

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

In Senate Chamber  
Tuesday  
February 14, 2023

Senate called to order by President Troy D. Jackson of Aroostook County.

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Prayer by Reverend Malcolm Himschoot of the Church of Universal Fellowship in Orono.

**REVEREND HIMSCHOOT:** Let us pray. Dear Present and Eternal One, make a clearing here for Your love and wisdom. Give us space to be and be whole. At times we use too many words. We talk and talk and hear ourselves speak and believe that we are understanding all the matters that we can verbalize about but You would ask us to tend to the silence, to the stillness where all words go, to the thrum of heartbeats, to the hush of breath, to the well-being of each creation, to the well-being of the least of these. May this be a day, O God, when our actions and our inclinations, even our words, serve the bodies and hearts of those throughout the state of Maine, extending love and acceptance even as we are held in love and acceptance. May overdose deaths be fewer. May residential care workers be upheld. May family members have to deal with less scarcity. May queer kids look forward to summer camp. May those on the islands be buoyed up, even in a time of climate change. May those in every community have clean water to drink. May peace prevail, not prisons or war machines. May everything flourish that is good for children and for other living things. Giver of life, giver of breath, in the mystery that forms Christ's compassion, death, and resurrection I pray. Amen.

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National Anthem Performed by Livie Richard and Adriana Ramirez of Scarborough.

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Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Glenn C. Curry of Waldo County.

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Reading of the Journal of Thursday, February 9, 2023.

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Doctor of the day, Constance Adler, MD.

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Off Record Remarks

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

S.O. 13

ORDERED, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives proposing a Joint Convention of both branches of the Legislature be held at 6:45 this evening in the Hall of the House for the purpose of extending to the Honorable Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, an invitation to attend the Convention and make such communication as she may be pleased to make.

**READ and PASSED.**

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

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

Ordered sent down forthwith.

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Following Communication: S.C. 103

**STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

February 8, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson  
President of the Senate  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of Richard M. McCarthy of Oakland to Maine State Fire Marshal

Dear President Jackson:

This is to inform you that with the advice and consent of the Governor, I am nominating Richard M. McCarthy of Oakland to Maine State Fire Marshal.

Pursuant to Title 25 MRSA §2396, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Michael Sauschuck  
Commissioner, Maine Department of Public Safety

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: S.C. 101

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

February 6, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President  
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House  
131<sup>st</sup> Maine State Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross,

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Sen. Carney of Cumberland, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 312      An Act to Improve Health Outcomes by  
Expanding the Perinatal Workforce to Include  
Professionals Such as Community Health  
Workers and Doulas and to Provide MaineCare  
Reimbursement for Services

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Michele Meyer  
House Chair

L.D. 38

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

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The Following Communication: S.C. 98

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

February 1, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President  
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House  
131<sup>st</sup> Maine State Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross,

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Sen. Libby of Cumberland, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 124      An Act to Ensure the Maintenance of Circular  
Intersections on State and State Aid Highways

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Ben Chipman  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lynne A. Williams  
House Chair

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

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The Following Communication: S.C. 99

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

February 7, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President  
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House  
131<sup>st</sup> Maine State Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross,

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Sen. Timberlake of Androscoggin, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

Resolve, to Rename a Bridge in the Town of Freeport the  
Matthew MacMillan Memorial Bridge

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Ben Chipman  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lynne A. Williams  
House Chair

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

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The Following Communication: S.C. 100

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

February 1, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President  
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House  
131<sup>st</sup> Maine State Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross,

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Sen. Libby of Cumberland, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 76      Resolve, Directing the Department of  
Transportation to Study the Width of Road  
Shoulders

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Ben Chipman  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lynne A. Williams  
House Chair

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

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The Following Communication:      S.C. 102

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**

February 08, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate  
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House  
131<sup>st</sup> Legislature  
State House  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 175      An Act to Increase the Use of Municipal Waste-  
to-energy Processes as a Source of Renewable  
Energy

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Mark W. Lawrence  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Stanley Paige Zeigler  
House Chair

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

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The Following Communication:      S.C. 104

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
COMMISSION TO DEVELOP A PAID FAMILY AND  
MEDICAL LEAVE BENEFITS PROGRAM**

February 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson, President  
Maine State Senate

The Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker  
Maine House of Representatives  
State House  
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Pursuant to Public Law 201, Chapter 635, Part KK, the Commission To Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program 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 [www.legislature.maine.gov/opla](http://www.legislature.maine.gov/opla).

