

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION
3rd Legislative Day
Tuesday, April 11, 2023

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

Prayer by Robert Sapero, Green Acre Baha'I, Eliot.
National Anthem by Roxane Althouse, Woolwich.
Pledge of Allegiance.

The Journal of Thursday, April 6, 2023 was read and approved.

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

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Resolution: (S.P. 612)

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAINE'S REALTORS

WHEREAS, the Maine Association of REALTORS® has more than 6,200 members actively involved in the business of real estate and it has approximately 400 affiliate members, including lenders, appraisers, title companies, building inspectors, surveyors and insurance providers; and

WHEREAS, the not-for-profit trade association provides each member with an equal voice and representation in the real estate profession, serving members in all 16 Maine counties and in their communities; and

WHEREAS, a healthy supply of affordable, safe, secure and high-quality residential and commercial real estate inventory statewide supports the continuing growth of Maine's economy; and

WHEREAS, real estate transactions stimulate Maine's economy and include not only the money spent and reinvested in the sale price of a property but all those services and expenditures that occur in relation to a property transaction, for both a buyer and a seller; and

WHEREAS, according to national statistics, it is estimated that one job is generated for every 2 home sales, each home sale contributes about \$146,000 to the economy and the real estate industry accounts for 18.6% of the gross state product; and

WHEREAS, the real estate market in Maine is strong, as evidenced by the number of home sales and the overall impact on Maine's economy in 2022 of 15.7 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, real estate ownership is an investment in the future and one of the best ways to build financial security through equity accumulation, and for many in Maine their real property ownership represents their life savings; and

WHEREAS, expanding real property ownership will strengthen our State and its families and communities, enhance our economy and create jobs; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, take this opportunity to recognize the Maine Association of REALTORS® and its members for their positive contributions to and the significant role they play in the lives of Maine citizens and their communities and that their service and dedication to this State are a tribute to those values and principles that we all hold dear; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Maine Association of REALTORS® and Maine's 12 local association boards and councils.

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

Bill "An Act Regarding the Distribution of Revenue from the Real Estate Transfer Tax" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 572) (L.D. 1454)

Committee on **TAXATION** suggested and ordered printed.
Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed.

On motion of Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** in **NON-CONCURRENCE** and sent for concurrence.

Non-Concurrent Matter

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)

REFERRED to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** in the House on April 5, 2023.

Came from the Senate **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

The House voted to **INSIST**.

Non-Concurrent Matter

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)

REFERRED to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** in the House on April 5, 2023.

Came from the Senate **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.P. 1035)

STATE OF MAINE

DEPARTMENT OF THE

SECRETARY OF STATE

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0148

February 16, 2023

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Enclosed please find my official certification to the 131st Legislature of the citizen initiative petition entitled "An Act To Prohibit Campaign Spending by Foreign Governments and Promote an Anticorruption Amendment to the United States Constitution".

Sincerely,

S/Shenna Bellows

Secretary of State

**STATE OF MAINE
SECRETARY OF STATE**

I, Shenna Bellows, Secretary of State, hereby certify that written petitions bearing valid signatures of 67,550 electors of this State were addressed to the Legislature of the State of Maine and were filed in the office of the Secretary of State on November 1, 2022, requesting that the Legislature consider an act entitled, "An Act To Prohibit Campaign Spending by Foreign Governments and Promote an Anticorruption Amendment to the United States Constitution".

I further certify that the number of signatures submitted is in excess of ten percent of the total votes cast in the last gubernatorial election preceding the filing of such petitions, as required by Article IV, Part Third, Section 18 of the Constitution of Maine, that number being 63,067.

I further certify this initiative petition to be valid and attach herewith the text of the legislation circulated on the petition's behalf.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State of Maine to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Augusta on the sixteenth day of February in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-three.

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

On motion of Representative SUPICA of Bangor, the accompanying Bill "An Act to Prohibit Campaign Spending by Foreign Governments and Promote an Anticorruption Amendment to the United States Constitution"

(I.B. 1) (L.D. 1610)

Was **TABLED** pending **FURTHER ACTION** and later today assigned.

The Following Communication: (H.P. 1036)

**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0148**

February 16, 2023

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

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Enclosed please find my official certification to the 131st Legislature of the citizen initiative petition entitled "An Act To Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit, Customer-owned Utility".

Sincerely,
S/Shenna Bellows
Secretary of State

**STATE OF MAINE
SECRETARY OF STATE**

I, Shenna Bellows, Secretary of State, hereby certify that written petitions bearing valid signatures of 69,735 electors of this State were addressed to the Legislature of the State of Maine and were filed in the office of the Secretary of State on October 31, 2022, requesting that the Legislature consider an act entitled, "An Act To Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit, Customer-owned Utility".

I further certify that the number of signatures submitted is in excess of ten percent of the total votes cast in the last gubernatorial election preceding the filing of such petitions, as required by Article IV, Part Third, Section 18 of the Constitution of Maine, that number being 63,067.

I further certify this initiative petition to be valid and attach herewith the text of the legislation circulated on the petition's behalf.

In testimony whereof, I have caused the Great Seal of the State of Maine to be hereunto affixed. Given under my hand at Augusta on the sixteenth day of February in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-three.

