

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
6th Legislative Day  
Tuesday, January 23, 2024

Representative ZEIGLER of Montville assumed the Chair.  
The House met according to adjournment and was called  
to order by the Speaker Pro Tem.  
Prayer by Honorable Mark Michael Babin, Fort Fairfield.  
National Anthem by Honorable Deane Rykerson, Kittery.  
Pledge of Allegiance.  
The Journal of Thursday, January 18, 2024 was read and  
approved.

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 359)  
**STATE OF MAINE**  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**SPEAKER'S OFFICE**  
**AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

January 23, 2024  
Honorable Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333  
Dear Clerk Hunt:  
Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (H), I appoint  
Representative Stanley Paige Zeigler, Jr. of Montville to serve  
as Speaker Pro Tem to convene the House on Tuesday,  
January 23, 2024.  
Sincerely,  
S/Rachel Talbot Ross  
Speaker of the House  
**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 360)  
**STATE OF MAINE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL**  
**AND FINANCIAL REGULATION**  
**BUREAU OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS**  
**36 STATE HOUSE STATION**  
**AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0036**

January 15, 2024  
Hon. Troy D. Jackson, President of the Senate  
Hon. Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House  
131st Maine Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333  
Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:  
In accordance with Title 9-B M.R.S. § 217, as amended, enclosed  
please find a copy of the Annual Report from the Superintendent  
of the Bureau of Financial Institutions to the Legislature.  
In the event that you may have any questions regarding the  
information contained in this Report, the Bureau would be pleased  
to respond. This Report will also be available in electronic format  
at [www.maine.gov/pfr/financialinstitutions](http://www.maine.gov/pfr/financialinstitutions).  
Very truly yours,  
S/Lloyd P. LaFountain III  
Superintendent  
**READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED**  
**PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 361)  
**TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE CREATION OF A**  
**COMPREHENSIVE CAREER AND TECHNICAL**  
**EDUCATION SYSTEM**

January 19, 2024  
The Honorable Troy Jackson, President  
Maine State Senate  
The Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker  
Maine House of Representatives  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333  
Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:  
Pursuant to Resolve 2023, c. 92, the Task Force to Study the  
Creation of a Comprehensive Career and Technical Education  
System is pleased to submit its final report. Copies of the full  
report have been distributed to committees or individuals as  
directed by law and copies have been placed on file with the Law  
and Legislative Reference Library. Others may access the full  
report on-line through the website of the Office of Policy and  
Legal Analysis at <http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>.  
Sincerely,  
S/Senator Joe Rafferty  
Chair  
S/Representative Kelly Murphy  
Chair  
**READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED**  
**PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 362)  
**STATE OF MAINE**  
**CLERK'S OFFICE**  
**2 STATE HOUSE STATION**  
**AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

January 23, 2024  
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. 1916 An Act to Classify Meat and Poultry Products  
Inspections as Essential Services  
Appropriations and Financial Affairs  
L.D. 1733 An Act to Require the Revenue Forecasting  
Committee to Prepare Economic Impact Statements  
for Certain Legislation  
L.D. 1920 An Act to Authorize a Supplemental Benefit Relief  
Payment  
Housing  
L.D. 887 An Act to Amend the Regulation of Mobile Home  
Parks  
L.D. 1940 An Act to Promote Consistent Policies within Growth  
Management Programs in Order to Increase Food  
Security and Economic Resiliency in Local  
Communities  
Marine Resources  
L.D. 2003 An Act to Protect Access to Maine's Intertidal Zone

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: (H.C. 363)

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

January 23, 2024

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 and Human Services has approved the request by the sponsor, Speaker Talbot Ross of Portland, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

L.D. 625 An Act to Set Aside Funds from Federal Block Grants for Certain Communities

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Marine Resources has approved the request by the sponsor, Senator Bailey of York, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

L.D. 1145 An Act to Create the Southern Maine Coastal Waters Commission

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Marine Resources has approved the request by the sponsor, Senator Reny of Lincoln, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

L.D. 2029 An Act Regarding License Suspensions Carried out by the Commissioner of Marine Resources

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: (H.C. 364)

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

January 23, 2024

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 January 19, 2024

The Honorable Patrick Ende, Esquire of Hallowell to the Maine Unemployment Insurance Commission as the neutral chair.

Pursuant to Title 26, MRSA §1081, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing. Paul H. Gendreau of Waterville for appointment and Lynne P. Gaudette of Biddeford and Serina DeWolfe of Gray for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board.

Pursuant to Title 39-A, MRSA §151, this appointment and reappointments are contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing.

Tinan Melissa Hue of Portland for appointment and Frank O'Hara of Hallowell and Elizabeth Dietz of Veazie for reappointment as Commissioners of the Maine State Housing Authority.

Pursuant to Title 30-A, MRSA §4723.2, this appointment and reappointments are contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing.

Sincerely,  
S/Rachel Talbot Ross  
Speaker of the House

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

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At this point, the Speaker Pro Tem recognized the Representative from the Passamaquoddy Tribe, Representative DANA, and he was added to the roll call of the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature.