Sincerely,

S/Matthea E. L. Daughtry  
Senate Chair

S/Kristen Cloutier  
House Chair

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

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**SENATE PAPERS**

Bill "An Act to Support Farmland Conservation and Transition Planning for Farmers"

S.P. 247 L.D. 579

Presented by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren and  
Senators: BLACK of Franklin, HICKMAN of Kennebec,  
INGWERSEN of York, President JACKSON of Aroostook,  
PIERCE of Cumberland, Representatives: HALL of Wilton,  
LANDRY of Farmington, WOODSOME of Waterboro.

Bill "An Act to Require Major Substantive Rulemaking for the Companion Animal Sterilization Fund"

S.P. 263 L.D. 595

Presented by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and  
Senators: HARRINGTON of York, President JACKSON of  
Aroostook, STEWART of Aroostook, Representatives: ARFORD  
of Brunswick, GUERRETTE of Caribou, SAMPSON of Alfred.

Bill "An Act to Improve Maine Agriculture and Food Systems"

S.P. 267 L.D. 650

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.

On motion by Senator **INGWERSEN** of York, **REFERRED** to the  
Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND  
FORESTRY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Enhance Certain Penalties for Possession of  
Firearms by Prohibited Persons"

S.P. 250 L.D. 582

Presented by Senator LYFORD of Penobscot.  
Cosponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington and  
Senators: BLACK of Franklin, GUERIN of Penobscot, POULIOT  
of Kennebec, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, Representatives:  
DRINKWATER of Milford, THORNE of Carmel, WOOD of  
Greene.

Bill "An Act to Promote Public Safety and Retain Essential First  
Responders by Funding the Maine Length of Service Award  
Program"

S.P. 256 L.D. 588

Presented by Senator CURRY of Waldo.  
Cosponsored by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock, Speaker  
TALBOT ROSS of Portland and Senators: FARRIN of Somerset,  
NANGLE of Cumberland, STEWART of Aroostook,  
Representatives: CRAFTS of Newcastle, LAJOIE of Lewiston,  
NEWMAN of Belgrade, SALISBURY of Westbrook, WHITE of  
Waterville.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **REFERRED** to  
the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**  
and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Ensure That the Maine Electric Grid Provides  
Additional Benefits to Maine Ratepayers"

S.P. 257 L.D. 589

Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the  
Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and  
ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Exempt Certain Conservation Lots from Municipal  
Subdivision Review"

S.P. 264 L.D. 596

Presented by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Senator: CARNEY of Cumberland,  
Representative: GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach.

On motion by Senator **BRENNER** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to  
the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Permit the Conduct of Open Air Cremation at  
Designated Sites"

S.P. 252 L.D. 584

Presented by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc.  
Cosponsored by Senators: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland,  
President JACKSON of Aroostook, LAWRENCE of York,  
Representative: JAUCH of Topsham.

Resolve, to Automatically Increase a Residential Care or Nursing  
Facility Resident's Personal Needs Allowance Under the  
MaineCare Program When the Consumer Price Index Increases  
S.P. 255 L.D. 587

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.  
Cosponsored by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot and Senator:  
MOORE of Washington.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Law Governing MaineCare Coverage of  
Chiropractic Treatment"

S.P. 260 L.D. 592

Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais and Senators:  
BALDACCI of Penobscot, MOORE of Washington,  
Representative: MADIGAN of Waterville.

On motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to  
the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and  
ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine to Establish a Right to Health Care

S.P. 258 L.D. 590

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland and  
Senators: BAILEY of York, INGWERSEN of York, President  
JACKSON of Aroostook, TIPPING of Penobscot,  
Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, COLLINGS of Portland,  
PLUECKER of Warren, SUPICA of Bangor.

On motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, **REFERRED** to the  
Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND  
FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Resolve, Directing the Finance Authority of Maine to Establish a  
Pilot Program to Encourage the Development of Accessory  
Dwelling Units

S.P. 271 L.D. 654

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Representative GERE of Kennebunkport and  
Senator: VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to  
the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Increase the Bag Limit for Smelts for Personal Use  
from 2 Quarts to 4 Quarts"

S.P. 261 L.D. 593

Presented by Senator MOORE of Washington.  
Cosponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais and  
Representative: DAVIS of East Machias.

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, **REFERRED** to the  
Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered  
printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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At this point a message was received from the House of  
Representatives, borne by Representative TERRY of Gorham,  
informing the Senate that the House concurred with the  
proposition for a Convention of the two branches of the  
Legislature to be held in the Hall of the House at 6:45 this  
evening for the purpose of extending to the Honorable Janet T.  
Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, an invitation to attend the  
Convention and make such communication as she may be  
pleased to make.

Off Record Remarks

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Bill "An Act to Provide for Municipalities to Allow Grocery Stores  
up to 10,000 Square Feet to Open on Easter, Thanksgiving and  
Christmas"

S.P. 251 L.D. 583

Presented by Senator LYFORD of Penobscot.  
Cosponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington and  
Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, MOORE of Washington,  
Representative: SOBOLESKI of Phillips.

Bill "An Act to Address Staffing Shortages in Critical Public Safety  
Jobs Through Economic Incentives"

S.P. 265 L.D. 648

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: O'CONNELL of Brewer,  
ROEDER of Bangor, SUPICA of Bangor.

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, **REFERRED** to the  
Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC  
ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Facilitate Communication Between Pro Se  
Defendants and Assistant District Attorneys"

S.P. 244 L.D. 576

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.  
Cosponsored by Representative DILL of Old Town and  
Representatives: COSTAIN of Plymouth, RECKITT of South  
Portland.

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of  
Maine Concerning the Publication of Maine Indian Treaty  
Obligations

S.P. 246 L.D. 578

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.

Bill "An Act to Improve Family Court Procedure"

S.P. 248 L.D. 580

Presented by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Allow Equitable Tolling of Post-conviction Review  
Filings"

S.P. 253 L.D. 585

Presented by Senator BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.  
Cosponsored by Representative MOONEN of Portland and  
Representatives: POIRIER of Skowhegan, SALISBURY of  
Westbrook.

Bill "An Act to Promote Water Conservation and Water Quality and Create Habitat for Wildlife, Including Pollinator Species, by Protecting Low-impact Landscaping"

S.P. 266 L.D. 649

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative TERRY of Gorham and  
Senators: CARNEY of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec,  
INGWERSEN of York, Representatives: DODGE of Belfast,  
DOUDERA of Camden, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth, O'NEIL of  
Saco, WARREN of Scarborough.

Bill "An Act to Support Constitutionally Required Public Defense  
by Creating the Maine Office of Public Defense Services"

S.P. 270 L.D. 653

Presented by Senator KEIM of Oxford.  
Cosponsored by Representative MOONEN of Portland and  
Senator: LYFORD of Penobscot, Representatives: ANDREWS of  
Paris, HAGGAN of Hampden, HENDERSON of Rumford, LEE of  
Auburn, POIRIER of Skowhegan, RECKITT of South Portland.

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to  
the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Address the Shortfalls of the Current Resource  
Parents' Bill of Rights Policy"

S.P. 262 L.D. 594

Presented by Senator MOORE of Washington. (BY REQUEST)

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

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to  
the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Require the State to Pay Medicare Premiums for  
Certain Retired State Employees"

S.P. 259 L.D. 591

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield and  
Senators: BRENNER of Cumberland, DAUGHTRY of  
Cumberland, DUSON of Cumberland, ROTUNDO of  
Androscoggin, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives:  
ROEDER of Bangor, SACHS of Freeport, Speaker TALBOT  
ROSS of Portland.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Standards for Manufactured Housing to  
Comply with United States Department of Housing and Urban  
Development Standards"

S.P. 268 L.D. 651

Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Representative BOYLE of Gorham and Senator:  
BENNETT of Oxford, Representatives: ARATA of New  
Gloucester, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, COLLINGS of Portland,  
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, PERRY of Bangor.

On motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the  
Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Assist Municipal Shellfish Conservation Programs"  
S.P. 249 L.D. 581

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative RIELLY of Westbrook and  
Senator: VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: ANKELES of  
Brunswick, DAVIS of East Machias, GOLEK of Harpswell,  
HEPLER of Woolwich, SACHS of Freeport, WARREN of  
Scarborough.

Bill "An Act to Protect Maine Fisheries from the Effects of  
Industrial Recirculating Aquaculture Operations"

S.P. 254 L.D. 586

Presented by Senator BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.  
Cosponsored by Senator RENY of Lincoln and Representative:  
SALISBURY of Westbrook.

On motion by Senator **RENY** of Lincoln, **REFERRED** to the  
Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Off Record Remarks

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Bill "An Act to Increase Availability of Election Information on  
Local Government Websites"

S.P. 245 L.D. 577

Presented by Senator BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.  
Cosponsored by Representative DOUDERA of Camden and  
Senator: DUSON of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Address Climate Change by Reducing Carbon Emissions from State Vehicles"

S.P. 272 L.D. 655

Presented by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Senator: BALDACCI of Penobscot,  
Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, COPELAND of Saco,  
DHALAC of South Portland, PAULHUS of Bath, RISEMAN of  
Harrison.

On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to  
the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and  
ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Allow the Reinstatement of Certain Commercial  
Driver's Licenses"

S.P. 269 L.D. 652

Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Representative WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor and  
Senators: CHIPMAN of Cumberland, NANGLE of Cumberland.

On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to  
the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

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## ORDERS

### Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Livie Richard, of Scarborough, who was chosen to participate and  
perform with the 2022 All-National Honor Ensembles Mixed Choir  
in Washington, D.C., representing the highest performing high  
school musicians in the country. We extend our congratulations  
and best wishes;

SLS 112

Sponsored by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Senator: CARNEY of Cumberland,  
Representatives: GATTINE of Westbrook, MURPHY of  
Scarborough, WARREN of Scarborough.

Adriana Ramirez, of Scarborough, who was chosen to participate  
and perform with the 2022 All-National Honor Ensembles Mixed  
Choir in Washington, D.C., representing the highest performing  
high school musicians in the country. We extend our  
congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 113

Sponsored by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Senator: CARNEY of Cumberland,  
Representatives: GATTINE of Westbrook, MURPHY of  
Scarborough, WARREN of Scarborough.

The Joint Orders were **READ**.

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

Senator **BRENNER:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President  
and colleagues of the Senate, I would like to speak today about  
the accomplishments of the two Scarborough High School  
students, Livie and Adriana. In November of 2022, Livie and  
Adriana were two of nine students selected from Maine to sing in  
the All National Honor Ensembles Mixed Choir in Washington,  
D.C. Four days prior to the virtual audition deadline they learned  
of this incredible opportunity. They learned the song the day that  
they had recorded it for the submission. In the arts a one-day  
turnaround is a feat in of itself and certainly exemplifies the work  
of bona-fide artists. This notion was solidified in their acceptance  
and invitation to sing among 239 students from all over the  
country. After two days of rehearsals in Washington, D.C. they  
performed that Saturday in the National Level Choir. I'm very  
proud that these two talented students are up and coming  
performing artists from the great state of Maine. Such an  
accomplishment is a testament to their discipline, hard work,  
talent, and dedication but it is also a testament to their passion of  
love - passion and love of music, which is inspiring to watch come  
to fruition. I wish you both the best and look forward to seeing  
what you do next. Thank you.

The Joint Orders were **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair would once again like to recognize  
in the rear of the Chamber Adriana Ramirez and Livie Richard.  
They are both from the town of Scarborough. They are the  
guests today of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Brenner.  
Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine  
Senate.

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### Joint Resolution

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook (Cosponsored by  
Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach), the following  
Joint Resolution:

S.P. 243

### JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2023 AS 211 MONTH

**WHEREAS**, 211 Maine is a Maine-based health and human services and emergency preparedness and response helpline that provides Maine people free and confidential referrals to needed resources; and

**WHEREAS**, 211 Maine provides around-the-clock service statewide, offering efficient and effective responses from people employed in Maine to questions arising from the growing complexities in health, financial and human services and the needs of Maine people; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2006, 211 Maine call specialists have assisted with requests for information regarding topics ranging from substance use and recovery services to housing support and food resources, in 2022 fielding over 85,000 calls, text messages and e-mails from people looking for help; and

**WHEREAS**, 211 Maine has supported the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the people of Maine by fielding general questions about COVID-19 since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, including questions regarding how people can best protect themselves, the common symptoms of COVID-19, travel advisories and the latest information on testing, and in this support role has fielded over 97,000 contacts; and

**WHEREAS**, during this past year, 211 Maine directed over 20,000 Maine people to heating and electric utility assistance services, which may have prevented their contacting the wrong agency for heating assistance, prevented utility shut-offs and saved people from spending winter nights without fuel; and

**WHEREAS**, 211 Maine handles a number of specialized services and partnerships, including the opiate helpline and the gambling helpline and serving as the centralized access point for the Help Me Grow Maine program, helping families with children from birth to 8 years of age get connected to needed services, and is also a resource for finding information about needs such as tax preparation, mental health services and browntail moth caterpillar prevention, mitigation and treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, 211 Maine provides a powerful example of how the government and nonprofit and private sectors can work together to improve the quality of life of the people of Maine; 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 February 2023 as 211 Month.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

**THE PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Stewart.

Senator **STEWART**: Thank you very much, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I rise today in support of this Joint Resolution. I've done so for a number of years here that we've been - in both the House and when I came over in the Senate - to try to help spread awareness of this. So, you will know it's the month of February when I rise to talk about 211. This organization, as you heard in the Joint Resolution, has really proved itself to be invaluable to us as a state and certainly an asset to you all as leaders within your communities that no doubt get the same phone calls that I get when something's gone awry for one of your constituents and they're not sure where to turn next and thankfully we have such a resource here in Maine as 211, which I kind of refer to as the one stop shop for all of your assistance needs, all your questions that you might have about

various issues including, as you heard, you know, pandemic related questions, heating assistance issues, browntail moth. Again, you name it, it's the one stop shop you can go to for answers to just about any question. I first came in contact with the organization back in 2017 when I was appointed to the Opioid Task Force and we were trying to figure out then a better way to get information out about lifesaving resources that could be available to folks and just general - a general place where folks could go to have their questions answered about a crisis that we were experiencing as a state and we were trying to figure out a way to respond to as we kept getting those same phone calls; where am I supposed to go? What am I supposed to do? My loved one has a problem or I'm struggling, what are my options here? So, since then, you know, the organization has really just done remarkable work and I would direct you to the - I really enjoy reading the testimonials that are included in the handout that should be on your desks. You all should have received here this morning. Read through those because I think it underscores exactly the fantastic work that the ladies sitting behind me are doing, who we'll recognize in just a second. But I want to say thank to you and your team, Nikki, and all of the great work that you do on behalf of the people of the Senate, on behalf of my colleagues. Thanks for helping us do our job and saving lives in the state of Maine. So, with that, Mr. President, I appreciate the time to speak here and appreciate all that 211 does for the state of Maine.

**THE PRESIDENT**: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Waldo, Senator Curry.

Senator **CURRY**: Thank you, Mr. President. I, too, would like to stand and honor the folks at 211 and the service. I had the honor of serving for 10 years under - with a project called Communities for Children, an initiative under the Governor's Children's Cabinet, Governor King and Governor Baldacci, and in many of our projects what we need to do - many of the projects were about collecting resources for folks because life is complicated and it's even more complicated when someone's in crisis and there was a disconnect between helping folks who were in crisis find the right services. Often times those services existed but people didn't know where to go and so we had many projects that we funded to create resource catalogs, resource directories for a county, for a region, and it was, by great frustration, that by the time we finished the resource directory it was outdated and that organization had shifted or a new program had been created. It's incredibly complicated how we deliver our mental health and social service services and so when 211 came along it was a game changer because it was dynamic and it had the framework, the paradigm of 911 and experts on - that we able to answer the call and websites that you could search that were maintained and active, and it's just a real game changer for people who are in crisis trying to find the right services and so I want to thank 211 and I want to champion their continued efforts in issues across the state. Thank you very much.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.



