

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
1st Legislative Day  
Wednesday, April 5, 2023

This being the day designated in the proclamation of the Governor for meeting of the One Hundred and Thirty-First Legislature in extra session, the members of the House of Representatives assembled in their Hall at 10:00 in the morning and were called to Order by the Speaker.

Prayer by Honorable Mark Babin, Celebration Center, Fort Fairfield.

National Anthem by Randa Veilleux, Waterville.  
Pledge of Allegiance.

A roll call was taken. 140 out of 151 Members answered to their names, and accordingly the Chair declared a quorum present.

- Those absent were:
- Representative ABDI of Lewiston
  - Representative COSTAIN of Plymouth
  - Representative EATON of Deer Isle
  - Representative GALLETTA of Durham
  - Representative GERE of Kennebunkport
  - Representative LAJOIE of Lewiston
  - Representative LANIGAN of Sanford
  - Representative MORIARTY of Cumberland
  - Representative PRINGLE of Windham
  - Representative SHEEHAN of Biddeford
  - 1 vacancy

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Wales, Representative Greenwood, and inquires as to why he rises.

Representative **GREENWOOD**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I'm questioning the calling of the roll. Is the calling of the roll the same as a quorum? I thought calling of the roll was individual Members were asked if they were present. Can you rule on that?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would answer in the affirmative; we only call the roll individually on swearing-in day in December.

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

The Following Proclamation: (H.C. 123)

**STATE OF MAINE  
PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, there exists in the State of Maine an extraordinary occasion arising out of the need to resolve many legislative matters pending at the time of the adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature of the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, the public health, safety and welfare requires that the Legislature resolve these pending matters as soon as possible, and in any event prior to the date of the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature of the State of Maine, including but not limited to the state budget, pending legislation, pending nominations of state board and commission members,

and pending nominations of judicial officers by the Governor requiring legislative confirmation;  
NOW, THEREFORE, I, JANET T. MILLS, Governor of the State of Maine, by virtue of the constitutional power vested in me as Governor pursuant to Article V, Part I, Section 13 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, do convene the Legislature of this State, and hereby request the Representatives to assemble at ten o'clock and the Senators to assemble at ten o'clock in the morning in their respective chambers at the Capitol in Augusta on Wednesday, April 5, 2023, in order to receive communications, resolve pending legislation carried over from the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature and act upon pending nominations and whatever other business may come before the legislature.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta and dated this thirty first day of March Two Thousand Twenty-Three. S/Janet T. Mills

Governor  
S/Shenna Bellows  
Secretary of State  
TRUE ATTESTED COPY

**READ.**

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Wales, Representative Greenwood.

Representative **GREENWOOD**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, my Colleagues in the House, I rise with a question. Thursday evening at about 11:00, this Body adjourned indicating that it had completed its business. We heard from the Senate that they had completed their business and we adjourned sine die. Just prior to that, we agreed to carry over all the business that was still unfinished to the next session, which could've been and should've been January of 2024.

Madam Speaker, I rise with the inquiry as to what the extraordinary occasion is as declared by the Chief Executive of the Great State of Maine. Could that extraordinary circumstance be that we pretended our work was done when it really wasn't? Could that extraordinary circumstance be that we intended to abuse and circumvent the Constitution of the State of Maine? Madam Speaker, in that action on Thursday when we adjourned sine die, we disenfranchised nearly 600,000 Mainers. We disenfranchised 450 Maine cities and towns, with their Representative's voice not being heard. Madam Speaker, I still am unclear as to what the extraordinary occasion is as declared in the proclamation by the Chief Executive of the Great State of Maine.

Subsequently, the Proclamation was **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

**ORDERS**

On motion of Representative TERRY of Gorham, the following House Order: (H.O. 16)

ORDERED, that a Committee of ten be appointed to wait upon Her Excellency, Governor Janet T. Mills, and inform her that a quorum of the House of Representatives is assembled in the Hall of the House for the consideration of such business as may come before the House.

**READ and PASSED.**

The Speaker appointed the following Members to the Committee to wait upon the Governor and inform her that a quorum of the Members of the House of Representatives had assembled in the Hall of the House for the consideration of such business as may come before the House:

Representative STOVER of Boothbay  
Representative PAULHUS of Bath  
Representative COPELAND of Saco  
Representative DHALAC of South Portland  
Representative ABDI of Lewiston  
Representative GREENWOOD of Wales  
Representative ADAMS of Lebanon  
Representative POMERLEAU of Standish  
Representative UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle  
Representative RISEMAN of Harrison

At this point, a message was received from the Senate, borne by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland of that body, announcing a quorum present and that the Senate was ready to transact any business that might properly come before it.

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

On motion of Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston, the following House Order: (H.O. 17)

ORDERED, that a message be conveyed to the Senate that a quorum of the House of Representatives was present for the consideration of such business as may come before the House.

**READ and PASSED.**

The Speaker appointed Representative TERRY of Gorham to inform the Senate that a quorum of the Members of the House of Representatives had assembled in the Hall of the House for the consideration of such business as may come before the House.