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

On motion of Representative ZEIGLER of Montville, the accompanying Bill "An Act to Create the Pine Tree Power Company, a Nonprofit, Customer-owned Utility"

(I.B. 2) (L.D. 1611)

Was **TABLED** pending **FURTHER ACTION** and later today assigned.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 124)

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

April 11, 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 Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services has approved the request by the sponsor, Representative Moriarty of Cumberland, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

L.D. 158 An Act to Create a Training License and Program for Certain Advanced Practice Providers

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services has approved the request by the sponsor, Senator Grohoski of Hancock, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

L.D. 411 An Act to Prevent Subscribers from Being Overcharged for Health Insurance Premiums

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Health and Human Services has approved the request by the sponsor, Senator Beebe-Center of Knox, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

L.D. 1188 An Act to Establish a Public Health Response to Substance Use

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

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 125)

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

April 11, 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: "

Health and Human Services

L.D. 300 An Act to Establish Pilot Initiatives to Promote, Grow and Sustain Adult Day Care and Respite Programs in Maine

L.D. 762 An Act to Authorize Burials with Biodegradable Containers, Including Tree Pods

L.D. 813 Resolve, to Study Methods to Increase Access to Medication-assisted Treatment for Substance Use Disorder

L.D. 1211 An Act to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Fund Out-of-state Residential Treatment for Substance Use Disorder When In-state Treatment Is Unavailable

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

L.D. 940 An Act to Allow Pharmacists to Provide Services Through Telehealth and Vending Machines at Federally Qualified Health Centers

L.D. 991 An Act to Require Financial Institutions and Credit Unions to Give Depositors the Option to Designate a Beneficiary

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

L.D. 458 An Act to Require an Application for a Hunting License to Include a Check-off Box Indicating an Applicant's Wish to Be Entered in the Antlerless Deer Permit Lottery

L.D. 608 Resolve, to Improve Outcomes for Participants in the Antlerless Deer Permit Lottery

L.D. 613 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Antlerless Deer Permit Process

L.D. 763 An Act to Provide Antlerless Deer Permits to Certain Landowners

L.D. 798 An Act to Eliminate the Antlerless Deer Permit Fee for Holders of Senior Complimentary and Senior Lifetime Hunting Licenses

Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business

L.D. 281 An Act to Require Ski Area Safety Plans and Reporting

L.D. 323 An Act to Improve Compliance with Maine's Implied Warranty Law

Labor and Housing

L.D. 116 An Act to Establish a Minimum Wage for All Health Care Workers Including All Support Staff

L.D. 882 An Act to Allow Nonmunicipal Emergency Medical Services Providers to Be Considered State Employees for Purposes of Certain Benefits

L.D. 1112 An Act to Provide Workers' Compensation for Temporary Employees

State and Local Government

L.D. 548 An Act to Amend the Duties of County Sheriffs

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

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

The Following Communication: (S.C. 291)

**MAINE SENATE
131st LEGISLATURE**

April 6, 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 nomination:

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business, Kevin Bunker of Brunswick 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.**

At this point, the Chair recognized the Representative from Durham, Representative GALLETTA, the Representative from Lewiston, Representative LAJOIE, the Representative from Cumberland, Representative MORIARTY, the Representative from Biddeford, Representative SHEEHAN and the Representative from the Passamaquoddy Tribe, Representative DANA, and they were added to the roll call of the First Special Session of the 131st Legislature.

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act to Address Food Insecurity and Support Local Agriculture"

(H.P. 1037) (L.D. 1612)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Remove the Duty of an Individual Exercising Self-defense to Safely Retreat or Abstain from Performing Certain Acts upon Demand"

(H.P. 1005) (L.D. 1560)

Sponsored by Representative PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft.

Cosponsored by Senator HARRINGTON of York and Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, ARDELL of Monticello, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, HYMES of Waldo, NEWMAN of Belgrade, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, WHITE of Guilford.

Bill "An Act to Restore Firearm Rights and Hunting Privileges to Persons Previously Convicted of Certain Nonviolent Felony Crimes"

(H.P. 1006) (L.D. 1561)

Sponsored by Representative PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft.

Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, ARDELL of Monticello, BOYER of Poland, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, HYMES of Waldo, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, WHITE of Guilford, Senator: HARRINGTON of York.

Bill "An Act to Provide a Pathway to Sobriety for Formerly or Currently Incarcerated Individuals"

(H.P. 1028) (L.D. 1583)

Sponsored by Representative WHITE of Guilford.

Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin and Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, BOYER of Poland, GREENWOOD of Wales, HYMES of Waldo, PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft, Senator: GUERIN of Penobscot.

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 Increase and Enhance School Safety by Allowing Individuals with Concealed Carry Permits to Possess Handguns on School Property"

(H.P. 1002) (L.D. 1557)

Sponsored by Representative PAUL of Winterport.

Cosponsored by Senator HARRINGTON of York and Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, ARDELL of Monticello, BABIN of Fort Fairfield, DUCHARME of Madison, HENDERSON of Rumford, HYMES of Waldo, SMITH of Palermo, WHITE of Guilford.

Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Program to Provide Grants to Expand Age Eligibility for Life Skills and Vocational Programs in Public Schools

(H.P. 1010) (L.D. 1565)

Sponsored by Representative MONTELL of Gardiner.

Cosponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland and Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, BRIDGEO of Augusta, COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, DILL of Old Town, DODGE of Belfast, MURPHY of Scarborough, SARGENT of York, WORTH of Ellsworth.

Bill "An Act to Create a Training Program for School Board Members and Establish School Board Meeting Standards"

(H.P. 1012) (L.D. 1567)

Sponsored by Representative LYMAN of Livermore Falls.

Cosponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin and Representatives: CYRWAY of Albion, HAGGAN of Hampden, QUINT of Hodgdon, SAMPSON of Alfred, SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico, Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, KEIM of Oxford, LIBBY of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Provide Meaningful Public Participation at Local School Board Meetings"

(H.P. 1016) (L.D. 1571)

Sponsored by Representative LYMAN of Livermore Falls.

Cosponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin and Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, BAGSHAW of Windham, CYRWAY of Albion, HAGGAN of Hampden, MORRIS of Turner, POLEWARCZYK of Wiscasset, QUINT of Hodgdon, SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico.

Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Adopt Rules Prohibiting Teachers in Public Schools from Engaging in Political, Ideological and Religious Advocacy in the Classroom

(H.P. 1034) (L.D. 1589)

Sponsored by Representative SMITH of Palermo.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BAGSHAW of Windham, FREDERICKS of Sanford, GRIFFIN of Levant, HENDERSON of Rumford, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, WHITE of Guilford.

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.

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Metallic Mineral Mining Activities Without a Permit"

(H.P. 1009) (L.D. 1564)

Sponsored by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill.

Cosponsored by Representative: WARREN of Scarborough.

Bill "An Act to Create the Storm Water Infrastructure Repair and Replacement Fund"

(H.P. 1015) (L.D. 1570)

Sponsored by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick.

Cosponsored by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and Representatives: BELL of Yarmouth, DILL of Old Town, FAY of Raymond, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, JAUCH of Topsham, KESSLER of South Portland, MALON of Biddeford, STOVER of Boothbay.

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 Prohibit the Sale of Tobacco Products in Pharmacies and Retail Establishments Containing Pharmacies"

(H.P. 1003) (L.D. 1558)

Sponsored by Representative MOONEN of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York and Representatives: CRAVEN of Lewiston, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, MADIGAN of Waterville, MEYER of Eliot, PERRY of Bangor, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, ZAGER of Portland, Senator: BALDACCI of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Promote Quality and Innovation in Nursing and Residential Care Facilities"

(H.P. 1020) (L.D. 1575)

Sponsored by Representative MEYER of Eliot.

Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to Temporarily Restore Benefits Being Reduced by the Federal Government" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1029) (L.D. 1584)

Sponsored by Representative STOVER of Boothbay.

Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc and Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MEYER of Eliot, MILLETT of Waterford, PLUECKER of Warren, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, Senator: BRENNER of Cumberland.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Resolve, to Increase Access to Brain Injury Waiver Services (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1042) (L.D. 1617)

Sponsored by Representative LIBBY of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock and Representatives: HEPLER of Woolwich, LANDRY of Farmington, PERRY of Bangor, RANA of Bangor, SARGENT of York, SKOLD of Portland, TERRY of Gorham.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Require an Ultrasound and Certain Counseling Before an Abortion"

(H.P. 1039) (L.D. 1614)

Sponsored by Representative GRIFFIN of Levant.

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.

Bill "An Act to Require Health Insurance Coverage for Biomarker Testing"

(H.P. 1022) (L.D. 1577)

Sponsored by Representative ZAGER of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, CYRWAY of Albion, JAVNER of Chester, PERRY of Calais, SWALLOW of Houlton, Senators: BAILEY of York, RENY of Lincoln.

Bill "An Act Regarding Dental Hygienists and Dental Therapists"

(H.P. 1026) (L.D. 1581)

Sponsored by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford.
Cosponsored by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Enable Occupational License Portability and Prohibit Use of Good Character Qualifications in Occupational Licensing"

(H.P. 1031) (L.D. 1586)

Sponsored by Representative SMITH of Palermo.
Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington and Representatives: BABIN of Fort Fairfield, CRAY of Palmyra, DAVIS of East Machias, GUERRETTE of Caribou, LAVIGNE of Berwick, STROUT of Harrington.

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

On motion of Representative PERRY of Calais, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Allow a Resident of Agricultural Land to Enlist License Holders to Hunt on the Land" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1008) (L.D. 1563)

Sponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren.
Cosponsored by Senator BLACK of Franklin and Representatives: CRAY of Palmyra, GUERRETTE of Caribou, HALL of Wilton, HEPLER of Woolwich, SHAW of Auburn, Senator: INGWERSEN of York.

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.

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Eliminate the Diversion of Revenue from Professional and Occupational Licensing Fees

(H.P. 1024) (L.D. 1579)

Sponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner.
Cosponsored by Representative: MILLETT of Waterford, Senator: BENNETT of Oxford.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Limits on Medication in Vending Machines"

(H.P. 1040) (L.D. 1615)

Sponsored by Representative TERRY of Gorham.
Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** suggested.

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

Bill "An Act to Update the Laws Governing Electronic Device Information as Evidence"

(H.P. 1021) (L.D. 1576)

Sponsored by Representative O'NEIL of Saco.
Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, BOYER of Poland, LEE of Auburn, MALON of Biddeford, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, Senators: BAILEY of York, DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, GUERIN of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Profiling and to Strengthen Civil Rights in Maine"

(H.P. 1038) (L.D. 1613)

Sponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested and ordered printed.

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect the Retirement of State Employees and Teachers by Establishing Standards for Fiduciary Responsibility"

(H.P. 1007) (L.D. 1562)

Sponsored by Representative PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft.

Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin and Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, ARDELL of Monticello, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, HYMES of Waldo, PAUL of Winterport, QUINT of Hodgdon, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, WHITE of Guilford.

Bill "An Act to Help Maine Small Businesses with Increasing Costs by Removing the Annual Cost-of-living Adjustment for the Minimum Wage"

(H.P. 1025) (L.D. 1580)

Sponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner.

Cosponsored by Representative: BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, Senator: TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

Bill "An Act to Provide Public Sector Labor Unions Reasonable Access to Information Regarding Employees"

(H.P. 1033) (L.D. 1588)

Sponsored by Representative DODGE of Belfast.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Create Rent Stabilization and Amend the Laws Regarding Termination of Tenancy and Rent Increase Limitations"

(H.P. 1019) (L.D. 1574)

Sponsored by Representative SUPICA of Bangor.

Cosponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot and Representatives: CRAFTS of Newcastle, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MALON of Biddeford, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, PLUECKER of Warren, ROEDER of Bangor, SACHS of Freeport, SALISBURY of Westbrook.

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.

Resolve, to Convene a Lobster Industry Working Group

(H.P. 1043) (L.D. 1618)

Sponsored by Representative GOLEK of Harpswell.

Cosponsored by Representatives: DAVIS of East Machias, DILL of Old Town, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, JAUCH of Topsham, LANDRY of Farmington, THORNE of Carmel.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Provide Financial Relief for Certain Volunteers Under the Corporation for National and Community Service, the Maine Service Fellows and the Maine Climate Corps"

(H.P. 1018) (L.D. 1573)

Sponsored by Representative RIELLY of Westbrook.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, CARLOW of Buxton, CARMICHAEL of Greenbush, PERRY of Bangor, Senator: PIERCE of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Make the Description of the State Seal Gender-neutral and to Depict One of the Human Images on the State Flag as Female"

(H.P. 1041) (L.D. 1616)

Sponsored by Representative TERRY of Gorham. (BY REQUEST)

Cosponsored by Representative: PAULHUS of Bath.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Exempt Certain Disabled Veterans from Property Taxes in Accordance with Their Disability Ratings"

(H.P. 1014) (L.D. 1569)

Sponsored by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick.

Cosponsored by Senator CURRY of Waldo and Representatives: COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, LaROCHELLE of Augusta, MEYER of Eliot, STOVER of Boothbay, TERRY of Gorham.

Bill "An Act to Clarify What Constitutes a Homestead for the Homestead Property Tax Exemption"

(H.P. 1027) (L.D. 1582)

Sponsored by Representative DOUDERA of Camden.

Cosponsored by Senator BEEBE-CENTER of Knox and Representatives: JAUCH of Topsham, MATLACK of St. George, Senator: PIERCE of Cumberland.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Advance the State's Public Transit Systems by Reinvigorating the Public Transit Advisory Council and Increasing Funding"

(H.P. 1004) (L.D. 1559)

Sponsored by Representative O'NEIL of Saco.

Cosponsored by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland and Representatives: BRIDGEO of Augusta, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, LANDRY of Farmington, MALON of Biddeford, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, SUPICA of Bangor, WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor, Senator: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

Resolve, to Establish the Task Force to Recommend Strategies to Achieve the Goal of Eliminating Traffic Fatalities and Serious Injuries

(H.P. 1011) (L.D. 1566)

Sponsored by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick.

Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: ZAGER of Portland, ZEIGLER of Montville, Senators: CHIPMAN of Cumberland, DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Ensure Proper Funding of the Highway Fund by Imposing a Surcharge on Electric Vehicle Registration" (H.P. 1017) (L.D. 1572)

Sponsored by Representative ZEIGLER of Montville.
Cosponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York and Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, BELL of Yarmouth, MATLACK of St. George, PLUECKER of Warren, Senator: BRENNER of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Motor Vehicle Inspection Law to Exempt Certain Motor Vehicles Less than 3 Years Old" (H.P. 1032) (L.D. 1587)

Sponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ROBERTS of South Berwick, SALISBURY of Westbrook, Senator: TIPPING of Penobscot.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect Access to Absentee Ballot Drop Boxes"

(H.P. 1013) (L.D. 1568)

Sponsored by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick.
Cosponsored by Representatives: MALON of Biddeford, MEYER of Eliot, RIELLY of Westbrook, ROEDER of Bangor, SALISBURY of Westbrook, TERRY of Gorham.

Bill "An Act to Adopt an Interstate Compact to Elect the President of the United States by National Popular Vote" (H.P. 1023) (L.D. 1578)

Sponsored by Representative BELL of Yarmouth.
Cosponsored by Representative ZAGER of Portland, Senator POULIOT of Kennebec and Representatives: JAUCH of Topsham, SUPICA of Bangor, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland, TERRY of Gorham, Senators: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, President JACKSON of Aroostook, VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

Bill "An Act to Amend Maine's Cannabis Laws to Protect Small and Medium-sized Cultivators" (H.P. 1030) (L.D. 1585)

Sponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren.
Cosponsored by Representatives: RISEMAN of Harrison, ROEDER of Bangor, SUPICA of Bangor, WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

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

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

Recognizing:

Hannah Robinson, of Pittsfield, a senior at Maine Central Institute, who is a recipient of a 2023 Principal's Award for outstanding academic achievement and citizenship, sponsored by the Maine Principals' Association. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 231)

Presented by Representative COLLAMORE of Pittsfield.

Cosponsored by Senator FARRIN of Somerset.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

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

Representative **COLLAMORE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have had the great pleasure of watching Hannah grow from a young kindergartner with my son to a talented, hard-working young woman. In addition to this Principal's Award commemorating her academic achievement and citizenship at Maine Central Institute, Hannah is graduating in the top 10 of her class this year. She is a three-season athlete and is involved in many of the social groups at MCI including the Key Club. It is my pleasure to stand and recognize and congratulate Hannah on her many achievements and wish her luck in her future endeavors after graduation. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

In Memory of:

Alexandra "Sani" Wolf Fogel, of Rockport. Ms. Fogel worked for the Friends Neighborhood Guild in Philadelphia, served as the Volunteer Director of the Park House Guides at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and worked as the Executive Director of the Philadelphia Chapter of Young Audiences, an organization that brings the performing arts into schools. In 1988 she founded the Delaware Valley Grantmakers, now known as the Philanthropy Network of Greater Philadelphia, and served as the organization's director. In 1995 she moved to Maine, becoming the founding Executive Director of the Maine Philanthropy Center and serving in that position until 2001. For over 60 years, she was active with Bay Chamber Concerts, serving as Board President from 2016 to 2021 and as a member of the development committee for over 20 years. She also helped to create the plan and the financial model for the Bay Chamber Music School, which opened in June 2010. She served on the Town of Rockport Select Board from 2006 to 2012 and volunteered on multiple town committees, including the opera house and harbor committees. She served on the board of the United Mid-Coast Charities as well as of the Camden Conference and chaired the Governing Board of the Camden Conference in 2000 and 2001, continuing on the organization's Advisory Board after her term ended. She also served on the boards of The Jackson Laboratory and the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences. Ms. Fogel will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family and friends and all those whose lives she touched;

(HLS 190)

Presented by Representative DOUDERA of Camden.

Cosponsored by Senator BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative DOUDERA of Camden, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Camden, Representative Doudera.

Representative **DOUDERA**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I had a nice chat with Sani Fogel in the fall when I was knocking on doors in Rockport Village. She met me at her door and she introduced me to an adorable and rambunctious springer spaniel puppy that she had named Minnie. But she also wanted to talk about issues such as affordable housing, sea level rise and our workforce shortage. She asked questions, she gave me ideas. This was a woman who cared deeply about her town and our State right up until her death in February at the age of 86.

As you heard in the sentiment, Sani had two big loves; the arts and community. She grew up surrounded by classical music. Her grandmother was a well-known Russian-born violinist, just one of many relatives who were professional musicians. She was introduced to the arts and philanthropy by an older generation of pioneering female relatives and thinking of these strong female connections and her two daughters who are here with us today, I reached out to a number of women in my community to ask them about their favorite Sani Fogel memories.

Linda Clancy, editor at the PenBay Pilot says; Sani loved Maine and was dedicated to her Rockport-centered community. She served two three-year terms on the Town of Rockport Select Board and volunteered on multiple committees. She was both a leader and a consensus builder, always eager to hear new ideas.

Rockport resident Nancy said; I had the pleasure of knowing her when we served on the Opera House Committee. I'm glad I got the chance to work with her. She's a wonderful example of Rockport community spirit.

Sani had a giant impact on the Mid-Coast Organization Bay Chamber concerts. As her friend Monica Kelly said; Sani was one of a kind in her devotion, her passion and her indomitable spirit. She left her mark on so many aspects of our organization, from concerts to school to leadership and as an ambassador and champion for all we do. We will treasure her memory always.

My friend Sara said; I will always remember the red lipstick she wore to work out at the Y. So chic.

The Honorable Joan Welsh, who served in this Body, commented on Sani's wide circle of family and friends. I understand that Sani was called upon to provide adventures, sailing lessons, spectacular meals and unwavering support and that she loved every minute.

Last June, the Town of Rockport dedicated their annual town report to Sani Fogel and a female friend said at the time; Sani is a doer. She has strong opinions which are usually right. But at the same time, she's open to what others think. She's always willing to change her mind when someone has a better idea. She has no patience with people sitting around and waiting for others to volunteer. She likes to make things happen.

I think many of us in this Body share that same spirit and we know how much we rely on people like Sani to get the important things in our towns done. We've lost a woman who truly embodied community and I want to offer my deepest condolences to her family and thank them for sharing Sani Wolf Fogel with us for so long. Thank you.

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

In Memory of:

Polly Welts Kaufman, of Harpswell. Dr. Kaufman was a historian, educator, naturalist and author of many books and articles, including "National Parks and the Woman's Voice" and "Women Teachers on the Frontier." Her scholarly work focused on the personal experiences and practical achievements of diverse women in American history, and she was a lifelong advocate for the empowerment of all women. She enjoyed a long association with the University of Massachusetts, where she co-created and co-taught the core course for training local women to serve as librarians in the Boston Public Schools and worked with others from 1967 to 1987 to establish more than 100 school libraries. She moved to Harpswell in 1991 and was a visiting professor at Bowdoin College that year and an associate professor at the University of Southern Maine from 1995 to 2014, organizing an original course in the history of the inhabitants of the Casco Bay islands. A Fulbright Scholar, she taught American Studies in Norway from 1999 to 2000 and in 2005. She co-founded the Boston Women's Heritage Trail and worked collaboratively to develop similar trails in Portland and Brunswick, as well as in Norway. She also served on the board of the Pejepscot Historical Society, including as its president during the 1990s. Dr. Kaufman will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family and friends and all those whose lives she touched;

(HLS 230)

Presented by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich.

Cosponsored by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, Representative GOLEK of Harpswell.

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

READ.

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

Representative **HEPLER**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. Three things I attribute to Polly Kaufman; one, I'm a better historian because of her. Polly received her PhD at the age of 57. Having received mine at 40, I was tickled to see that someone was crazier than I was. She also continued to create and recreate the courses she taught throughout her teaching career. When I posted her obituary on Facebook this past winter, several younger women I know in the community wrote in to say that they signed up for every course that she taught no matter what the topic. That's a sign of a good teacher.

As a local historian, she taught me and many of us to look at the world around us and to invite public space to be used as a museum. She created, as you heard, the Boston Women's History Trail, eventually four different trails, helped create similar ones in Portland, Brunswick and, I'm proud to say, Farmington. She inspired us to identify buildings and spaces where women worked such as libraries and schools, businesses and industrial buildings to represent where ordinary women held jobs. In the case of Farmington, New England Telephone and Telegraph, for instance, and the corn cannery. Also grave sites of women. We turned these sites into a walkable trail that got us and our students out into the community and reminded us that history is everywhere. I would never have embarked on this project without her enthusiastic and skilled guidance. This is public history at its best and a legacy worthy of this woman.

Two, I'm a better adventurer because of Polly. About 12 years ago, Polly became enamored of Gudrid, an Iceland-born woman who birthed the first European child born in North America. To keep her from undergoing this trip alone, another colleague and I stepped up for a week-long road trip in Iceland.

In truth, we may have used her age to persuade her to let us go with her. We didn't do the ring road around Iceland but, instead, headed overland and down unpopulated peninsulas to find Gudrid's home. I will never forget it. Another time, the three of us headed off to Seneca Falls for a women's history conference. Seeing it through her eyes, a generation older than me whose experiences as a female in what was then a largely male profession was different from mine. She showed me the joy at seeing women's experiences being recognized at long last, something that I had started to take for granted by the time I actually entered the academic world. And as many of her friends and family know, there was the daily swim in the New Meadows River, sometimes year-round.

And third, I'm a better person because of Polly. When I think about her, these are the lessons I will hold; never stop learning, never stop enjoying life, never stop noticing the world around you for new adventures. Her curiosity for intellect, her friendship and her sense of humor will always be with me. She brought people together, a one-woman networking organization. She'd meet someone and say oh, you should meet Candace, she's working on women in business, you study working women, and countless other connections. It's my honor today to share her story with my colleagues in this Chamber. Thank you.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act to Improve Harness Racing in Maine by Repealing the Law Governing Standardbred Horses Eligible for Registration"

(S.P. 184) (L.D. 403)

Signed:

Senator:

HICKMAN of Kennebec

Representatives:

PLUECKER of Warren

COSTAIN of Plymouth

CRAY of Palmyra

GUERRETTE of Caribou

HALL of Wilton

HEPLER of Woolwich

JACKSON of Oxford

JAUCH of Topsham

OSHER of Orono

SHAW of Auburn

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

Signed:

Sensors:

INGWERSEN of York

BLACK of Franklin

Came from the Senate with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

READ.

On motion of Representative PLUECKER of Warren, the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** in concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-25)** on Bill "An Act to Repeal the Hospital and Health Care Provider Cooperation Act"

(H.P. 65) (L.D. 97)

Signed:

Senators:

BAILEY of York

RENY of Lincoln

Representatives:

PERRY of Calais

ARFORD of Brunswick

CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham

MASTRACCIO of Sanford

MATHIESON of Kittery

MORRIS of Turner

PRINGLE of Windham

SWALLOW of Houlton

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

Signed:

Senator:

BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

CYRWAY of Albion

NUTTING of Oakland

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-25)** 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-25)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-26)** on Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for Guardians Ad Litem"

(H.P. 81) (L.D. 113)

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland

BAILEY of York

Representatives:

MOONEN of Portland

HENDERSON of Rumford

KUHN of Falmouth

LEE of Auburn

MORIARTY of Cumberland

POIRIER of Skowhegan

RECKITT of South Portland

SHEEHAN of Biddeford

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

Signed:

Senator:

LYFORD of Penobscot

Representatives:

ANDREWS of Paris

HAGGAN of Hampden

Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-26)** Report.

READ.

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

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

Representative **MOONEN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just a quick sharing of what this bill does. It provides funding for guardians ad litem in family matters cases including matters of divorce, parental rights and guardianship, those types of cases. The bipartisan majority on this bill felt that this was certainly a worthy cause to provide this sort of support for families and children in crisis and that it was at least worthy of sending to the Appropriations Table and see what happens from there. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Subsequently, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-26)** 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-26)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass** on Bill "An Act to Provide Electronic Access to Confidential Juror Information" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 213) (L.D. 339)

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland

BAILEY of York

Representatives:

MOONEN of Portland

HENDERSON of Rumford

KUHN of Falmouth

LEE of Auburn

POIRIER of Skowhegan

RECKITT of South Portland

SHEEHAN of Biddeford

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

Signed:

Senator:

LYFORD of Penobscot

Representatives:

ANDREWS of Paris

HAGGAN of Hampden

MORIARTY of Cumberland

Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Majority **Ought to Pass** Report.