**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair is very pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Nikki Williams of 211 Maine and Ninette Irabaruta of the United Way. Would they please stand and accept the thanks and congratulations of the Maine State Senate.

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## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

### Senate

#### Ought to Pass

Senator NANGLE for the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Clarify the Boundary Between Waldo and Knox Counties in Penobscot Bay"  
S.P. 58 L.D. 119

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

**ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.**

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Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

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Off Record Remarks

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**RECESSED** until the sound of the bell.

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

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

## PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

### House Papers

Bill "An Act Regarding Development of a Program to Assist Farmers Affected by Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination"  
H.P. 383 L.D. 606

Bill "An Act to Allow Open Burning in the Snow Without a Permit"  
H.P. 411 L.D. 634

Bill "An Act to Include Cats in the Laws Governing Animal Trespass"  
H.P. 421 L.D. 644

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

On motion by Senator **INGWERSEN** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government" (EMERGENCY)  
H.P. 422 L.D. 645

Bill "An Act to Provide Appropriations and Allocations for the Operations of State Government" (EMERGENCY)  
H.P. 423 L.D. 646

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

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Prohibit Government Officials from Maintaining Records Related to Firearms Owners"  
H.P. 401 L.D. 624

Bill "An Act to Ensure Rural Law Enforcement Services in Maine"  
H.P. 407 L.D. 630

Bill "An Act to Amend the Life Safety Code Regarding When Sprinkler Systems May Be Shut Off"  
H.P. 424 L.D. 647

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

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Create a Green Schools Coordinator in the Department of Education"  
H.P. 389 L.D. 612

Bill "An Act to Foster Career and Technical Education in Maine Schools by Creating an Additional Pathway to Certify Industrial Arts Teachers"  
H.P. 394 L.D. 617

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Critical Race Theory, Social and Emotional Learning and Diversity, Equity and Inclusion from School Curricula"

H.P. 395 L.D. 618

Bill "An Act to Change the Notification Law for School Truancy"  
H.P. 408 L.D. 631

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

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Create Equal Opportunity Access to Clean Energy by Removing the 100-megawatt Limit on Clean Energy Sources"  
H.P. 399 L.D. 622

Bill "An Act to Update the Charter of the Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority"  
H.P. 417 L.D. 640

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

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Remove the 5 Cent Fee for Bags in Retail Stores" (EMERGENCY)  
H.P. 367 L.D. 572

Bill "An Act to Promote Clean and Affordable Maine-sourced Bioenergy by Amending the Law Regarding Outdoor Wood Boilers and Outdoor Pellet Boilers"  
H.P. 404 L.D. 627

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

On motion by Senator **BRENNER** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act Regarding Child Care Subsidy Payments and Eligibility"  
H.P. 368 L.D. 573

Bill "An Act to Improve Conditions for People Living in Recovery Residences by Requiring Approved Discharge and Transfer Policies"  
H.P. 374 L.D. 597

Bill "An Act to Provide Support Services for a Transitional Housing Program for Homeless Persons"  
H.P. 376 L.D. 599

Bill "An Act to Expand Availability of Naloxone Hydrochloride"  
H.P. 377 L.D. 600

Bill "An Act to Make Electric Breast Pumps More Accessible by Providing for MaineCare Reimbursement"  
H.P. 380 L.D. 603

Bill "An Act to Ensure Coordination of Care for MaineCare Members"  
H.P. 396 L.D. 619

Bill "An Act to Set Aside Funds from Federal Block Grants for Certain Communities"  
H.P. 402 L.D. 625

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to License and Ensure the Quality of Personal Care Agencies"  
H.P. 413 L.D. 636

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

On motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Ensure Access to Newly Born Male Infant Circumcision by Requiring MaineCare and Health Insurance Coverage"  
H.P. 392 L.D. 615

Bill "An Act to Promote the Use of Free Annual Wellness Visits by Ensuring Proper Medical Billing"  
H.P. 414 L.D. 637

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

On motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Provide Regional Support to Deliver State and Federal Programs to Cities and Towns in the State"  
H.P. 379 L.D. 602

Resolve, Directing the Maine State Housing Authority to Study Strategies for Improving Abandoned Properties and Developing Housing Infrastructure  
H.P. 415 L.D. 638

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Extend the Night Hunting Season for Coyotes to Immediately Following the Muzzle-loading-only Deer Hunting Season"

H.P. 381 L.D. 604

Resolve, to Improve Outcomes for Participants in the Antlerless Deer Permit Lottery

H.P. 385 L.D. 608

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Antlerless Deer Permit Process"

H.P. 390 L.D. 613

Bill "An Act to Provide a Free Antlerless Deer Permit to Certain Landowners Who Allow the Public to Hunt on Their Property"

H.P. 391 L.D. 614

Bill "An Act to Preserve Maine's Sporting Heritage and Enhance Sporting Opportunities for Maine's Youth by Allowing Maine's Youth to Hunt on Sunday"

H.P. 403 L.D. 626

Bill "An Act to Protect Young Deer Hunters by Prohibiting Wild Turkey Hunting During Youth Deer Hunting Day"

H.P. 419 L.D. 642

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

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Ensure That Businesses Do Not Refuse Payment in Person with Cash"

H.P. 398 L.D. 621

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

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Develop Maine's Entry-level Workforce"

H.P. 366 L.D. 571

Bill "An Act to Expand the 1998 Special Retirement Plan to Include Employees Who Work for the Office of Chief Medical Examiner"

H.P. 387 L.D. 610

Bill "An Act to Allow a Retired Law Enforcement Officer to Serve as a School Resource Officer Without Affecting That Officer's Retirement Benefits" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 412 L.D. 635

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Promote Free Trade by Preventing Municipalities from Prohibiting the Sale of Legal Goods"

H.P. 397 L.D. 620

Bill "An Act to Designate Maine Irish Heritage Day"

H.P. 405 L.D. 628

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

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Improve, Protect and Defend the Individual Civil Right to Bear Arms Through Exemption of Firearms and Ammunition from Taxation"

H.P. 406 L.D. 629

Bill "An Act to Dedicate Revenue from Alcohol Tax to Alcohol Use Disorder Treatment"

H.P. 410 L.D. 633

Bill "An Act to Combat Hunger by Creating an Income Tax Credit for Businesses Engaged in Food Production for Donations to Qualified Organizations"

H.P. 418 L.D. 641

Bill "An Act to Promote Research and Development in the State by Increasing the Research Expense Tax Credit"

H.P. 420 L.D. 643

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding a Seat Belt Exemption for Persons with a Medical Condition"

H.P. 370 L.D. 575

Bill "An Act to Require a Vehicle Operator to Notify an Owner or Law Enforcement Officer of an Accident Involving a Dog, a Cat or Livestock"

H.P. 375 L.D. 598

Bill "An Act to Enhance Commuter-oriented Rail Service"

H.P. 382 L.D. 605

Resolve, to Direct the Department of Transportation to Examine the Feasibility of Extending Interstate 95 to the St. John Valley

H.P. 384 L.D. 607

Bill "An Act to Modify Maine Motor Vehicle Inspection Standards to Permit Nonstructural Corrosion That Does Not Directly Affect the Passenger Compartment"

H.P. 400 L.D. 623

Bill "An Act to Protect Vehicle Buyers by Limiting Vehicle Document Preparation Fees"

H.P. 416 L.D. 639

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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

#### PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

##### House Papers

Bill "An Act to Ensure an Incarcerated Individual's Right to Make Free Telephone Calls Protected by Attorney-Client Privilege"

H.P. 386 L.D. 609

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

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Amend the Social Work Education Loan Repayment Program"

H.P. 409 L.D. 632

Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS**.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Reduce the Shortage of Municipal Emergency Medical Services Personnel by Removing Certain Vaccination Requirements"

H.P. 378 L.D. 601

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

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**.

On motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Protect Health Care Professionals Providing Reproductive Health Care Services"

H.P. 393 L.D. 616

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

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

On motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **REFERENCE**.

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Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Working Waterfront Covenants"

H.P. 369 L.D. 574

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

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**.

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Create the Whole Home Repairs Program"

H.P. 388 L.D. 611

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

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING**.

On motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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

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Off Record Remarks

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**RECESSED** until 6:30 in the evening.

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

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

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

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On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **ADJOURNED** until Thursday, February 16, 2023 at 10:00 in the morning.