**SENATE PAPERS**

The following Joint Resolution: (S.P. 582)

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2023 AS BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, bleeding disorders, which are distinguished by the inability to form a proper blood clot, are characterized by extended bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma or menstruation and can lead to significant morbidity and can be fatal if not treated effectively; and

WHEREAS, many individuals with hemophilia became infected with HIV and hepatitis C in the 1980s due to the contamination of the blood supply and blood products; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month generates greater awareness and understanding of not only hemophilia but all inheritable bleeding disorders, including von Willebrand disease, which alone affects an estimated one percent of the United States population, or more than 3.2 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month fosters a greater sense of community and shared purpose among all individuals with inheritable bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month elevates awareness of and engagement in the inheritable bleeding disorders journey for the general public, enabling the prevention of illness, unnecessary procedures and disability; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize March 2023 as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 119)

**SENATE OF MAINE  
131ST LEGISLATURE  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

March 29, 2023

Honorable Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,

Pursuant to my authority under Senate Rule 201.3, I have appointed Senator Peter Lyford of Penobscot County to the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government, replacing Senator Eric Brakey of Androscoggin County.

Furthermore, I have appointed Senator Eric Brakey of Androscoggin County to the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary, replacing Senator Peter Lyford of Penobscot County. These appointments are effective by the date of this communication. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,  
S/Troy D. Jackson  
President of the Senate

**READ** and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 120)

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

April 5, 2023

Honorable Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Please be advised that pursuant to her authority, Governor Janet T. Mills has nominated the following:

on March 30, 2023

The Honorable Harold L. Stewart, II of Portland for reappointment and Honorable Jennifer A. Archer of Falmouth and Honorable James F. Martemucci of Arundel for appointment as Justices of the Maine Superior Court.

Pursuant to Article V, Part First, §8, of the Maine Constitution, this reappointment and these appointments are contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

Owen McCarthy of Gorham, John W. Moore, Jr. of Farmington and Valerie Landry of Ocean Park for appointment to the University of Maine System Board of Trustees.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §12004-C, these appointments are contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

The Honorable William R. Stokes of Augusta for appointment as an Active Retired Justice of the Maine Superior Court.

Pursuant to Article V, Part First, §8, of the Maine Constitution, this appointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

The Honorable Keith A. Powers of Cape Elizabeth for reappointment and Honorable Gregory A. Campbell of Hampden as Active Retired Judges of the Maine District Court. Pursuant to Article V, Part First, §8, of the Maine Constitution, this reappointment and this appointment are contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

on March 31, 2023

Sari S. Greene of South Portland for reappointment to the Gambling Control Board.

Pursuant to Title 8, MRSA §1002, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs.

Sincerely,

S/Rachel Talbot Ross  
Speaker of the House

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

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 121)

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

April 5, 2023

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross  
Speaker of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs has approved the request by the sponsor, Senator Hickman of Kennebec, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

L.D. 249 An Act to Amend the Campaign Finance Laws Regarding Political Action Committees

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety has approved the request by the sponsor, Representative Crafts of Newcastle, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

L.D. 493 An Act to Establish a Statewide Relinquished Firearms Inventory

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 122)

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

April 5, 2023

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross  
Speaker of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

L.D. 806 Resolve, to Study the Issue of Persons Who Go Missing in State Parks

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

L.D. 745 An Act to Prohibit the Use of Toy Cannon Fireworks Devices That Exceed 150 Decibels Without Permission from Affected Property Owners

Education and Cultural Affairs

L.D. 156 An Act to Require Outdoor Recess Time for Students from Grade 6 to Grade 8

L.D. 213 An Act to Maintain the Authority of the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering (EMERGENCY)

L.D. 253 An Act to Add Health and Physical Education Requirements to High School Diploma Standards

L.D. 257 An Act to Provide for a Later Starting Time for High Schools

Energy, Utilities and Technology

L.D. 689 An Act to Study the Construction of a Nuclear Power Facility in the State

L.D. 905 An Act to Expand Energy Choice Through Municipal Utilities

Environment and Natural Resources

L.D. 959 An Act to Prohibit Food Waste by Grocery Stores

Health and Human Services

L.D. 200 An Act to Require Medicaid Coverage for Certain Children Under 7 Years of Age

L.D. 463 Resolve, to Ensure Continued MaineCare Coverage for Persons Formerly in Foster Care Until They Attain 27 Years of Age

L.D. 573 An Act Regarding Child Care Subsidy Payments and Eligibility

L.D. 1031 Resolve, to Improve Access to Child Care by Expanding Eligibility for the Child Care Subsidy Program

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

L.D. 876 An Act to Expand Access to Oral Health Care in Rural Maine by Allowing Certain Out-of-state Dentists to Practice in Dental Clinics in the State

L.D. 927 Resolve, Directing the Commissioner of Professional and Financial Regulation to Conduct an Independent Assessment Regarding a Proposal to License Genetic Counselors

L.D. 1035 An Act to Adjust Reimbursement for Chiropractic Services

Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

L.D. 532 An Act to Simplify the Plumbing and Heating Licensing Process

Judiciary

- L.D. 363 An Act to Expand the Jurisdiction of the Sentence Review Panel of the Supreme Judicial Court  
L.D. 716 An Act to Assist Nonprofit Service Providers  
L.D. 1043 An Act to Create an Office of Ombudsman to Help Nonprofit Organizations in Their Interactions with the Government

Labor and Housing

- L.D. 727 An Act Regarding Workers' Compensation Benefits for First Responders Injured in the Line of Duty

Marine Resources

- L.D. 487 An Act to Establish Coastal Waters and Submerged Lands Regional Planning Commissions  
L.D. 586 An Act to Protect Maine Fisheries from the Effects of Industrial Recirculating Aquaculture Operations

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House

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

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The Following Communication: (S.C. 260)

**MAINE SENATE  
131st LEGISLATURE**

**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE**

March 30, 2023

Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross  
Speaker of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Dear Speaker Talbot Ross:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A. §158 and Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Maine Legislature, please be advised that the Senate today confirmed the following nominations:

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs:

- Dr. Fernande Desjardins of Saint Agatha for reappointment, to the State Board of Education.