READ.

On motion of Representative MOONEN of Portland, the Majority **Ought to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**.

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

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

Majority Report of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass** on Bill "An Act to Update the Maine Human Rights Act with Respect to Gender Identity"

(H.P. 476) (L.D. 707)

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland

BAILEY of York

Representatives:

MOONEN of Portland

KUHN of Falmouth

LEE of Auburn

MORIARTY of Cumberland

POIRIER of Skowhegan

RECKITT of South Portland

SHEEHAN of Biddeford

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

Signed:

Senator:

LYFORD of Penobscot

Representatives:

ANDREWS of Paris

HAGGAN of Hampden

HENDERSON of Rumford

Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Majority **Ought to Pass** Report.

READ.

Representative MOONEN of Portland moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass** Report.

Representative LEMELIN of Chelsea **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought 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 Chelsea, Representative Lemelin.

Representative **LEMELIN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and Friends in the House. Seven thousand, two hundred twenty-two years ago, God made them both male and female and He joined them in marriage. To this day, when you are born, the doctor says it's a boy or it's a girl. We do not need legislation in any way, shape, or form with respect to gender identity or sexual orientation. Even though this deceptive bill seems to be cleaning up language, it is doing so to serve evil. There is no such thing as sexual orientation as defined today. Today, it is a made-up term. Therefore, in the name of Jesus Christ, I oppose the pending motion.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Albion, Representative Cyrway.

Representative **CYRWAY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I just wanted to speak up about when I had to fill out a form for my bio. It was sent to me from the State House and it had a square and it said gender and it had the letter "U". I don't know what "U" stood for, whether it meant unidentified or unisex or what, but I would think it would be kind of odd, me introducing Madam Speaker and unidentified people of the House. I think that we have to be careful about our unintended consequences and we also have to think about when we put a letter "U" it really messes up, we'll just say, for the census. We depend on grants and federal monies on different gender situations and whatever and so, when we start making it all one gender, I'm thinking that we're really doing some things that we're not really thinking about all the consequences that can happen.

I remember coming to the Chief Executive's first inauguration and we had all-gender restrooms and we had men in the urinals and young girls going into the stalls. That was not an intended consequence, by no means. I asked, actually, the District Attorney if she wanted to go in there and she says I'm not going in there. So, I'm just saying so, this is unintended consequences. And so, we have to be very careful when we do these things and so, I cannot vote on this because of the unintended consequences and I hope that you all think about that before you make these decisions because I think that yeah, we all want everybody treated equally, there's no doubt about that, but I just think that we have to be just careful how we go about doing it. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair is pleased to recognize the Representative from Portland, Representative Moonen.

Representative **MOONEN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I haven't even heard anything yet in floor debate that has anything to do with the words in this bill so, I thought I would talk to the words in the bill. There's nothing in here about bathrooms, there's nothing in here about gender markers on documents. This bill is simply a definition fix within the Maine Human Rights Act. Under current law, the term sexual orientation includes gender identity within it and I think there's a recognition now, appropriately so, that gender identity and sexual orientation are not the same thing. As a result of that, previous Legislatures created a separate definition for gender identity that exists within the Maine Human Rights Act. It is now defined on its own terms. Passage of this bill will not change that. Failure to pass this bill will not change that. This bill doesn't change anything except taking gender identity out of the definition of sexual orientation since they are not the same thing. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

ROLL CALL NO. 29

YEA - Abdi, Ankeles, Arford, Bell, Blier, Boyer, Boyle, Brennan, Bridgeo, Carlow, Cloutier, Cluchey, Collamore, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Crockett, Dhalac, Dill, Dodge, Doudera, Fay, Gattine, Geiger, Gere, Golek, Graham, Gramlich, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hobbs, Jauch, Javner, Kessler, Kuhn, Lajoie, Landry, LaRochelle, Lee, Madigan, Mastraccio, Mathieson, Matlack, Meyer, Millett R, Milliken, Moonen, Moriarty, Murphy, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Paulhus, Perry A, Perry J, Pluecker, Poirier, Pringle, Rana, Reckitt, Rielly, Roeder, Runte, Russell, Sachs, Salisbury, Sargent, Sayre, Shagoury, Shaw, Sheehan, Skold, Stover, Supica, Terry, Theriault, White B, Williams, Worth, Zager, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

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

ABSENT - Costain, Eaton, Haggan, Lanigan, Lookner, Malon, Montell, Morris, Perkins, Riseman, Roberts, Warren.

Yes, 83; No, 55; Absent, 12; Vacant, 1; Excused, 0. 83 having voted in the affirmative and 55 voted in the negative, 1 vacancy with 12 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass Report was ACCEPTED.**

The Bill was **READ ONCE.**

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

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

Majority Report of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-23)** on Bill "An Act to Provide Support Services for Military Members Transitioning to Civilian Life in Maine"

(H.P. 170) (L.D. 265)

Signed:

Senators:

HICKMAN of Kennebec
BRENNER of Cumberland
TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin

Representatives:

SUPICA of Bangor
BOYER of Poland
COLLINGS of Portland
HYMES of Waldo
MALON of Biddeford
MONTELL of Gardiner
RIELLY of Westbrook
RISEMAN of Harrison
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

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

Signed:

Representative:

ANDREWS of Paris

READ.

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

The Bill was **READ ONCE. Committee Amendment "A" (H-23) 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-23)** and sent for concurrence.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

First Day

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

(S.P. 313) (L.D. 755) Bill "An Act to Promote Higher Blends of Biofuel by Regulating the Sale or Transfer of Biofuels" Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(S.P. 310) (L.D. 752) Bill "An Act to Expand Access to Banking Services for Minors" Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-16)**

(H.P. 11) (L.D. 7) Bill "An Act to Update References to the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 Contained in the Maine Revised Statutes" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-27)**

(H.P. 45) (L.D. 70) Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Cap on Retirement Benefits for State Employees and Teachers to Which a Cost-of-living Adjustment Is Made" Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-24)**

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

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

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

An Act to Increase the State's Share of Retired Teacher Health Insurance

(H.P. 80) (L.D. 112)
(C. "A" H-15)

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. 108 voted in favor of the same and 13 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act to Provide Funding for the Fund to Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives

(S.P. 239) (L.D. 568)
(C. "A" S-11)

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. 111 voted in favor of the same and 8 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 570: Uniform Reporting System for Prescription Drug Price Data Sets, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization

(H.P. 226) (L.D. 375)
(C. "A" H-13)

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. 105 voted in favor of the same and 6 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Acts

An Act to Align Maine's Lead Abatement Law with Federal Definitions and to Clarify Lead Abatement Licensing and Certification Requirements

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

An Act to Make Technical Amendments to Banking Laws
(S.P. 53) (L.D. 114)
(C. "A" S-12)

An Act to Clarify MaineCare Program Requirements Regarding Certain High-risk Health Care Providers
(H.P. 265) (L.D. 432)
(H. "A" H-22)

An Act to Allow the Adjutant General to Sell the Houlton Armory
(S.P. 240) (L.D. 569)
(C. "A" S-10)

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.

Resolves

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 305: Natural Resources Protection Act - Permit by Rule, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection

(H.P. 243) (L.D. 392)
(S. "A" S-17)

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

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 Provide a Private Support Organization for the Maine Maritime Academy"

(S.P. 620) (L.D. 1556)

Bill "An Act to Address Teacher Shortages Through Financial Assistance and Career Advancement Opportunities"

(S.P. 640) (L.D. 1608)

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

Bill "An Act to Promote Economic Reuse of Contaminated Land Through Clean Energy Development"
(S.P. 622) (L.D. 1591)

Bill "An Act to Finance Clean Energy and Infrastructure in Maine"
(S.P. 638) (L.D. 1606)

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

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

Bill "An Act Regarding Visitation Policies for Long-term Care Facilities, Hospice Providers and Hospitals"
(S.P. 632) (L.D. 1601)

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

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

Bill "An Act to Repeal Certificate of Need Requirements for Health Care Providers"
(S.P. 618) (L.D. 1554)

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

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

Bill "An Act to Allow an Exception to Immunization Requirements for Health Care Workers for Vaccines Approved Under Emergency Use Authorization"
(S.P. 629) (L.D. 1598)

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

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

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

Bill "An Act to Create an Outfitter License for Owners and Operators of Hunting, Fishing and Recreation Businesses That Are Not Maine Guides"
(S.P. 630) (L.D. 1599)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Pine Tree Development Zone Program"
(S.P. 619) (L.D. 1555)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Terms of the Members of the Maine Space Corporation Board of Directors by Requiring Staggered Terms" (EMERGENCY)
(S.P. 637) (L.D. 1605)

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.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Law Governing Special Motions to Dismiss to Include Workplace and Title IX Claims"
(S.P. 623) (L.D. 1592)

Bill "An Act to Facilitate the Creation of an Aroostook County Drug Treatment Court"
(S.P. 627) (L.D. 1596)

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

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

Bill "An Act to Stabilize the Pension Funds of the Maine Public Employees Retirement System"
(S.P. 639) (L.D. 1607)

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

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.

Bill "An Act to Prevent Student Homelessness"
(S.P. 641) (L.D. 1609)

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

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Mitigate So-called Forever Chemicals in Decommissioned Schools by Establishing a Fund for Mitigation Projects"
(S.P. 617) (L.D. 1553)

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

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

Bill "An Act to Exempt the Estates of Veterans Who Were Disabled in the Line of Duty from Property Taxes"

(S.P. 626) (L.D. 1595)

Bill "An Act to Improve Property Tax Relief for Certain Disabled Veterans"

(S.P. 631) (L.D. 1600)

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

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

Bill "An Act to Require Disclosure of Campaign Funding Sources"

(S.P. 621) (L.D. 1590)

Bill "An Act to Provide for Voters Expressing Preferences in Ranked-choice Voting"

(S.P. 625) (L.D. 1594)

Resolve, to Establish the Gagetown Harmful Chemical Study Commission

(S.P. 628) (L.D. 1597)

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Extend the Time That a Signature on a Petition for a Direct Initiative of Legislation Is Valid

(S.P. 636) (L.D. 1604)

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.

Bill "An Act to Increase Affordable Housing Development"

(S.P. 624) (L.D. 1593)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** in concurrence.

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

On motion of Representative DOUDERA of Camden, the House adjourned at 12:11 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 12, 2023, in honor and lasting tribute to Alexandra "Sani" Wolf Fogel of Rockport, Craig David McLeod of Sanford, Bruce A. Farwell of Sanford and Polly Welts Kaufman of Harpswell.