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The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Westbrook, Representative Salisbury, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **SALISBURY**: Thank you so much, Speaker Pro Tem. I'm sorry to interrupt the proceedings but I just; in recognition of Zoe, thank you so much for being here, but if I can just read from our Westbrook Fire Department.

On January 2nd, Zoe, who's 10, spotted a fire in a building in Westbrook and notified an adult, who dialed 9-1-1. Her swift action and the swift action of her father initiated a rapid-fire department response, the crews nearby were able to respond quickly within three minutes and extinguish the fire so there were no injuries reported of the residents or firefighters. So, thank you to Zoe.

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

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**PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING  
REFERENCE**

Bill "An Act to Enhance Electric Utility Performance-based Ratemaking" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1391) (L.D. 2172)

Sponsored by Representative RUNTE of York.

Cosponsored by Senator LAWRENCE of York and Representative: ZEIGLER of Montville, Senator: BENNETT of Oxford.

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

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.

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**Pursuant to Statute  
Maine Milk Commission**

Representative PLUECKER for the **Maine Milk Commission** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 26: Producer Margins, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Milk Commission (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1402) (L.D. 2188)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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**Pursuant to Statute**

**Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry**

Representative PLUECKER for the **Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 41: Special Restrictions on Pesticide Use, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1403) (L.D. 2189)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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**Pursuant to Statute**

**Department of Education and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank**

Representative BRENNAN for the **Department of Education and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 64: Maine School Facilities Program and School Revolving Renovation Fund, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education and the Maine Municipal Bond Bank (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1394) (L.D. 2179)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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**Pursuant to Statute  
Department of Education**

Representative BRENNAN for the **Department of Education** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: Maine Unified Special Education Regulation Birth to Age Twenty-Two, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1395) (L.D. 2180)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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**Pursuant to Statute  
Department of Education**

Representative BRENNAN for the **Department of Education** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 61: State Board of Education Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education, State Board of Education (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1396) (L.D. 2181)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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**Pursuant to Statute  
Department of Education**

Representative BRENNAN for the **Department of Education** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1397) (L.D. 2182)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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**Pursuant to Statute**

**Department of Health and Human Services**

Representative MEYER for the **Department of Health and Human Services** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 29: Allowances for Support Services for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Health and Human Services (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1392) (L.D. 2177)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

**Pursuant to Statute**

**Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards**

Representative ROEDER for the **Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 9: Rules Governing Administrative Civil Money Penalties for Labor Law Violations, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1398) (L.D. 2184)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

Medical Provider of the Day, Kevin Fickenscher, MD, Kittery Point.

**Pursuant to Statute**

**Department of Administrative and Financial Services,  
office of cannabis policy**

Representative SUPICA for the **Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 20: Rules for the Licensure of Adult Use Cannabis Establishments, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1393) (L.D. 2178)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

**Pursuant to Statute**

**Department of Administrative and Financial Services,  
office of cannabis policy**

Representative SUPICA for the **Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 2: Medical Use of Cannabis Program Rule, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1399) (L.D. 2185)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

**Pursuant to Statute**

**Department of Administrative and Financial Services,  
office of cannabis policy**

Representative SUPICA for the **Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 30: Compliance Rules for Adult Use Cannabis Establishments, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1400) (L.D. 2186)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

**Pursuant to Statute**

**Department of Administrative and Financial Services,  
office of cannabis policy**

Representative SUPICA for the **Department of Administrative and Financial Services, office of cannabis policy** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072 asks leave to report that the accompanying Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 10: Rules for the Administration of the Adult Use Cannabis Program, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Cannabis Policy (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1401) (L.D. 2187)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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

The Speaker resumed the Chair.  
The House was called to order by the Speaker.

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The SPEAKER: The Chair would like to thank the Representative from Montville, Representative Zeigler, for acting as Speaker Pro Tem today. If you would all join me in thanking him.

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**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**First Day**

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

(S.P. 866) (L.D. 2038) Bill "An Act to Amend the Law Regarding the Land for Maine's Future Board to Allow for Proxy Designees" Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

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

There being no objection, the Senate Paper was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in concurrence.

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

**SENATE PAPERS**

Bill "An Act to Protect Consumers from Predatory Medical Credit Card Providers"

(S.P. 925) (L.D. 2174)

Bill "An Act to Improve Access to Affordable Prescription Drugs in Underserved Areas" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 926) (L.D. 2175)

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.

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Resolve, to Rename the Interstate 295 Interchange in the Town of Freeport the Matthew MacMillan Bridge

(S.P. 924) (L.D. 2173)

Resolve, to Correct the Designation of a Bridge in Canaan to Be Named After Staff Sergeant Richard Gerald Salsbury (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 928) (L.D. 2183)

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

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

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**Pursuant to Statute**

**Workers' Compensation Board**

Report of the **Workers' Compensation Board** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 39-A, section 152, subsection 11 asks leave to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act to Ensure the Workers' Compensation Board's Allocations Are Properly Funded"

(S.P. 927) (L.D. 2176)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Came from the Senate, Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** 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 ZEIGLER of Montville, the House adjourned at 11:00 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, January 25, 2024.