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business:

- Robert C. Bryant of Scarborough for appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority,
- Robert Patten of Scarborough for appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority,
- Lee Jay Feldman of Lisbon for appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority,
- Laura S. Burden of Portland for appointment, to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority,
- Alexa Plotkin of Biddeford for appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority,
- John W. Egan of Freeport for appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority,
- Janice de Lima of Falmouth for appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority,
- Ian Houseal of Portland for appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

Best Regards,

S/Darek M. Grant

Secretary of the Senate

**READ** and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

**PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE**

Bill "An Act to Update the Laws Governing the University of Maine System's Board of Agriculture and to Rename the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station"

(H.P. 966) (L.D. 1511)

Sponsored by Representative DILL of Old Town.

Cosponsored by Senator BLACK of Franklin and Representatives: HEPLER of Woolwich, LANDRY of Farmington, PLUECKER of Warren.

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.

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Bill "An Act to Increase the Transparency and Accountability of the Maine Information and Analysis Center"

(H.P. 947) (L.D. 1492)

Sponsored by Representative LOOKNER of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BOYER of Poland, HASENFUS of Readfield, JAUCH of Topsham, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, O'NEIL of Saco, RECKITT of South Portland, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, Senator: HICKMAN of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act to Amend Certain Provisions of Maine's Drug Laws"

(H.P. 964) (L.D. 1509)

Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington. (BY REQUEST)

Cosponsored by Senator: LYFORD of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Provide Safe, Short-term Housing to Individuals Recently Released from Correctional Facilities"

(H.P. 969) (L.D. 1514)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin and Representatives: BOYER of Poland, FOSTER of Dexter, GERE of Kennebunkport, SALISBURY of Westbrook, Senators: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, PIERCE of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Fund Delivery of Emergency Medical Services"

(H.P. 970) (L.D. 1515)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator FARRIN of Somerset and Representatives: HASENFUS of Readfield, SALISBURY of Westbrook, Senator: President JACKSON of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Operating Under the Influence"

(H.P. 974) (L.D. 1519)

Sponsored by Representative GREENWOOD of Wales. (BY REQUEST)

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 Support Rural Education"

(H.P. 946) (L.D. 1491)

Sponsored by Representative EATON of Deer Isle.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, JAUCH of Topsham, WORTH of Ellsworth.

Bill "An Act to Provide Grants to Promote Innovative Learning Strategies"

(H.P. 965) (L.D. 1510)

Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York and Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, GATTINE of Westbrook, MALON of Biddeford, PERRY of Calais, SARGENT of York, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, Senators: PIERCE of Cumberland, RAFFERTY of York.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Rights of Parents to Withdraw Their Children from Public School Classes or Activities That Include Certain Controversial Viewpoints"

(H.P. 973) (L.D. 1518)

Sponsored by Representative THORNE of Carmel.

Bill "An Act to Provide Grants to Support Reading Proficiency Programming in Schools"

(H.P. 981) (L.D. 1526)

Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator RAFFERTY of York and Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, GATTINE of Westbrook, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MALON of Biddeford, PERRY of Calais, SALISBURY of Westbrook, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, ZAGER of Portland.

Bill "An Act to Promote the Community School Program"

(H.P. 982) (L.D. 1527)

Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York and Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, GATTINE of Westbrook, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MALON of Biddeford, PERRY of Calais, SARGENT of York, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, Senator: RAFFERTY of York.

Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Program and Convene a Work Group Regarding the Provision of Services by the Child Development Services System

(H.P. 983) (L.D. 1528)

Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York and Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, GATTINE of Westbrook, MALON of Biddeford, PERRY of Calais, SALISBURY of Westbrook, SARGENT of York, Senators: PIERCE of Cumberland, RAFFERTY of York.

Bill "An Act to Require the Timely Reimbursement by the State of Costs Incurred by a School Administrative Unit for Special Education Programs"

(H.P. 987) (L.D. 1532)

Sponsored by Representative LYMAN of Livermore Falls.

Cosponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin and Representatives: HALL of Wilton, POLEWARCZYK of Wiscasset, SAMPSON of Alfred.

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.

Subsequently, Representative TERRY of Gorham reported that she had delivered the message with which she was charged.

Resolve, to Capitalize on Opportunities from Newly Revised Federal Renewable Fuels Standards by Studying the Environmental and Economic Benefits of Electric and Steam Generation Facilities Powered by Biomass

(H.P. 944) (L.D. 1489)

Sponsored by Representative THERIAULT of Fort Kent.

Cosponsored by Representative: BABIN of Fort Fairfield.

Resolve, to Implement a 4-year Moratorium on Solar Energy Subsidies and Direct the Department of Environmental Protection to Study the Economic Impact of Industrial Solar Energy Projects

(H.P. 986) (L.D. 1531)

Sponsored by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, DUNPHY of Embden, FOSTER of Dexter, LANDRY of Farmington, LEMELIN of Chelsea, THERIAULT of Fort Kent.

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.

Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Study the Role of Critical Minerals as a Resource in the State

(H.P. 950) (L.D. 1495)

Sponsored by Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle.

