

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

In Senate Chamber
Thursday
February 16, 2023

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

Prayer by Pastor Neil Wilson of Lovell United Church of Christ.

PASTOR WILSON: Let us be in that spirit of prayer. Holy One, who is known to us by many names yet one in spirit and desire for all people and all creation, we gather here in a moment of reflection and prayer to acknowledge our need for wisdom beyond our own, a desire to seek a way more closely in touch with Your way, and a desire for our community and to reflect the nobler values we and all hold dear. Gather here are those who have the authority and potential to impact the lives and livelihoods of many and so we ask that in all our deliberations we would seek for understanding as much as knowledge, for courage in decision making yet tempered by compassion, to listen as much as to be heard, to strive for those higher ideals more than our own personal desires. So, for the wellbeing of the communities we represent, the state we love and call home, for our nation and the many freedoms we enjoy, for the protection of those who safeguard them, and for the responsibilities each of us carry to govern justly, we humbly pray for the ability to discern Your wisdom, Your voice, Your compassion, and Your desire amongst the many voices that will be heard in all the discussions, deliberations, and negotiations of this session of the Maine Senate. Praying in the spirit and name of all that is holy. Amen.

Posting of the Colors by Loring Job Corps Honor Guard.

National Anthem Performed by Senator Craig V. Hickman of Kennebec County.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Matthea E. Daughtry of Cumberland County.

Reading of the Journal of Tuesday, February 14, 2023.

Off Record Remarks

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to thank the Loring Color Guard for coming down all the way from Aroostook County early this morning. Doing a great job of flying the colors, presenting to the Maine State Senate. We have in front of us Amber Elliot, Kasiem Johnson, Eric Gatison, Dominic Lancaster, Travis Foster, Brandon Dennis, Brandon Bennett, and Roger Felix, long time Loring Job Corps instructor. Would the Senate please give thanks the a great job these fine people did today.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Joint Order:
S.P. 322

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at 10:00 in the morning, or until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, respectively.

READ and PASSED.

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Joint Resolutions

The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 371

**JOINT RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2023 AS
BROWNTAIL MOTH AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, browntail moth populations in Maine have been in an outbreak phase since 2015, and the browntail moth is not a pest that can be eradicated; and

WHEREAS, most areas of Maine, especially settled areas that have significant host tree populations, including oak, apple, crabapple, pear, birch and cherry trees, are at risk; and

WHEREAS, long-lasting tree defoliation caused by browntail moth caterpillars is a major concern, and browntail moth caterpillars shed microscopic, toxic hairs that can cause a person to have trouble breathing or suffer skin irritation similar to poison ivy; and

WHEREAS, state agencies are committed to coordinating within State Government, with local communities and directly with citizens to respond to the problems posed by browntail moth populations; and

WHEREAS, winter is the best time to clip and destroy browntail moth webs that are safely within reach or to hire licensed arborists or licensed pesticide applicators to reduce populations that are out of reach; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive browntail moth information and tools collected by state agencies and the University of Maine, including research, infestation tracking and the answers to frequently asked questions and other educational resources, can be obtained by dialing 211 or visiting 211maine.org; 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 Browntail Moth Awareness Month and encourage the citizens of the State to learn about browntail moths by dialing 211 or visiting 211maine.org.

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

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 373

**JOINT RESOLUTION
TO RECOGNIZE THE LIVES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF
BLACK MAINE CITIZENS REUBEN RUBY, GEORGE
THOMPSON RUBY, MARY DALY DICKSON AND
LOIS ANN DICKSON RICE
DURING BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

WHEREAS, Maine's Black history and the story of Maine's Black citizens and their accomplishments and contributions are barely remembered today; and

WHEREAS, Reuben Ruby, a Black man, was born in Gray in 1798; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ruby was the first person in the State to have a taxi, then known as a "hack," and one of his riders was William Lloyd Garrison, who was given a tour of Portland by Mr. Ruby before the Boston abolitionist joined Portland's Black leaders at Mr. Ruby's home for dinner; and

WHEREAS, in the place where Mr. Ruby's hack stand was located, on the corner of Temple Street and Federal Street, there is placed, as part of the Portland Freedom Trail, a stone monument recognizing the business; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ruby was only 29 years of age when he became an agent for Freedom's Journal, the first Black-owned newspaper in the country. In October 1834, he was the only Black person among those representing the City of Portland at the forming of the Maine Anti-Slavery Society in Augusta; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ruby was one of 2 Black persons sent to represent Maine at the Fifth Annual Convention for the Improvement of the Free People of Color, held in Philadelphia in 1835. The convention elected Mr. Ruby as its president; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ruby was elected a vice-president of the American Moral Reform Society, a national group led by James Forten, a Black abolitionist from Philadelphia. In 1840, Mr. Ruby was elected president of the Manhattan Anti-Slavery Society in New York City; and

WHEREAS, Reuben Ruby's son, George Thompson Ruby, was the first Black graduate of Portland High School; and

WHEREAS, George Thompson Ruby was elected to the Texas state Senate during Reconstruction and was a delegate to the 1868 Republican National Convention in Chicago and the party's convention in Philadelphia 4 years later; and

WHEREAS, Lois Ann Dickson Rice, a Black woman, was born in Portland and went on to become valedictorian at Portland High School in 1950 and class president of Radcliffe College in 1954. She became national vice president of the College Board

and is considered "the Mother of the Pell Grant," a federal financial aid program that benefits millions of students each year; and

WHEREAS, in 1950, her mother, Mary Daly Dickson, was named Maine Mother of the Year, becoming the first Black woman to gain that honor; and

WHEREAS, Lois Ann Dickson Rice's legacy of achievement continues in her daughter Susan Rice, who was United States Ambassador to the United Nations and then National Security Advisor in the administration of President Barack Obama and has been tapped to run the Domestic Policy Council under President Joe Biden; and

WHEREAS, Maine's Black citizens have a long history of accomplishments that should be remembered and celebrated; and

WHEREAS, from the Revolutionary War through the abolitionist movement, to marches from Selma to Montgomery and across America today, and in this State, African Americans in Maine have remained devoted to the proposition that all of us are created equal, even when their own rights were denied; and

WHEREAS, the month of February is officially celebrated as Black History Month, which dates back to 1926 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson set aside a special period of time in February to recognize the heritage and achievements of African Americans; 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 honor during Black History Month the contributions of African Americans in Maine's and the nation's history and encourage all people in the State to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped the State and the nation.

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

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 108

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

February 14, 2023

Honorable Darek Grant
Senate Secretary
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Secretary Grant,

Pursuant to my authority under MRSA Title 5, Part 30, Chapter 623, §24051, I am pleased to appoint Representative Amanda Collamore of Pittsfield to the Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council, effective immediately.

If you have any questions regarding this appointment, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

S/Rachel Talbot Ross
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 117

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

February 15, 2023

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

RE: Appointment of Isaac Jurson of Houlton as the Student Trustee to the Maine Maritime Academy Board of Trustees

Dear Mr. President:

It is with great pleasure that I advise you that I am nominating Isaac Jurson of Houlton as the Student Trustee for appointment to the Maine Maritime Academy Board of Trustees.

Pursuant to Title 5 §12004-C and Public Law 1941, c. 37, §1, as amended by P&SL 1993, c 27, §1, this appointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 118

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

February 15, 2023

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

Re: Reappointment of The Honorable Wendy L. Ault of Wayne to the State Board of Education

Dear President Jackson:

It is with great pleasure that I advise you that I am nominating The Honorable Wendy L. Ault of Wayne for reappointment to the State Board of Education.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §401, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 119

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

February 15, 2023

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

Re: Appointment of Denham Salisbury Ward, MD of Bowdoinham to the State Board of Education

Dear President Jackson:

It is with great pleasure that I advise you that I am nominating Denham Salisbury Ward, MD of Bowdoinham for appointment to the State Board of Education.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §401, this appointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 120

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

February 15, 2023

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

Re: Reappointment of Fernande Desjardins of Saint Agatha to the State Board of Education

Dear President Jackson:

It is with great pleasure that I advise you that I am nominating Fernande Desjardins of Saint Agatha for reappointment to the State Board of Education.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §401, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 121

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

February 15, 2023

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

RE: Reappointment of Douglas Kelley Young, Esquire of Portland to the Maine Board of Tax Appeals

Dear President Jackson:

It is with great pleasure that I advise you that I am nominating Douglas Kelley Young, Esquire of Portland for reappointment to the Maine Board of Tax Appeals.

Pursuant to Title 36, MRSA §151-D, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 122

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

February 15, 2023

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

RE: Reappointment of Jeanne T. Gibson of Winthrop to the Maine Board of Tax Appeals

Dear President Jackson:

It is with great pleasure that I advise you that I am nominating Jeanne T. Gibson of Winthrop for reappointment to the Maine Board of Tax Appeals.

Pursuant to Title 36, MRSA §151-D, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 123

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

February 15, 2023

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

RE: Appointment of The Honorable Bettyann Sheets of Auburn to the Maine Turnpike Authority Board of Directors

Dear President Jackson:

It is with great pleasure that I advise you that I am nominating The Honorable Bettyann Sheets of Auburn for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority Board of Directors.

Pursuant to Title 23, MRSA §1964-A, this appointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 124

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

February 15, 2023

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

RE: Reappointment of Marguerite Miller Fleming of Portland to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority

Dear President Jackson:

It is with great pleasure that I advise you that I am nominating Marguerite Miller Fleming of Portland for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority.

Pursuant to Title 23, MRSA §8112, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 105

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND
FORESTRY**

February 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has had under consideration the nomination of Michael Wiers of St. Albans, for reappointment to the Maine Milk Commission.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	3	Ingwersen, H. of York, Black, R. of Franklin, Hickman, C. of Kennebec
	Representatives	9	Pluecker, B. of Warren, Costain, D. of Plymouth, Cray, D. of Palmyra, Guerrette, T. of Caribou, Hall, R. of Wilton, Hepler, A. of Woolwich, Jackson, C. of Oxford, Jauch, R. of Topsham, Shaw, K. of Auburn

NAYS 0

ABSENT 1 Rep. Osher, L. of Orono

Twelve members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Michael Wiers of St. Albans, for reappointment to the Maine Milk Commission be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Bill Pluecker
House Chair

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND
FORESTRY**

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **CHIPMAN**, the Senator from Somerset, Senator **FARRIN**, the Senator from York, Senator **INGWERSEN**, the Senator from Franklin, Senator **BLACK**, the Senator from Kennebec, Senator **LAFOUNTAIN**, the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator **TIMBERLAKE**, and the Senator from York, Senator **RAFFERTY**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#6)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RAFFERTY, TIMBERLAKE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Michael Wiers** of St. Albans for reappointment to the Maine Milk Commission was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 106

February 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has had under consideration the nomination of Dr. Richard A. Cook, PhD of Hermon, for reappointment to the Maine Milk Commission.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	3	Ingwersen, H. of York, Black, R. of Franklin, Hickman, C. of Kennebec
	Representatives	10	Pluecker, B. of Warren, Costain, D. of Plymouth, Cray, D. of Palmyra, Guerrette, T. of Caribou, Hall, R. of Wilton, Hepler, A. of Woolwich, Jackson, C. of Oxford, Jauch, R. of Topsham, Osher, L. of Orono, Shaw, K. of Auburn
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		0	

Thirteen members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Dr. Richard A. Cook, PhD of Hermon, for reappointment to the Maine Milk Commission be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Bill Pluecker
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#7)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RAFFERTY, TIMBERLAKE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of Dr. **Richard A. Cook**, PhD of Hermon for reappointment to the Maine Milk Commission was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 107

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND
FORESTRY**

February 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry has had under consideration the nomination of Barry W. Norris of Union, for reappointment to the State Harness Racing Commission.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	3	Ingwersen, H. of York, Black, R. of Franklin, Hickman, C. of Kennebec
	Representatives	10	Pluecker, B. of Warren, Costain, D. of Plymouth, Cray, D. of Palmyra, Guerrette, T. of Caribou, Hall, R. of Wilton, Hepler, A. of Woolwich, Jackson, C. of Oxford, Jauch, R. of Topsham, Osher, L. of Orono, Shaw, K. of Auburn
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		0	

Thirteen members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Barry W. Norris of Union, for reappointment to the State Harness Racing Commission be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Henry Ingwersen
Senate Chair

S/Bill Pluecker
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#8)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN,
INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RAFFERTY,
TIMBERLAKE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Barry W. Norris** of Union for reappointment to the State Harness Racing Commission was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 116

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND
FINANCIAL SERVICES**

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services has had under consideration the nomination of Megan Garratt-Reed of South Thomaston, for appointment as the Executive Director, Office of Affordable Health Care.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Bailey, D. of York, Reny, C. of Lincoln
	Representatives	7	Perry, A. of Calais, Arford, P. of Brunswick, Cluchey, S. of Bowdoinham, Cyrway, S. of Albion, Mastraccio, A. of Sanford, Mathieson, K. of Kittery, