a video to the Body that will, hopefully, show on the projector.

The Honorable Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, addressed the Senate via video message.

GOVERNOR MILLS: This legislative session is bound to be unlike any other. I'm addressing you virtually from the Blaine House. I would like to thank Acting Chief Justice Andrew Mead for swearing you in in my stead. As I've said before, the COVID 19 virus is everywhere and no one is immune from exposure to the virus, from exposure to someone with the virus, or the infection itself or the impacts it has on our daily lives. I'm no exception. As of yesterday, I am in quarantine after a member of my security staff was notified to be a probable case. I'm feeling well and I'm not experiencing any symptoms but I hope this serves as another reminder that all of us, as we've said all along that no one is immune to the spread or the impact of this virus. Please stay safe. That's the most immediate before us, stemming the tide of this virus, protecting the health of Maine's people, and charting a path for Maine's economic recovery. Many people in Maine have shouldered enormous burdens the last nine months with a rise in case numbers, increase in hospitalizations, and positivity rates in our state and across the country. The burden is only getting heavier right now. The people of Maine deserve our united effort, putting a lid on this virus so they can go to school, keep their businesses open, and survive the holiday season while we wait for an effective vaccine. We may come from different parties. You and I have the belief that we're united in a single goal of protecting this state that we love and the people who call it home. Whatever other issues arise during this legislative session, let's remember that common purpose and, as you have heard me say before, in my administration you will always find an open door, open mind, and an open heart. The door looks a little more like a zoom lens right

now but it is still open to you. In the meantime, let us all wear our masks, watch our distance, and wash our hands to stay safe, keep our colleagues, friends, and family members safe. Thank you for your commitment to public service, especially during these challenging times. It is my honor to serve along side you as Governor of the greatest state in the nation. Thank you.

ORGANIZATION OF THE SENATE

The Honorable Acting Chief Justice Andrew M. Mead enters and addresses the Senate.

ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE MEAD: Good morning, distinguished members of the Maine Senate. It is a special pleasure for me to be here with you here today. It's great to be meeting with you in person. If your life has been like mine our meetings have been in tiny little windows and it's just refreshing to see actual human beings to talk to. So, it's great to be here today. Thank you for your kind welcome. I know many of you, some of you I don't. For those who I don't, my name is Andrew Mead. I am the Senior Associate Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court and, since early April of this unusual year, I serve as the Acting Chief Justice, operations of law. We're gathered here today, at this moment, on the opening day of the 130th session of the Maine Legislature for the purpose of administering the oath of office as prescribed by the Constitution of the State of Maine, Article 9, Section 1. I've always found that the taking of an oath is a wonderful moment for reflection, to think for a moment about the deep obligation, the deep task, profoundly important work that's about to be done, the magnitude of the task before you. It really is quite a moment. As you know, the Legislature, the members of the Legislature, requires, and the Constitution requires, that the members swear to uphold the Constitution and discharge your duties according to the laws of the State. If you are a person who is conscientiously scrupulous of taking and subscribing an oath you may substitute the word 'affirm' to 'swear' in the oath of office. So, onto the business at hand. If you'd be kind enough to stand, if you are able, and raise your right hand and repeat after me.

The Senators-elect take and subscribe to the oaths of office required by the Constitution.

ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE MEAD: Alright, now that it's all official, please let me be the first to thank you for your commitment to public service and to wish you well as you work for the good of the people of Maine. So from me, on behalf of the court, best wishes, warm regards, stay well, and thank you. I understand there's a second oath I'll now administer. No?

Off Record Remarks

ELECTION OF SENATE OFFICERS

Senator **BREEN** of Cumberland **NOMINATED** Senator **TROY D. JACKSON** of Aroostook for the Office of President of the Senate of the 130th Legislature.

THE SECRETARY: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Breen.

Senator **BREEN:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Chair and men and women of the Senate, it gives me great pleasure and honor to nominate as President of this Body for the 130th Legislature the Honorable Troy Jackson. Troy and I are unlikely friends and allies, but for those of you who are new to this Body, you will see that that's what makes this Body, and the entire Legislature, an emblem and a symbol of the people of Maine. In keeping with the good Senator from York's remarks, in that spirit I'll share a story about Troy and me that will illustrate why we are unlikely but fast friends. Why would a logger from the Allagash, a fifth-generation logger, be friends with a Town Councilor from Falmouth, especially because we didn't serve together in my first term? In my first term my entry was very tumultuous and I had not – I was very loyal to the leaders who had – I was very well supported by the leaders who helped me through that. One of those leaders decided to run for caucus leader and, because of my relationship with her, my history with her and not knowing Troy, I supported her. I nominated her and I supported her. I did not vote for Troy for caucus leader. Now we all know that those sorts of votes have repercussions. We're a family but we sometimes have family feuds and so Troy and I actually started with a bit of a feud. However, as I had worked very hard to get more Democrats elected to the Senate and pick up seats, I was rewarded with the seat on Appropriations for the Minority my first session on Appropriations and, of course, when you're a caucus of one, you really need your House allies to do anything that you want to initiate. We had a supplemental budget that year presented to the Appropriations Committee and a lot, a lot of money was being put into the Rainy Day Fund. That was what then-Governor Paul LePage had proposed. That was a good idea, however we also were seeing increasing numbers of people dying of opioid overdoses. So I said to my House Democratic colleagues, 'You know, I think I'd like some of this money to go into opioid treatment, not just for the Rainy Day Fund.' They disagreed, which was their prerogative. So I kind of felt like, 'Well, I don't have my House numbers, this isn't going to go well for me. I guess I'm not going to be able to do anything with this seat for opioids for this budget.' Well, I went and talked with Troy about it. Kind of threw up my hands like, 'I guess that's the way it is.' A couple of hours later he came over to me and said, 'The Administration agrees with you and they'd like to put the money into opioid treatment with the supplemental budget.' I said, 'The Administration?' and he said, 'Ya.' Now for those of you with a little history, you know that Governor LePage and Troy Jackson had very public views up to this point. So the fact that Troy had gone down to the Governor's office and said we need to do something about opioids with this budget was amazing, and the Governor agreed. With that supplemental budget we were able to, yes we put some into the Rainy Day Fund, also put the money into a program called Opioid Help Home which are up and running today and are part of the treatment programs that are available. Now, obviously, we have a lot more work to do on opioid overdoses. That is as much a public health crisis as the pandemic, but the point of the story is that any concerns I had about whether Troy Jackson and I were going to be able to work together and get something done for the people of Maine evaporated immediately. I knew I could trust him. I knew he would go to bat for issues that are important for everybody in the

state of Maine and since then we have worked together very, very great and, of course, drinking some beer at Quarry Tap also helped. So I will finish this nomination I'm so honored to make just reminding everybody the words of the good Senator from York that we need to work together, that Troy Jackson knows how to bury the hatchet, put the focus where it needs to be, and fight tooth and nail for the people of Maine. That's why I'm honored to nominate him today for President. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

THE SECRETARY: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Claxton.

Senator **CLAXTON:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. Good morning, men and women of the Senate. Congratulations. My name is Ned Claxton, I represent the District 20. I rise to second the nomination of Troy Jackson for President of the State Senate. It is an honor and privilege to do so. I can't speak to his accomplishments as a politician as many of you can because I've only known him for a year, meeting him as I began to think about running for office. When I first met Troy I was sort of prepared for an attitude that might be associated with being in a position of significant power. That's not who Troy is. He was friendly from the beginning. He was curious about me and my motivations. He was good at listening. He was very supportive of doing what was right for Maine. When my wife met him two years ago today, where again she came away to me and said, 'That is a very nice man.' So you have her endorsement too. In the caucus he was no different. I had seen that before. Everyone had a chance to be heard. Everyone was treated respectfully and fairly. He shared his thinking but he didn't push it on others or demand that they think the way he did. His long track record of action started with the blockade of the Quebec-Maine border in 1998 for unfair labor practices. He's continued to work since then for labor rights, tax fairness, healthcare, and education. A fifth-generation logger, he's a member of the Machinists and the Paper Union. Troy is clear in his thinking and still willing to hear from others. We've all known people who offer to help and then move on. Troy is not one of them. When Troy says something he means it. He was available to me many times in the last legislature. His 'call me any time' means just that and I have. He has an open door. It was refreshing to have a man steeped in politics with tons of obligations making himself available to a new legislator. We talked, just the two of us, in his office often. He has an amazing love and respect for the institution government. He shares that love with others and he is a remarkably able man to continue to lead the Senate. I'm proud and honored to second Troy Jackson's nomination to be Senate President. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Nomination seconded by Senator **CLAXTON** of Androscoggin.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, nominations ceased.

On further motion by same Senator, one ballot was cast on the part of the Senate in favor of Senator **TROY D. JACKSON** of Aroostook for the Office of President of the Senate for the 130th Legislature.

This being done, Senator **TROY D. JACKSON** of Aroostook was duly elected President of the Senate of the 130th Legislature.

The Sergeant-At-Arms escorted the Senator from Aroostook, Senator **TROY D. JACKSON**, to the Rostrum.

Senator **TROY D. JACKSON** of Aroostook took and subscribed to the oaths of office required by the Constitution to qualify him to discharge his duties as President of the Senate, pursuant to the Rules of the Senate.

PRESIDENT JACKSON: Well, thank you. That is unbelievable. I thought with everything that we were going through I'm maybe not – it wouldn't be the same but I hear people talk and going through this, emotions are the same as it was two years ago. I definitely want to thank all of you. Unbelievable moment for me, obviously, and I want to thank Senator Lawrence for his prayer, making comments about exactly what we will be going through and certainly talking about the history of the legislature in the past and some of the things that are similar to now. Thank you so much, Senator Lawrence, for bringing that certainly to mine and everybody else's attention. I certainly want to thank Senator Breen and Senator Claxton. I purposely didn't want to know what they were going to say. Certainly gets the emotions going, but I appreciate very much your friendship and, you know, your kind words and I'm grateful to have you both as friends, friends that I wouldn't have had but for serving with you in this Body. I certainly want to thank Acting Chief Justice Mead for being with us today, even in this unusual setting, to administer the oath of office.

I have a few words to share and I'll try to be brief, but obviously this is important to get the Senate started in the right tone. But first I'd be remiss if I didn't recognize the people who made it possible for us to be here today and to meet our Constitutional obligations. So I want to thank Earl Kingsbury and his team here at the Augusta Civic Center. I want to thank Secretary Darek Grant for an unbelievable amount of work and his Secretary's Office. Obviously, Rob Hunt in the Clerk's Office and the audio visual and IT teams, along with the non-partisan legislative staff. You all have done something that we never imagined we'd have to do by moving this House and Senate Chambers to the Civic Center and it's been no easy feat. I really want to thank you all for your unbelievable work.

Like I said, it is an honor to be with you today, let alone to be reelected as Senate President and preside over this Body during a difficult moment in our State's history. The COVID 19 pandemic has impacted families in every corner of this state. This includes our own State House family. Just yesterday we learned of the Governor's potential exposure to COVID 19. Her decision to self-quarantine underscores the importance of doing whatever we can to look out for our fellow neighbors, even when it means missing exciting events like today. As you all know now, Senator-elect Rick Bennett was recently tested positive for COVID 19. I spoke to him earlier this week. He's in good spirits and his symptoms seem to be mild. All the while I would ask that you keep Senator-elect Bennett and his family in your thoughts and prayers this week. I say this a lot about the Maine Legislature, and it's been mentioned today, you know, we are a family and it may sound cliché but it is something that I wholeheartedly believe. We may come from different backgrounds and we may represent different parts of the state but, for better or worse, we are all part of one legislative family. Throughout my time here I have found unlikely allies and forged powerful friendships across both county and party lines. That is what makes Augusta different from

Washington D.C. So when Rick called me about his diagnosis, meaning that he couldn't be with us today, it really did put things in perspective. It reminded me about what matters. You know, too often Democrats and Republicans are pitted against one another as if our party affiliations make us enemies, but that's just not the case. At the end of the day we are all Mainers. We are here because we love the state and believe in its people and we are committed to serve Mainers at the best of our ability. Over the next few years we will be working along side each other day in and day out and we will attempt to solve some of the state's greatest challenges. We definitely won't agree all the time but, like a family, we'll need to put our differences aside and recognize each other's humanity for the good of the state. We'll need to put the hostility of the election behind us and work together for the sake of our health and our economic recovery. You don't need me to tell you that these are unusual times but Maine people are struggling. To pretend that anything is normal would do a disservice to the people that we represent and to carry on with the pomp and circumstance of swearing in day would fly in the face of the sacrifices Mainers have made and the hardships they're facing. Our neighbors have made difficult sacrifices to keep their loved ones safe and try to reopen this economy. Graduations and weddings have been cancelled or postponed. Funerals and memorial services have been a private affair. Children have gone months without hugging their elderly parents and grandparents have gone months without seeing and, in some cases, meeting their grandchildren for the first time. Our neighbors are experiencing unprecedented hardships. We've heard tough stories from constituents almost every single day. As Senators, I'm only grateful that we've been able to help folks get by when we can. We've helped a disabled veteran in St. Agatha get a new furnace after his cracked, leaving him without heat in October. We have worked with Lori to get her husband the unemployment benefits he was owed after four months without any relief. When a woman from New Sweden's husband died we even worked with the funeral home director to come with a way to commemorate the man's life in a way that felt right and gave his wife some closure. It's tough. In times of celebration and mourning we're used to gathering together to try to take pride or solace in each other. In times of uncertainty like this being together is where we find comfort and draw the strength that we need to face these unknown challenges that lie ahead. Yet Mainers have faced these unprecedented situations with extraordinary courage. This session we have to prioritize taking care of Maine people, our veterans, our seniors, our workers, and young children. We have the opportunity to protect the rights of people who have been hit the hardest, whether it's with a veteran's bill of rights, a COVID 19 patient's bill of rights, or protections for workers. Serving in the Maine Legislature is about serving the people of this state. When you take away the State House, with the marble floors and towering ceilings, and you take away the grand chambers, the purpose of the Legislature doesn't change. Who we serve and what we were sent here to do remains the same and we shouldn't forget that. People must remain at the heart of our agenda. It seems obvious but we know that's not always the case. Just look at the broken promises in D.C. There are members of Congress, on both sides, who have turned this crisis into their own personal gain, profiting off the pandemic, all while regular people are struggling. Maine people and small businesses have gone months without aid from the federal government. The expanded unemployment benefits and PPP funds have dried up and as the weather has gotten colder the pandemic has gotten worse.

Thirty-five thousand Mainers are on track to lose their unemployment benefits just after Christmas and, despite all of this, the federal government still can't get it together when we need it the most.

The problem is too many politicians have lost sight of what matters in their search for power, influence, and status. They've forgotten who they are fighting for and have turned their backs on the people that they're supposed to represent, the very people who made them who they are and took a chance on them in the first place. It's why so many people feel left out of their government and left behind. I get that. I know that frustration all too well. It's why I first ran for office many years ago. I was tired of broken promises by politicians who only seemed to deliver to special interests and their own bottom line. I was sick of speaking out and raising concerns only to have them fall on deaf ears and it's why I honestly remember so clearly what it felt like to walk through the State House doors for the first time as an elected official, a role I never expected to have in a place I never thought I'd belong. Walking through those doors was the moment when the results of the election, the enormity of the responsibility, became real. It's a feeling that has never left me. There is something deeply humbling about the people in your community entrusting you to be their voice in Augusta, to place their faith in you to fight for what's right and deliver results, and it's a weight that I carry on my shoulders every day, and I know I'm not alone in this Chamber.

Maine people have placed an extraordinary amount of faith and trust in the members of the 130th Legislature. They deserve a government that works for them and puts them first. At a time when so many people are struggling and have lost faith in government, we have the opportunity to show them what government can and should be and we have the opportunity to show them that Maine Legislature isn't made up of empty politicians, but instead we're loggers and farmers, doctors and nurses, teachers and coaches, fishermen, electricians, advocates, and small business owners. Our government is at its best when regular people have a seat at the table and are able to participate. This session it will be easier for our constituents to participate than ever before. Although unusual, the 130th Maine Legislature will be the most open and accessible legislature in the history of our state. For the first time Mainers will be able to participate in Public Hearings and watch committee meetings from their home. Even better, if they want to testify at a Public Hearing they'll be able to participate remotely instead of having to drive all the way to the State House. For me, that's a big deal. The people in my district live further away than probably anyone from the State House. If one of my constituents wants to testify at a Public Hearing they have to take the day off and drive at least three hours to the State House, only to share three minutes of testimony before turning around and driving those three hours back home. This session we need to prioritize policies like this to ensure constituents like mine and yours have a greater voice in Augusta. Maine people are counting on us to help them survive this pandemic, rebuild our economy, and rebuild their lives. It's time for the Legislature to put partisan bickering and the ugliness of the election behind us. It's time to heal old wounds and come together, not as Democrats, Republicans, and Independents, but as members of the 130th Maine Legislature. That's not to say that we won't have our disagreements, nor is it to say that things won't get heated at times, but our work is too important to get derailed by politics. Maine people are counting on us to put them first.

Let's show them that they were right to put their faith in us and trust in us.

You know, two years ago I stood before you and said that healthcare is too expensive, property taxes are out of control, and the cost of job training programs and higher education were out of reach for far too many Mainers. I laid out an ambitious agenda for us because I believed in our ability to work together and get things done. Since then we took on big Pharma and won, passing some of the most comprehensive prescription drug reform laws in the country. We began restoring revenue sharing, increased the Homestead Exemption Program, and expanded property tax fairness credit. We invested in both career technical education and high speed reliable internet. Make no mistake, we still have work to do and the challenges we face this session are greater than ever before but, if you look at our track record, the Maine Legislature is capable of coming together, confronting our biggest problems, and getting results. To rebuild our economy we need to champion policies that put Mainers first. It's why I'm once again introducing buy American, hire Maine legislation. When the State spends money we should do everything we can to make sure that those funds go to the workers and businesses in our own backyard. Over the years these types of policies have gotten pushed back from Democrats and Republicans alike. I don't believe that makes any sense when your job is to represent the best interests of 1.3 million people. I don't understand, for the life of me, how you don't put them first. The goal isn't to be exclusionary, rather it is to support and lift up the people, the business owners, the jobs, and the products that we make right here in our own state.

During this pandemic we've seen Maine workers and small businesses step up for our communities. When the pandemic first hit, Maine manufacturers immediately shifted gears, working to fill the shortage of PPE overnight. Ben Waxman and Whitney Reynolds and their team at American Roots in Westbrook, James Morin and his team at Flowfold in Gorham, Scott Biehn and his team at Ntension in Herman, Dave Wheeler and his team at New Balance in Norridgewock. They are just some of the examples. Then there were businesses and workers that stepped up to help their neighbors, and I'm sure there's many in your own communities. Places like Big Rick's in Madawaska and Hanna Lucas who runs the Northlane Siberian Huskies in Caribou. Maine businesses and workers have been there for us. Now it's time for us to have their backs. When our government invests in Maine people and Maine businesses it pays off. In Maine we've created good paying jobs and spread economic development all across the state, from Idexx in Westbrook to the Penobscot McCrum in Washburn. Federal investments in Purington Medical Products in Guilford have done the same, resulting in a second location and 140 new production jobs. We can't afford to let up now. There is no question that we're living through one of the most difficult moments in our state in our country's history, but we can do right now, how we meet this moment, has the potential to define the next decade. How we meet this moment can jump start a new innovated economy, one that celebrates our heritage industries and embraces new opportunities. How we meet this moment can launch a new era of Maine politics, one where people don't work in silos but actually talk to each other to solve problems. In the middle of this chaos and hardship a lot can happen depending on how we meet this moment, but one thing is for certain, it will define our legacy as members of the 130th Maine Legislature.

You know, it's funny but back in June I finally replaced my worn-out dress shoes. Some of you might not believe this but I'm a little bit cheap, so I really like to shop. I had no need to take them out of the box until just this week for this event but on Sunday, when I was in Allagash packing, I took the shoes out of the closet and realized that I had bought two right feet. That's a true story. They are in the van, I can show you. It made me laugh. Shoes for two right feet are useless. You need a right and a left to make things work, otherwise you're going to walking in circles. That got me to thinking about today. The way I see it, we need each other to get things done. Republican or Democrat, north or south, east or west, right or left, we need each other to successfully rebuild and get through this crisis. I know that we all love this state and we believe in the spirit of the Maine people. When things get tough Maine people don't walk away from a problem. They don't retreat to their corners and they certainly don't give up. Just ask Ben Waxman, Whitney Reynolds, James Morin, or Scott Biehn, and so many others. It's not in our blood. When things get tough Mainers roll up their sleeves and get to work. They figure out how to bring people together, use what they've got, and get the job done. No matter how hard the stakes are, Mainers rise to the challenge every damn time. That's why I'm so proud to serve here today and that's why I'm so proud to be a Mainer. So let's get the job done. Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Timberlake.

Senator **TIMBERLAKE:** Congratulations, Mr. President. On behalf of the entire Republican caucus, congratulation to every newly sworn-in Senator here today. It's quite a humbling honor to serve the people of Maine and, to take it, you are all as anxious as I am to get to work. The 130th Legislature will face unprecedented and historical changes never before seen in the state. However, I am optimistic about our future after hearing encouraging words from you here today, Mr. President. Many of us have listened to you recently say that you want to work collaboratively with your Republican colleagues and how it would be great if we could put bipartisanship aside. I cannot agree with you more. It is my hope that lines of communication will open up and the 130th Legislature leadership team will be remembered as the one who could put partisanship aside and that we would go back to work and work for the citizens of the state of Maine. This Legislature needs to play a key role in the discussion on where Maine is headed. We must be the voice of the people in the State House. All of our constituents want, or should I say need, us to find that common ground. We certainly do not have to look far to see what our neighbors are up against: lay-offs, unemployment, business closures, remote schooling, isolation, sickness, and, yes, even death. Senators, Representatives, and the Chief Executive need to sit at the same table to achieve or retrieve any of the sense of balance in our lives that we had nine months ago. Our neighbors, our families, our friends across this state want us to work together. They need us to work for them. Our economy can rebound. We're Mainers, for God sakes. Working hard is in our blood. You and I, Mr. President, are not afraid to get our hands dirty. Let's dig deep. The pain and the suffering endured by our small business owners, the workers, and the customers, the backbone of our state's economy has been heartbreaking and we need to make them our focus in this session. From this side

of the preverbal aisle, I look forward to this session with the spirit of bipartisanship and service to all the people of Maine. I thank you, Mr. President, and congratulations again.

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Timberlake, I couldn't agree more.

Senator **DILL** of Penobscot **NOMINATED DAREK M. GRANT** of Augusta for the Office of Secretary of the Senate of the 130th Legislature.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Dill.

Senator **DILL:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I was pleased and honored to be asked by Darek Grant to nominate him for Secretary of the Senate again and I did agree to do it, but somewhat reluctantly, and I told him, however, don't ask me next session. I wouldn't do it then even though I'd love to but I won't be around. But all kidding aside, it is truly my honor and privilege to nominate Darek for this position. By now most of you have experienced how well Darek handles the duties of the Secretary of Senate and, of course, President Jackson. I'll try to be brief as I say a little bit about his background and what he brings to his position. Darek is an Augusta native, went to Cony High School, but I won't hold that against him being from Gardiner. Darek is married and has two children. He also has a degree in Political Science from the University of Southern Maine and he served several years on the Augusta City Council, as well as the Augusta School Board. He's also been a member of the Chamber staff, including Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms. He was a Legislative Intern, Chief of Staff, and a Legislative Aide. As the saying goes, as a Legislative Aide you had to herd cats; Diamond, Alfond, Hobbins, Gerzofsky, even Jackson and Dill. Yes, he was even an Honorary Page back in the day. So, he's been around the State House for a long time and has held many positions. I said it before, and it bears repeating, Darek's a man of intelligence, wisdom, and devotion. Devotion to his family, his colleagues, his Labs, the Red Sox and, most importantly, the people of the state of Maine. Like I mentioned, Darek was my Legislative Aide and that's where I got to know him. He has a strong work ethic. Is very capable and hard working. I saw him work long and hard for the Senators and the Senate. However, in all seriousness, Darek falls in a line of some great Senate Secretary's and he knows the legislative process and certainly Mason's Manual. He'll work relentlessly in his role as Secretary to keep us on track, get our business done, and all in a timely manner. I would be remiss if I didn't mention how hard he, and of course his staff, has been working on getting us to be able to safely meet here at the Civic Center and to try to have some semblance of normality, whatever that is. He has done a remarkable job as we all sit here today. I would highly recommend Darek Grant for Secretary of the Senate. So please enthusiastically join me in supporting Darek Grant for the next Secretary of the Senate. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Knox, Senator Miramant.

Senator **MIRAMANT**: Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, I'm Senator Miramant from Senate District 12, encompassing most of Knox County, and I'd like to second the nomination of Darek Grant as Secretary of the Senate. I'd like to speak to the characteristics and qualifications that brought him to this apex of a position in the Maine Senate and in the Maine Legislature. It started with a dream that was ignited somewhere along the way when he was quite young and he came here as a Page, and I'll only read one thing and it's a quote that he said that he was instantly fascinated with the way it worked in this building. He wanted to be an Honorary Page every day. He recognized from an early time. It's an important reminder that what we do here goes beyond the issue of the day. When we do our jobs well we are inspiring and preparing the next generation for the future. I think we'd all do well to remember that from this young man in middle school who brought it. We also would do well to remember that in our lives, and our careers, when we have a dream, a desire, and when we get behind it everything falls into place to support it. That doesn't mean we don't have ups and downs. Your path here was across many challenges, many successes, many failures that are not true failures but just directional on the way. So Darek has had all that and it's been in a public way. It's been in this building, and in that other building that's not the Civic Center, and it's been in those halls and now it's in these. But what he's done is he's learned every part of the job. People, to get a position to support us in doing this job, you need a long institutional memory. They need to know what the people of Maine are asking for, just the same as we do, because they next have to help us with the tools to make it work, that we come here having to learn quickly, that they'd better help support us with and know well. Darek has learned those tools. He knows how to share them with us. He knows how to bend them to make things work and not bend them as in breaking them or breaking rules, but how to use language to understand and help us understand. There shouldn't be anyone here intimidated by going into his office and asking the question. It doesn't matter your party, your idea. He may not agree with your idea, which happens with he and I now and then, and yet he will show me how to execute it to the best of my ability for the people of Maine with my colleagues. Don't hesitate for a minute to go in there. He used to be more among us before he was Secretary. You have to get back in his office, but it's a welcoming office from the first face you see as you enter until you sit down in front of his desk and ask him your question and then puzzle something out with him. So, I can't help but endorse this man as our continuing Secretary. Thank you.

Nomination seconded by Senator **MIRAMANT** of Knox.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, nominations ceased.

On further motion by same Senator, one ballot was cast on the part of the Senate in favor of **DAREK M. GRANT** of Augusta for the Office of Secretary of the Senate for the 130th Legislature.

This being done, **DAREK M. GRANT** of Augusta was duly elected Secretary of the Senate of the 130th Legislature.

The Chair requested the Senator from Penobscot, Senator **DILL**, and the Senator from Knox, Senator **MIRAMANT**, escort the Secretary-elect to the President's Office for the purpose of taking and subscribing to the necessary oaths of office required by the Constitution to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of the duties of the office of Secretary of the Senate.

The Senators and Secretary-elect were escorted to the President's Office.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Subsequently, the Senator from Penobscot, Senator **DILL**, reported that they had attended to the duties with which they were charged and were pleased to report that **DAREK M. GRANT** of Augusta had taken and subscribed to the necessary oaths of office to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of the duties of the Secretary of the Senate of the 130th Legislature.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Diamond.

Senator **DIAMOND**: Good morning, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, you know, I always get goose-bumps when I look around and realize that I'm one of 35. Such an august group and that we are all 35 out of 1.3 million. I always wonder how did I get here and it's such a proud, proud moment.

THE PRESIDENT: Senator Diamond, could you just defer just a minute. Stay right there. I messed up. Nominations are now in order for the office of Assistant Secretary of the Senate of the 130th Legislature.

Senator **DIAMOND**: Mr. President, I always get goose-bumps. It's an honor for me to nominate Marcia Homstead as Assistant Secretary of the Senate and I would like to, doing that, I would like to speak to my motion, Mr. President.

Senator **DIAMOND** of Cumberland **NOMINATED MARCIA J. HOMSTEAD** of Lewiston for the Office of Assistant Secretary of the Senate of the 130th Legislature.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Diamond.

Senator **DIAMOND**: Thank you, Mr. President. I first met Marcia, this is telling, in 1984 when she was Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms. By the way, the Sergeant-At-Arms then was a woman named Molly Pitcher who served us, the Senate Body, for years and very well. What was striking about Marcia back then are the same things that illuminate her today, 36 years later. Her instant welcoming smile, her caring, her attitude, her proven competency, and has a way, a special way, of lifting others. She speaks openly about her personal challenges. Her husband, Jim, died

suddenly. She was able to rise above that. She's been an inspiration to a lot of people. She changed her whole life culture because she felt she actually had to do that and she, again, inspired so many people by that. Marcia's compassion for her colleagues and friends is unmatched and these are the reasons why Marcia has been asked by seven, count them, seven Senate Presidents to be their Administrative Assistant. The Administrative Assistant is the face of that office. People walk in. They're angry, they're frustrated, they're scared, they're lost, whatever it may be. The first face they see is that Administrative Assistant. Marcia did that for seven different Presidents. No matter how long you are blessed to serve the people in this Body, whether it's 34 years or 4 years, when the time is done, and you walk away, don't expect to be missed. Don't even expect to be remembered. But that's okay because, hopefully, what you have learned is what really is important. It's not the committee you served on. It's the committee you may have Chaired. It's not the bills you sponsored. It's the people you meet and the bonds that you make, and Marcia, for me and many others, and those of you who don't know her, I suspect she will become at the head of the line of those special people. Mr. President, when I said it was an honor to nominate Marcia that was really an understatement. No doubt, this is the proudest moment for me, and probably will be over the next two years. So I might as well go home, Mr. President. I probably won't get any better than this. Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in voting for and supporting Marcia Homstead as the next Assistant Secretary of the Senate. Thank you very much.

Nomination seconded by Senator **DESCHAMBAULT** of York.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Deschambault.

Senator **DESCHAMBAULT:** Thank you, Mr. President. I didn't check with Senator Diamond before I wrote my speech. I am going to skip a lot of the same attributes that he spoke about for Marcia. So, he spoke so eloquently about who she is as a person, so I will concentrate a little bit on her career, which he mentioned also. Today it is, indeed, my distinct honor and pleasure to second nominate Marcia Homstead for the position of Assistant Secretary of the Maine Senate. Marcia is currently the incumbent serving in the role. I suppose it's quite natural to assume that the Assistant assists the Secretary of the Senate, Darek Grant, and as such, in the event the Secretary is unavailable, the Assistant assumes the duties of that office. Many current Senators know Marcia is adept at managing multiple tasks. I also want to throw in, is a great baker and provides us with a lot of goodies while also changing gears and making herself available to us for a chat or to consult with her about a process or procedure. So, how does one apply for this position which is quite responsible and who has the ability to multitask in what we know to be a fast-paced work environment? Well, you look for someone who has knowledge and skill in the legislative process, someone who has past experience in a variety of functions and roles within the State Senate. Let me share with you then a bit of Marcia's 36 years, career years, working for the Senate. Joe Brennan was the Governor when Marcia started working for the Maine State Senate in 1984. For three legislative sessions she first began as the Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms. From the 115th, we are now the 130th, from the 115th to the 129th, 30 years, Marcia has either held the

position of Assistant to the Senate President or the Assistant to the Senate Democratic Majority or Minority caucus. I am going to read to you the people she worked with, and I'm jealous, I'd love to meet these people. She worked with Senate President, first of all, Charlie Pray, and then our very own Mark Lawrence, followed by Mike Michaud, Beverly Daggett, Beth Edmonds, Libby Mitchell, Justin Alford, and currently Troy Jackson. Marcia also worked for Majority and Minority caucus leaders Don Estes and Barry Hobbins, and hundreds and hundreds of Senators from both parties. Pretty impressive career. Marcia, in these positions, has demonstrated tireless work ethic throughout her career in State government. She has expert qualifications to manage this type of work and I highly recommend and ask for your support for Marcia Homstead for the position of Assistant Secretary of the Senate. Thank you.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, nominations ceased.

On further motion by same Senator, one ballot was cast on the part of the Senate in favor of **MARCIA J. HOMSTEAD** of Lewiston for the Office of Assistant Secretary of the Senate for the 130th Legislature.

This being done, **MARCIA J. HOMSTEAD** of Lewiston was duly elected Assistant Secretary of the Senate of the 130th Legislature.

The Chair requested the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DIAMOND**, and the Senator from York, Senator **DESCHAMBAULT**, escort the Assistant Secretary-elect to the President's Office for the purpose of taking and subscribing to the necessary oaths of office required by the Constitution to qualify her to enter upon the discharge of the duties of the office of Assistant Secretary of the Senate.

The Senators and Assistant Secretary-elect were escorted to the President's Office.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Subsequently, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DIAMOND**, reported that they had attended to the duties with which they were charged and were pleased to report that **MARCIA J. HOMSTEAD** of Lewiston had taken and subscribed to the necessary oaths of office to qualify her to enter upon the discharge of the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Senate of the 130th Legislature.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication:

S.C. 2

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

November 24, 2020

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 Senators at the General Election held on the third day of November in the year Two Thousand and Twenty;

REPORT AS FOLLOWS; that the following named persons having received a plurality of the votes cast, appear to have been elected;

<u>District 1</u>	
Jackson, Troy Dale, Allagash	10,937
Schaefer, Brian Vincent, Winterville Plt.	7,485
<u>District 2</u>	
Carpenter, Michael E., Houlton	8,208
Stewart, Harold L. III, Presque Isle	10,838
Others	34
<u>District 3</u>	
Farrin, Bradlee Thomas, Norridgewock	12,920
Swain, Daniel S., Skowhegan	5,957
<u>District 4</u>	
Davis, Paul T. Sr., Sangerville	14,817
Ziemer, David F., Orneville Township	4,629
<u>District 5</u>	
Dill, James F., Old Town	11,571
Ireland, Christian Forrest, Howland	8,381
<u>District 6</u>	
Lovit, Jeffrey, Addison	7,016
Moore, Marianne, Calais	11,853
<u>District 7</u>	
Langley, Brian D., Ellsworth	11,672
Luchini, Louis, Ellsworth	14,280
<u>District 8</u>	
Montague, Teresa, Clifton	1,231
Rosen, Kimberley C., Bucksport	13,113
Uhlenhake, Beverly B., Brewer	8,332
<u>District 9</u>	
Baldacci, Joseph M., Bangor	10,960
Hinkley, Sean P., Bangor	6,706
Miner, Kristie L., Bangor	2,248
<u>District 10</u>	
Austin, Frederick Harold, Newport	6,278
Guerin, Stacey K., Glenburn	14,508
<u>District 11</u>	
Curry, Glenn Chip, Belfast	12,789
Milne, Duncan Scott, Liberty	10,826

<u>District 12</u>	
Miramant, David R., Camden	14,049
Page, Gordon V. Sr., Owls Head	10,342

<u>District 13</u>	
Dow, Dana L., Waldoboro	12,072
Maxmin, Chloe S., Nobleboro	12,806
Others	1

<u>District 14</u>	
Bellows, Shenna, Manchester	12,998
Walker, Mark L., Hallowell	10,189

<u>District 15</u>	
Hess, Kalie A., Augusta	9,039
Pouliot, Matthew Gary, Augusta	12,167

<u>District 16</u>	
Cyrway, Scott Wynn, Albion	11,456
Koch, Hilary D., Waterville	8,920

<u>District 17</u>	
Black, Russell J., Wilton	12,776
Collins, Jan M., Wilton	9,032

<u>District 18</u>	
Keim, Lisa M., Dixfield	14,247
Perkins, Gabriel M., Bethel	6,840

<u>District 19</u>	
Bennett, Richard A., Oxford	13,581
Branch, Katherine S., Paris	9,202

<u>District 20</u>	
Claxton, Ned, Auburn	11,884
Leonard, Matthew Joseph, Auburn	10,361

<u>District 21</u>	
Gallant, Timothy Joseph, Lewiston	6,882
Libby, Nathan L., Lewiston	10,171

<u>District 22</u>	
Poliquin, Martha M.S., Lisbon	8,610
Timberlake, Jeffrey L., Turner	13,270

<u>District 23</u>	
Kopp, Holly J.P., Topsham	10,922
Vitelli, Eloise A., Arrowsic	13,810

<u>District 24</u>	
Daughtry, Matthea Elisabeth, Brunswick	18,297
Pattershall, Bradford Alan, Freeport	9,353

<u>District 25</u>	
Breen, Catherine E., Falmouth	18,587
White, Jennifer L., Gray	11,404

<u>District 26</u>	
Diamond, G. William, Windham	14,267
Lockwood, Karen L., Raymond	9,219

District 27
 Chipman, Benjamin M., Portland 21,813

District 28
 Sanborn, Heather, Portland 20,173

District 29
 Anderson, Stephanie, Cape Elizabeth 8,221
 Carney, Anne M., Cape Elizabeth 16,847

District 30
 Brenner, Stacy Fielding, Scarborough 14,960
 Rivard, Sara L., Gorham 12,778

District 31
 Bailey, Donna, Saco 13,266
 Pendleton, Craig A., Old Orchard Beach 11,007

District 32
 Daigle, Robert A., Arundel 9,612
 Deschambault, Susan A., Biddeford 12,838

District 33
 McKinney, Michael A., Cornish 7,947
 Woodsome, David C., Waterboro 13,408

District 34
 Pardue, Michael, Kennebunk 12,947
 Rafferty, Joseph E. Jr., Kennebunk 13,949

District 35
 Lawrence, Mark W., Eliot 17,099
 Moulton, Bradley S., York 10,204

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

S/Matthew Dunlap
 Secretary of State

READ and REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON SENATORIAL VOTE.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Senate Order:
 S.O. 4

Ordered, that a committee of seven be appointed by the President to whom the returns of votes for Senators for the political years of 2021 and 2022 shall be referred for examination and report.

READ and PASSED.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Senate Order:
 S.O. 5

Ordered, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives proposing a Convention of the two branches of the Legislature in the House Auditorium at the Augusta Civic Center, for the purpose of electing a Secretary of State for the political years 2021 and 2022, a State Treasurer for the political years 2021 and 2022, an Attorney General for the political years 2021 and 2022, and a State Auditor for the political years of 2021 through 2024 as soon as practicable for both chambers to join.

READ and PASSED.

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

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

ORDERS

Senate Order

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Senate Order:
 S.O. 6

Ordered, that the Rules of the Senate of the 129th Legislature shall be the Rules of the Senate of the 130th Legislature. Amendments to the Senate Rules may be adopted by a majority vote on or before the third Friday in January of 2021.

READ and PASSED.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Senate Order:
 S.O. 7

Ordered, that the Secretary of the Senate be authorized to invite the clergy to officiate as Chaplains of the Senate as requested by any member of the Senate; and be it further Ordered, that all clergy acting as Chaplains of the Senate shall receive \$30 for each officiation. The same is to be approved by the Secretary of the Senate.

READ and PASSED.

On motion by Senator **BREEN** of Cumberland, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 8

Ordered, that all Bills and Resolves carrying or requiring an appropriation or involving a loss of revenue that are in order to be passed to be enacted, or finally passed, shall, at the request of a member of the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs or the Presiding Officer, be placed on a special calendar to be called up for consideration only by the same.

READ and PASSED.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 9

Ordered, that all Bills and Resolves carrying or requiring an appropriation of highway revenue or involving a loss of highway revenue that are in order to be passed to be enacted, or finally passed, shall, at the request of a member of the Committee on Transportation or the Presiding Officer, be placed on a special calendar to be called up for consideration only by the same.

READ and PASSED.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 10

Ordered, that pursuant to Joint Rule 353, subsection 10, a special study table is established in the Senate.

READ and PASSED.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 11

Ordered, that the President of the Senate is authorized, at his discretion, to permit radio or sound television film or live television, or any two or three of these communication media, on the floor of the Senate.

READ and PASSED.

Joint Orders

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Joint Order:

S.P. 1

Ordered, the House concurring, that the Joint Rules of the 129th Legislature are the Joint Rules of the 130th Legislature, except for the following changes.

Joint Rule 202 is amended by striking out all of the first paragraph and inserting in its place the following:

All requests for bills and resolves submitted by Legislators for a first regular session must be submitted in complete form, as provided in Joint Rule 208, to the Revisor of Statutes by 4:00 p.m. on the 3rd Friday in December.

READ and PASSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Joint Order:

S.P. 2

Ordered, the House concurring, that the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House respectively, purchase such services, supplies and equipment as may be needed to carry on the business of the Senate and House, respectively.

READ and PASSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Joint Order:

S.P. 3

Ordered, the House concurring, that all printing and binding authorized by the Legislature shall be under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House.

READ and PASSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Joint Order:

S.P. 4

Ordered, the House concurring, that a sufficient number of the Legislative Record for the 130th Legislature be printed, one copy for each of the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives who so desires, the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House. The remainder to be deposited with the State Law Librarian for exchange and library use; and be it further Ordered, that a suitable index be prepared for such Legislative Record, under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House.

READ and PASSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Joint Order:

S.P. 5

Ordered, the House concurring, that there be paid to the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives as advances on account of compensation established by statute, 12 payments on a biweekly basis commencing January 6, 2021, according to lists certified to the State Controller by the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House, respectively.

READ and PASSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Joint Order:

S.P. 6

Ordered, the House concurring, that the Executive Director of the Legislative Council, with the approval of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, be authorized and directed to prepare weekly, from expense accounts to be submitted to the Executive Director by the members of the Senate and House, expense rosters showing the entitlement of each member for meals allowance and lodging reimbursement and transmit the same to the State Controller for processing and payment, in accordance with the recommendations of the Joint Interim Committee of the 101st Legislature created to study and report on a method of implementing the administration of the provision of law relating to the mileage and expenses for members of the Legislature; and be it further

Ordered, that the Executive Director of the Legislative Council be authorized and directed to provide the forms necessary for such purpose and provide suitable space in the Executive Director's office for the filing and safekeeping of all such expense accounts and other papers and records pertaining thereto.

READ and PASSED.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Joint Order:

S.P. 7

Ordered, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn, they do so until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, respectively.

READ and PASSED.

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

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

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, the Senate considered the following:

ORDERS

Senate Order

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 2

Ordered, that a message be sent to Governor Janet T. Mills, informing her that the Senate has elected Troy D. Jackson of Aroostook County as President of the Senate for the 130th Legislature, and that President Jackson is present in the Senate Room at the Augusta Civic Center, ready to take and subscribe to the oaths of office required by the Constitution to qualify him to enter upon the discharge of his official duties.

READ and PASSED.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator **LIBBY**, to deliver the message to the Governor. The Senator was escorted to the Governor.

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

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 3

Ordered, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives, informing that Body that the Senate has organized by the choice of Troy D. Jackson of Aroostook County as President; Darek M. Grant of Augusta as Secretary of the Senate; and Marcia J. Homstead of Lewiston as Assistant Secretary of the Senate of the 130th Legislature. And is assembled, ready to transact such business as may come before the Senate.

READ and PASSED.

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

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

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, the Senate considered the following:

ORDERS

Joint Order

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, the following Joint Order:

S.P. 9

WHEREAS, the spread of the highly contagious disease referred to as "COVID-19" has created significant challenges throughout the State and country; and

WHEREAS, in response to this widespread disease, the World Health Organization has declared a pandemic, the President of the United States has declared a national emergency and the Governor of Maine and other governors around the country have declared civil states of emergency; and

WHEREAS, federal and state guidance on curtailing the spread of the pandemic and maintaining the health and safety of individuals emphasizes minimizing congregating in groups and ensuring physical distancing of individuals; and

WHEREAS, during the legislative session, operation of the Legislature traditionally involves the gathering together of Legislators, members of the public, representatives from other branches of government, experts and constituents; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has a constitutional duty and responsibility to do the people's work, and it is imperative that the Legislature and its committees continue to meet, take testimony, debate, deliberate and vote, to appropriately address the needs of the State; and

WHEREAS, technology exists that would enable the Legislature to conduct its business in a manner that is consistent with public access to, and transparency of, its proceedings as demanded by the Constitution of Maine; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure that the Legislature is able to meet the urgent needs of the people of the State while confronting rapidly changing circumstances and public health concerns, it is necessary to implement temporary procedures for that portion of the First Regular Session of the 130th Legislature during which the COVID-19 pandemic necessitates special procedures to allow the Legislature to operate in a safe, accountable and transparent manner; now, therefore, be it

ORDERED, the House concurring, that for the First Regular Session of the 130th Legislature and any special legislative

session that occurs during the time period for a first regular session specified in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 3, section 2:

1. Notwithstanding any Joint Rule to the contrary, for purposes of the Constitution of Maine, a legislative meeting or proceeding held via electronic means is considered to have occurred at the seat of government and all actions taken during the meeting or proceeding have the same legal effect as if the members were physically present at the seat of government. Nothing in this Order may be construed to modify the administration of provisions regarding the payment of legislative per diem and reimbursement for travel and expenses;

2. Notwithstanding any Joint Rule to the contrary, upon reference of a bill to a committee, if a majority of the chairs and leads of the committee agree, in advance of scheduling the bill for public hearing, that the reference to that committee is inappropriate, that bill must be reported back to the floor with a recommendation of "change of committee reference." Notwithstanding any Joint Rule to the contrary, upon reference of a bill to a committee, if a majority of the chairs and leads of the committee agree, in advance of scheduling the bill for public hearing, that the reference to that committee is appropriate, that bill remains in that committee. If there is not a majority agreement among the chairs and leads regarding reference of that bill, the bill is designated for discussion by the committee for a possible change of committee reference. If the committee recommends that the bill be referred to a different committee, the committee shall report the bill back to the floor with a recommendation of "change of committee reference." Any bill that undergoes a reference determination pursuant to this section that is retained by the committee must be scheduled for a public hearing;

3. Notwithstanding any Joint Rule to the contrary, a member who is in attendance at any meeting or proceeding through approved electronic means is considered present for the purposes of the Joint Rules, including but not limited to for the purposes of a quorum;

4. Notwithstanding any Joint Rule to the contrary, a meeting or proceeding may be conducted through electronic means as long as:

- A. Notice of the meeting or proceeding is provided in accordance with applicable rules, including but not limited to Joint Rule 305, and the notice includes the method by which the public may attend;
- B. The identity of each participating member is verifiable, and the actions of each participating member can be authenticated, in a manner satisfactory to the chair;
- C. Each member who is participating in the meeting or proceeding has the opportunity to hear and speak to other members during the meeting or proceeding; and
- D. Members of the public attending the meeting or proceeding at the location identified in the notice given pursuant to paragraph A have the opportunity to hear and participate in, as appropriate, the meeting or proceeding.

Nothing in this Order may be construed to affect the ability of the chairs to suspend a committee meeting in the event of widespread power outages or natural disasters or when otherwise determined appropriate.

5. Notwithstanding any Joint Rule to the contrary, a member who is participating in a meeting or proceeding conducted through electronic means may cast a vote through electronic means as long as the chair is able to both see and hear the member casting the vote, or, if the chair cannot both see and hear the member, as long as the member registers that member's vote with the member's presiding officer by noon of the 2nd business day following the vote;

6. A technical failure on the part of an individual member or a group of members that interrupts that member's or group's electronic connection to the meeting or proceeding does not invalidate any action taken by the majority of those in attendance in the meeting or proceeding; and

7. Notwithstanding Joint Rule 208, the Revisor of Statutes shall prepare in concept form: a bill submitted by the Governor that proposes to make supplemental appropriations and allocations for the expenditures of State Government; or a bill that proposes to adopt a uniform law, a model law or an interstate compact; and be it further

ORDERED, the House concurring, that, notwithstanding Joint Rule 103, this order may be suspended with the consent of a majority of members of each chamber voting.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

Senator **POULIOT** of Kennebec requested a Roll Call.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Libby.

Senator **LIBBY:** Thank you, Mr. President. May I pose a question through the Chair?

THE PRESIDENT: The Senator may pose his question.

Senator **LIBBY:** Is the roll call on dispensing with the reading of the Order, and if not may I move that we dispense with the reading of the Order?

THE PRESIDENT: The member has posed question to anyone that may answer. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Pouliot.

Senator **POULIOT:** (Due to technical difficulties, remarks on this matter are not available.)

On motion by Senator **POULIOT** of Kennebec, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

Off Record Remarks

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#1)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BREEN, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CLAXTON, CURRY, CYRWAY, DAUGHTRY, DAVIS, DESCHAMBAULT, DIAMOND, DILL, FARRIN, GUERIN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LUCHINI, MAXMIN, MIRAMANT, MOORE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, ROSEN, SANBORN, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, VITELLI, WOODSOME, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: None

ABSENT: Senator: BELLOWS

EXCUSED: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK

32 Senators having voted in the affirmative and no Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being absent and 2 Senators being excused, the Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

Off Record Remarks

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

Senator **DIAMOND:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I just want to say how impressed I am with the easy transition, easy is a word I use carelessly I think, from the State House to here and bringing the Legislature over had to be an unbelievably hard job but you'd never know it looking at all that's gone and how well it's gone and there doesn't appear to be a wrinkle or hiccup. So I just want to say thank you for that. I know it wasn't easy and the staff must have worked long and hard to make all this happen. So it's with a great deal of appreciation for all of that. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: I couldn't agree more. It's always the people that work behind the scenes that do all the hard work.

Off Record Remarks

RECESSED until the sound of the bell.

After Recess the Senate was called to order by the President.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, the Senate considered the following:

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Joint Orders

The following Joint Order:

H.P. 1

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Speaker of the House is authorized, at the Speaker's discretion, to permit radio or television in the Hall of the House of Representatives during joint conventions.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **PASSED**.

READ and **PASSED**, in concurrence.

The following Joint Order:

H.P. 2

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that there be prepared by the Legislative Information Office, under the direction of the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House, after adjournment of the present session, a compilation of all the Bills and Resolves considered by both branches of the Legislature, showing the history and final disposition of each Bill and Resolve.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **PASSED**.

READ and **PASSED**, in concurrence.

The following Joint Order:

H.P. 4

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that, in accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IV, Part Third, Section 1-A, the Apportionment Commission is established to develop in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution of Maine a plan for apportioning the House of Representatives, the Senate or both. In accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 24, the Apportionment Commission shall review the existing congressional districts and, as necessary, develop a plan to reapportion the State into congressional districts. In accordance with the Constitution of Maine, Article IX, Section 25, the Apportionment Commission shall review the existing county

commissioner districts and, as necessary, develop a plan to reapportion those districts in each county.

Comes from the House, **READ** and **PASSED**.

READ and **PASSED**, in concurrence.

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

Off Record Remarks

At this point, a message was received from the House of Representatives borne by Representative ROSS of Portland, informing the Senate that the House had organized by the choice of RYAN M. FECTEAU of Biddeford as Speaker of the House; ROBERT B. HUNT of Yarmouth as Clerk of the House; and JENNIFER E. MCGOWAN of Hallowell as Assistant Clerk of the House of the 130th Legislature and was ready to transact such business as might come before the House.

At this point a message was received from the House of Representatives, borne by Representative DUNPHY of Old Town, informing the Senate that the House concurred with the proposition for a Convention of the two branches of the Legislature to be held in the House Auditorium at the Augusta Civic Center for the purpose of electing a Secretary of State for the political years 2021 and 2022, a State Treasurer for the political years 2021 and 2022, an Attorney General for the political years 2021 and 2022, and a State Auditor for the political years of 2021 through 2024.

Off Record Remarks

At this point the Senate retired to the Hall of the House where a Joint Convention was formed.

Following the Joint Convention the Senate was called to order in the Senate Chamber by the President.

Off Record Remarks

THE PRESIDENT: Please be safe and have a great Christmas if I don't see you beforehand.

On motion by Senator **LIBBY** of Androscoggin, **ADJOURNED**, pursuant to the Joint Order, until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, respectively.