Cosponsored by Senator RENY of Lincoln and Representatives: BELL of Yarmouth, CAMPBELL of Orrington, DOUDERA of Camden, LANDRY of Farmington, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, THERIAULT of Fort Kent, Senators: FARRIN of Somerset, KEIM of Oxford.

Bill "An Act to Ensure a Strategic Approach to Maine's Energy Transition by Imposing a Moratorium on Lithium Mining"

(H.P. 963) (L.D. 1508)

Sponsored by Representative O'NEIL of Saco.

Cosponsored by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock and Representatives: MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, PLUECKER of Warren, WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor, ZEIGLER of Montville, Senator: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.

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 Expand Testing for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances to Private Drinking Water Wells"

(H.P. 943) (L.D. 1488)

Sponsored by Representative OSHER of Orono.

Bill "An Act to Improve Intensive Behavioral Health and Public Safety Case Management Services"

(H.P. 968) (L.D. 1513)

Sponsored by Representative STOVER of Boothbay.

Cosponsored by Representative: MADIGAN of Waterville.

Bill "An Act to Provide Economic Justice to Historically Disadvantaged Older Citizens by Amending the Laws Governing the Medicare Savings Program"

(H.P. 977) (L.D. 1522)

Sponsored by Representative FAY of Raymond.

Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, GATTINE of Westbrook, MEYER of Eliot, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, Senator: MOORE of Washington.

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.

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Bill "An Act to Strengthen Medicare by Preventing Providers from Adding Excess Charges" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 952) (L.D. 1497)

Sponsored by Representative COLLINGS of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator DUSON of Cumberland.

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

On motion of Representative MEYER of Eliot, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Ensure the Accuracy of Vital Records with Respect to Gender"

(H.P. 962) (L.D. 1507)

Sponsored by Representative SHEEHAN of Biddeford.

Cosponsored by Representatives: MALON of Biddeford, SKOLD of Portland.

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

On motion of Representative MEYER of Eliot, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

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Resolve, Directing the Department of Education and Department of Health and Human Services to Study Placing Child Care Facilities in Secondary Schools

(H.P. 975) (L.D. 1520)

Sponsored by Representative GOLEK of Harpswell.

Cosponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland and Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, DODGE of Belfast, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth, MURPHY of Scarborough, RANA of Bangor, SARGENT of York, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

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

On motion of Representative MEYER of Eliot, the Resolve was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Help Address the Worker Shortage in Behavioral Health Care Services by Allowing Provisional Licensure and Providing for Reimbursement for Out-of-state Licensees"

(H.P. 949) (L.D. 1494)

Sponsored by Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle.

Cosponsored by Representatives: HEPLER of Woolwich, MATHIESON of Kittery, MURPHY of Scarborough, PERRY of Calais, SACHS of Freeport, SARGENT of York, Senator: RENY of Lincoln.

Bill "An Act to Create an Advocacy and Complaint Process for Health Care Providers Within the Bureau of Insurance"

(H.P. 953) (L.D. 1498)

Sponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais.

Cosponsored by Representative O'NEIL of Saco, Senator LAWRENCE of York and Representatives: DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MATHIESON of Kittery, STOVER of Boothbay, Senator: CURRY of Waldo.

Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Study the Scarcity of Licensed Clinical Behavioral Health Professionals Across the State (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 961) (L.D. 1506)

Sponsored by Representative SARGENT of York.

Cosponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York and Representatives: CRAFTS of Newcastle, DODGE of Belfast, GOLEK of Harpswell, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MADIGAN of Waterville, MATHIESON of Kittery, MEYER of Eliot, Senator: MOORE of Washington.

Bill "An Act to Provide for Consistent Billing Practices by Health Care Providers"

(H.P. 988) (L.D. 1533)

Sponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner.

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.

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Bill "An Act to Support the Essential Support Workforce by Promoting Enhanced Reimbursement and Benefits and Encouraging Information Sharing"

(H.P. 976) (L.D. 1521)

Sponsored by Representative CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, FAY of Raymond, GOLEK of Harpswell, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth, RECKITT of South Portland, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

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

On motion of Representative PERRY of Calais, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Provide for Administrative Suspension of Licenses and Certificates Issued Under the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Laws"

(H.P. 980) (L.D. 1525)

Sponsored by Representative LANDRY of Farmington.

Cosponsored by Senator BLACK of Franklin and Representative: DILL of Old Town.

Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species"

(H.P. 989) (L.D. 1534)

Sponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield.

Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and Representatives: BRIDGEO of Augusta, NEWMAN of Belgrade.

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.

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Bill "An Act to Protect Maine Citizens from Discrimination by Including Vaccination Status as a Protected Class"

(H.P. 956) (L.D. 1501)

Sponsored by Representative GREENWOOD of Wales.

Cosponsored by Senator KEIM of Oxford and Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, DRINKWATER of Milford, JAVNER of Chester, LIBBY of Auburn, QUINT of Hodgdon, SAMPSON of Alfred, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle, Senator: TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

Bill "An Act Regarding State Court Remedies for Violations of Legal or Constitutional Rights by Federal Employees"

(H.P. 958) (L.D. 1503)

Sponsored by Representative ANDREWS of Paris.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Bill "An Act to Require Restitution for a Child Whose Parent Is Killed by a Drunk Driver"

(H.P. 967) (L.D. 1512)

Sponsored by Representative STOVER of Boothbay.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BLIER of Buxton, CROCKETT of Portland, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MEYER of Eliot, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, O'CONNELL of Brewer, RECKITT of South Portland, Senator: RENY of Lincoln.

Bill "An Act to Establish Alternative Sentencing for Primary Caregivers"

(H.P. 971) (L.D. 1516)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator BAILEY of York and Representatives: KUHN of Falmouth, LEE of Auburn, RECKITT of South Portland.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Advance Justice in Sentencing by Amending the Laws Governing the Maine Criminal Justice Sentencing Institute and Increasing Funding for Meetings of the Institute"

(H.P. 990) (L.D. 1535)

Sponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield.

Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.

Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested.

On motion of Representative MOONEN of Portland, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Prohibit Noncompete Clauses"

(H.P. 951) (L.D. 1496)

Sponsored by Representative WARREN of Scarborough.

Cosponsored by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot and Representative: ROEDER of Bangor.

Bill "An Act Regarding Penalties for Early Retirement for Certain Members of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System"

(H.P. 954) (L.D. 1499)

Sponsored by Representative SHAGOURY of Hallowell.

Cosponsored by Representative POLEWARCZYK of Wiscasset, Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, DODGE of Belfast, MADIGAN of Waterville, MALON of Biddeford, RUSSELL of Verona Island.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Reduce Rental Housing Costs by Eliminating Additional Fees at or Prior to the Commencement of Tenancy"

(H.P. 945) (L.D. 1490)

Sponsored by Representative KESSLER of South Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, HASENFUS of Readfield, RIELLY of Westbrook, WHITE of Waterville.

Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** suggested.

On motion of Representative ROEDER of Bangor, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Increase Affordable Housing by Expanding Tax Increment Financing"

(H.P. 948) (L.D. 1493)

Sponsored by Representative LaROCHELLE of Augusta.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, BRIDGEO of Augusta, LANIGAN of Sanford, PERRY of Bangor, WHITE of Waterville.

Bill "An Act to Exempt Broadband Equipment from the Sales and Use Tax"

(H.P. 959) (L.D. 1504)

Sponsored by Representative TERRY of Gorham.

Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, CROCKETT of Portland, DODGE of Belfast, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, Senator: PIERCE of Cumberland.



Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Excise Tax on Recreational Vehicles and Permit Municipal Adoption of Fees to Cover the Cost of Municipal Services to Campgrounds and Recreational Vehicle Parks"

(H.P. 979) (L.D. 1524)

Sponsored by Representative SAMPSON of Alfred.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: LYMAN of Livermore Falls, WOODSOME of Waterboro.

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

Sent for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Strengthen Maine's Elections by Requiring Video Monitoring of Drop Boxes and Amending the Laws Regarding Voter Rolls and Absentee Voting Envelopes"

(H.P. 955) (L.D. 1500)

Sponsored by Representative BOYER of Poland.  
Cosponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin and Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, CRAY of Palmyra, DRINKWATER of Milford, LIBBY of Auburn, QUINT of Hodgdon, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SAMPSON of Alfred, SMITH of Palermo.

Bill "An Act to Provide Consistency of Process for Maine's Electoral Votes by Prohibiting Enactment of the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact"

(H.P. 957) (L.D. 1502)

Sponsored by Representative ANDREWS of Paris.

Bill "An Act to Create Equity in the State's Cannabis Industry"

(H.P. 972) (L.D. 1517)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.  
Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and Representative: PLUECKER of Warren.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Qualifying Condition Review Board to Provide Benefits to Certain Service Members"

(H.P. 978) (L.D. 1523)

Sponsored by Representative RIELLY of Westbrook.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BOYER of Poland, MALON of Biddeford, MONTELL of Gardiner, MOONEN of Portland, SUPICA of Bangor.

Bill "An Act to Reform the State's Adult Use Cannabis Seed-to-sale Tracking System to Allow for Canopy Tagging"

(H.P. 984) (L.D. 1529)

Sponsored by Representative SUPICA of Bangor.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BOYER of Poland, LOOKNER of Portland, MALON of Biddeford, RIELLY of Westbrook, Senator: HICKMAN of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act to Support Patients by Permitting On-site Consumption of Medical Cannabis and Medical Cannabis Products"

(H.P. 985) (L.D. 1530)

Sponsored by Representative SUPICA of Bangor.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: BOYER of Poland, LOOKNER of Portland, MATHIESON of Kittery, RIELLY of Westbrook, Senator: HICKMAN of Kennebec.

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.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Cooperative Affordable Housing Ownership Act"

(H.P. 960) (L.D. 1505)

Sponsored by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston.  
Cosponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland and Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, BRENNAN of Portland, GERE of Kennebunkport, LEE of Auburn, LOOKNER of Portland, SUPICA of Bangor, Senators: ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** suggested and ordered printed.

**REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

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

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### ORDERS

On motion of Representative MEYER of Eliot, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 898) (Cosponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland and Representatives: BOYLE of Gorham, BRENNAN of Portland, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, CRAVEN of Lewiston, FAY of Raymond, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, MASTRACCIO of Sanford)

#### **JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL 2023 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, child abuse is a community problem, and finding solutions depends on recognizing that the effects of child abuse and neglect are felt by whole communities and need to be addressed by the entire community; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse and neglect prevention programs succeed because partnerships are created among government agencies, policymakers, nonprofit organizations, health care providers, schools, faith communities, businesses and law enforcement agencies; and

WHEREAS, when families lack access to adequate financial resources, a stable living situation, nutritious food, affordable health care, quality child care and education, a child's healthy development is at risk; and

WHEREAS, all Maine citizens should become more aware of child abuse and neglect and its prevention and become involved in the raising of children in a safe, secure, nurturing environment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize April 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention Month, to recognize that we all have a role to play in strengthening families so as to ensure healthy child development and a duty to help others recognize that role and to celebrate the positive community connections available to our families and caregivers to promote the health and well-being of Maine children and help prevent child abuse and neglect.

#### **READ.**

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Eliot, Representative Meyer.

Representative MEYER: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Women and Men of the House. One thing we can all agree on is that every child deserves a safe, stable home. It is essential that we take a preventative approach to child safety and focus our efforts on ensuring families have the resources and support they need to take care of themselves and their children.

While much has been accomplished over the last five years to rebuild and improve our child welfare system, promoting the wellbeing of children and families requires that we address challenges far upstream of Child Protective Services. This includes access to affordable child care, health care and housing, access to mental and behavioral health care and to the economic and concrete supports that aim to provide families the resources required to meet their needs and to provide a pathway to stability and success.

A public health approach to improving both the safety and wellbeing of children demands a coordinated human services response focused on addressing the range of family needs, building protective capacities and linking families with resources to ensure they are able to keep children healthy and thriving. Work is needed to identify and build policy levers that can support practices that stabilize rather than separate families. But it is not State government alone that bears the responsibility for healthy families and thriving kids. An upstream approach should include families and our community-based organizations playing meaningful roles in developing solutions that reflect the priorities and needs of Maine children.

The children of Maine, our youngest residents, look to us to rise above politics and toward policy changes that protect and promote their wellbeing and inherent right to strong, stable, safe, nurturing homes.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Brennan.

Representative **BRENNAN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House, today at 3:00 when the bell rings across the State in public schools, there will be 2,500 students that will not have a home to go to. There are 2,400 young people, children, in our child welfare system today in the State of Maine. There are 70 young people that are in treatment facilities across other parts of the country because we don't have appropriate facilities here in the State of Maine. That's why I'm very pleased to work with the Good Representative from Eliot, Representative Meyer, in conjunction with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of Education and the Maine Child Welfare Alliance to develop a plan to prevent and mitigate child abuse and neglect across the State of Maine.

So, over the next two months, there will be a concerted effort to go out to every community in the State of Maine and to talk to stakeholders within the community about ways that we can strengthen families and ways that we can intervene to protect children. That plan will be available in May and I look forward to working with you and with every Member of the House to implement that plan so that Maine can be a leader in preventing, if not eliminating, child abuse and neglect. Thank you very much.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Milford, Representative Drinkwater.

Representative **DRINKWATER**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to talk about the educational needs of our children in this State. I absolutely agree with this Joint Resolution but having heard testimonies of hundreds of parents whose kids have been disenfranchised, I raise concern about their welfare. What's our plan to help them? According to the Department of Health and Human Services' answer to some questions about children that have been removed from school, they estimated over 1,900 children have been removed from school because they don't comply. Madam Speaker, these children need to be back in school and I would urge this Body to do everything in its power to represent the children of this State

and say that all of our children deserve a free public education. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

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On motion of Representative COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 942) (Cosponsored by President JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, STROUT of Harrington, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, Senator: STEWART of Aroostook)

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF  
APRIL 1, 2023 TO APRIL 7, 2023 AS  
THE WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD**

WHEREAS, the Maine Association for the Education of Young Children and the National Association for the Education of Young Children are celebrating the Week of the Young Child, April 1, 2023 to April 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, these groups are committed to the healthy development of all young children in Maine through strengthening and building systems of equitable access to high-quality early childhood education; and

WHEREAS, children's cognitive, physical, social and emotional development and language and literacy development are built on a foundation of their positive interactions with adults, peers and their environment; and

WHEREAS, Maine's early childhood education workforce is vital to providing a nurturing and educational foundation of early care and learning experiences for young children; and

WHEREAS, seventy percent of children under 6 years of age in Maine have all available parents in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, access to high-quality child care is a necessity for many families in our community to participate in the workforce; and

WHEREAS, high-quality early childhood programs provide important benefits to children, families and state and national economies; and

WHEREAS, celebrating the Week of the Young Child enables the recognition and advancement of the early childhood education profession; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize April 1, 2023 to April 7, 2023 as the Week of the Young Child and encourage all residents to work to support and invest in early childhood in the State.

**READ.**

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Pittsfield, Representative Collamore.

Representative **COLLAMORE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. As we use this Joint Resolution to recognize the Week of the Young Child, we also need to pause and remember the great and important work our early childhood educators do. This morning, a gathering of early childhood educators and students from the CTEs in early childhood education programs are in the Hall of Flags. I was grateful to be invited to join them and speak with them. Madam Speaker, as you know, I am an early childhood educator. I cannot afford to work in the field that I was trained to be in and love so very much. Early childhood educators are the workforce behind the workforce and are being pushed out of their field because it is not affordable to stay. Our early childhood educators deserve respect and should be properly compensated and recognized for the important work they do. Family child care centers are closing all over the State, Madam Speaker. Child care deserts are impacting Maine's

economy and our workforce in so many ways. Parents cannot find child care for their children so that they can work. We need to do something to address this.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank our early childhood educators for all they do. I want families to know that they are being heard. I know you need high-quality child care options. Whether in a center through a CAP program, a family child care center, a nursery school or other child care center. You parents want to be able to work and support your family but have no care available for your children where you know that they can be safe and that's because you live in rural areas with no options. Madam Speaker, I want to take a moment again to thank our early childhood educators for all that they do and for being the workforce behind the workforce. Thank you.

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

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

**SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR**

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

**In Memory of:**

Sarah Watson, of Vassalboro. Mrs. Watson worked for Maine Service Employees Union, MSEA-SEIU, where she advocated for employees, their families and programs across the State of Maine. Her passion for her fellow workers and equality was unwavering and unmatched; advocating for those that could not themselves or needed encouragement to push beyond what they thought possible was a lifelong passion. Mrs. Watson will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family and friends and all those whose lives she touched;

(SLS 328)

On **OBJECTION** of Representative BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

**READ.**

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

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEE**

**Divided Reports**

Majority Report of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act Regarding the Purpose and Responsibilities of the State Regulatory System for Public Utilities"

(H.P. 214) (L.D. 340)

Signed:

Senators:

LAWRENCE of York  
GROHOSKI of Hancock

Representatives:

ZEIGLER of Montville  
BOYLE of Gorham  
GEIGER of Rockland  
KESSLER of South Portland  
RUNTE of York  
WARREN of Scarborough

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

Signed:

Senator:

HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:

DUNPHY of Embden  
FOSTER of Dexter  
PAUL of Winterport

**READ.**

Representative ZEIGLER of Montville moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Montville, Representative Zeigler.

Representative **ZEIGLER**: Madam Speaker and Fellow Legislators, this bill does nothing to lower utility rates and this bill would limit PUC's ability to fulfill its roles in setting just and reasonable rates and I urge my fellow legislators to follow my light.

Representative FOSTER of Dexter **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: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Madison, Representative Ducharme.

Representative **DUCHARME**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition to the pending motion on LD 340.

LD 340 would reassert and enforce the primary purpose of the Public Utilities Commission. It is to ensure safe and reasonable and adequate service to assist in minimizing the cost of energy available to Maine consumers and to ensure that the rates of the public utilities are just and reasonable to consumers.

Public Law 2021, Chapter 279, An Act To Require Consideration of Climate Impacts by the Public Utilities Commission and To Incorporate Equity Considerations in Decision Making by State Agencies. This chaptered law says, "the purpose of this Title is ... to ensure that the rates of public utilities subject to rate regulation are just and reasonable to customers and public utilities and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to meet the greenhouse gas emissions reduction levels set forth in Title 38, Section 576-A."

Madam Speaker, the language passed in this chapter is impossible for the PUC to comply with. If anybody could just magically reduce greenhouse gases, it probably would have already been done. The statement is declarative and requires that the PUC reduce greenhouse gases. In this time of exploding energy and utility costs, I believe that we need the PUC to focus on the cost that Maine ratepayers are dealing with for their utilities and not divert their focus to a task they simply cannot complete. We have the Maine Climate Council and many other entities that are focusing on greenhouse gases. Let's keep the PUC focused on keeping utility rates just and reasonable for Maine consumers. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question is Acceptance of the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report. Those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

**ROLL CALL NO. 27**

YEA - Ankeles, Arford, Bell, Boyle, Brennan, Bridgeo, Carlow, Cloutier, Cluchey, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Dhalac, Dill, Dodge, Doudera, Fay, Gattine, Geiger, Golek, Graham, Gramlich, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hobbs, Jauch, Kessler, Kuhn, LaRochelle, Lee, Lookner, Madigan, Malon,

Mastraccio, Mathieson, Matlack, Meyer, Millett R, Milliken, Montell, Moonen, Murphy, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Paulhus, Perry A, Perry J, Pluecker, Rana, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roberts, Roeder, Runte, Russell, Sachs, Salisbury, Sargent, Sayre, Shagoury, Shaw, Skold, Stover, Supica, Terry, Warren, White B, Williams, Worth, Zager, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Adams, Albert, Andrews, Arata, Ardell, Babin, Bagshaw, Blier, Boyer, Bradstreet, Campbell, Carmichael, Collamore, Cray, Cyrway, Davis, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Dunphy, Faulkingham, Foster, Fredericks, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffin, Guerrette, Haggan, Hall, Henderson, Hymes, Jackson, Jayner, Landry, Lavigne, Lemelin, Libby, Lyman, Mason, Millett H, Morris, Ness, Newman, Nutting, Parry, Paul, Perkins, Poirier, Polewarczyk, Pomerleau, Quint, Rudnicki, Sampson, Schmersal-Burgess, Smith, Soboleski, Strout, Swallow, Thorne, Underwood, Walker, White J, Wood, Woodsome.

ABSENT - Abdi, Costain, Eaton, Galletta, Gere, Lajoie, Lanigan, Moriarty, Pringle, Sheehan, Theriault.

Yes, 76; No, 63; Absent, 11; Vacant, 1; Excused, 0.

76 having voted in the affirmative and 63 voted in the negative, 1 vacancy with 11 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-21)** on Bill "An Act to Strengthen Maine's Health Care Workforce by Preventing Discrimination by Requiring Maintenance of Certification for Insurance Reimbursement"

(H.P. 145) (L.D. 224)

Signed:  
Senator:

BAILEY of York

Representatives:

PERRY of Calais  
ARFORD of Brunswick  
CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham  
MASTRACCIO of Sanford  
MATHIESON of Kittery  
NUTTING of Oakland

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

Signed:  
Senator:

BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

CYRWAY of Albion  
MORRIS of Turner  
SWALLOW of Houlton

**READ.**

On motion of Representative PERRY of Calais, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-21)** 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-21)** and sent for concurrence.

**ENACTORS  
Emergency Measure**

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 25: Standards for Placing Wood into Stream Channels to Enhance Cold Water Fisheries Habitat, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Forestry

(H.P. 241) (L.D. 390)  
(C. "A" H-8)

Was 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. 114 voted in favor of the same and 23 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

**Acts**

An Act to Increase Support for the Modernization of the Board of Pesticides Control by Increasing the Annual Pesticide Registration Fee

(H.P. 12) (L.D. 8)  
(C. "A" H-7)

An Act to Update the Maine State Grant Program

(S.P. 24) (L.D. 32)  
(H. "A" H-11)

An Act to Include a Representative of Newspaper and Other Press Interests on the Archives Advisory Board and to Require the Member Representing a Historical Society to Have Expertise in Archival Records

(S.P. 72) (L.D. 133)  
(C. "A" S-9)

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

An Act to Clarify MaineCare Program Requirements Regarding Certain High-risk Health Care Providers

(H.P. 265) (L.D. 432)

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed.

On motion of Representative MEYER of Eliot, was **SET ASIDE**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the rules were **SUSPENDED** for the purpose of **RECONSIDERATION**.

On further motion of the same Representative, the House **RECONSIDERED** its action whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

The same Representative **PRESENTED House Amendment "A" (H-22)**, which was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Subsequently, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-22)** in **NON-CONCURRENCE** and sent for concurrence.

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

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

**SENATE PAPERS**

Bill "An Act to Protect Union Wharf and Sustain Maine's Maritime Industries"

(S.P. 601) (L.D. 1480)

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

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Improve Sexual Assault Kit Tracking"

(S.P. 605) (L.D. 1484)

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.

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Resolve, Directing the Department of Education and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank to Amend Their Rules Regarding the Maine School Facilities Finance Program and the School Revolving Renovation Fund

(S.P. 591) (L.D. 1472)

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.

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Bill "An Act to Amend the Calculation of Tariff Rates and Billing Credits Under Net Energy Billing"

(S.P. 584) (L.D. 1465)

Resolve, Directing the Public Utilities Commission to Convene a Stakeholder Group Regarding Liquefied Propane Gas Systems and the So-called Dig Safe Law

(S.P. 599) (L.D. 1479)

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.

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Bill "An Act Regarding Transfers of Land in Resource Protection Areas"

(S.P. 589) (L.D. 1470)

Bill "An Act to Amend Provisions of the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act"

(S.P. 590) (L.D. 1471)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Definition of 'Metallic Mineral' in the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act"

(S.P. 596) (L.D. 1476)

Bill "An Act to Impose a Moratorium on Open-pit Rock Quarry Excavation" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 603) (L.D. 1482)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Relating to the Prevention of Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Pollution and to Provide Additional Funding"

(S.P. 610) (L.D. 1537)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Establish the Maine Cannabis Research Committee and Facilitate Research into Alternative Therapeutics"

(S.P. 586) (L.D. 1467)

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

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.

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Resolve, to Sufficiently Staff Overnight Behavioral Health Crisis Facilities

(S.P. 588) (L.D. 1469)

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.

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Bill "An Act to Protect Certain Unfiltered Drinking Water Sources"

(S.P. 592) (L.D. 1473)

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

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** in concurrence.

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Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Expedite Reimbursement of Nursing Facilities

(S.P. 593) (L.D. 1474)

Bill "An Act to Improve Women's Health and Economic Security by Funding Family Planning Services"

(S.P. 598) (L.D. 1478)

Bill "An Act Regarding Clearance for Occupancy Under the Lead Poisoning Control Act" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 602) (L.D. 1481)

Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for Hospital Security in Aroostook County"

(S.P. 606) (L.D. 1485)

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.

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Bill "An Act to Ensure That Residents of the State Have the Right to Repair Their Own Electronic Devices"

(S.P. 608) (L.D. 1487)

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

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Ensure Equal Treatment by the Law Court by Requiring 7 Justices to Decide All Cases"

(S.P. 587) (L.D. 1468)

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Remove the Waiting Period for Benefits Under Maine's Unemployment Insurance System"

(S.P. 583) (L.D. 1464)

Bill "An Act to Protect the Rights of Agricultural Workers"

(S.P. 604) (L.D. 1483)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed.

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** in concurrence.

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RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Amend the Governor's Power to Reprive, Pardon and Commute Sentences and Remit Penalties

(S.P. 609) (L.D. 1536)

Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested and ordered printed.

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Promote Biomanufacturing and Biotechnology Development by Establishing a Tax Credit"

(S.P. 595) (L.D. 1475)

Bill "An Act to Exempt Tractor Trailer Trucks from the Excise Tax"

(S.P. 607) (L.D. 1486)

Bill "An Act to Provide Tax Benefits to Persons Constructing Accessory Dwelling Units"

(S.P. 611) (L.D. 1538)

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Fund Adult Intellectual Disability and Autism Spectrum Disorder Services by Eliminating Certain Tax Funding from the Maine Clean Election Fund"

(S.P. 585) (L.D. 1466)

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Align the Proceedings for Circulating Written Petitions for People's Vetoes and Direct Initiatives with Federal Law

(S.P. 597) (L.D. 1477)

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.

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

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On motion of Representative BABIN of Fort Fairfield, the House adjourned at 11:45 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, April 6, 2023, in honor and lasting tribute to Larry E. Curtis of Unity.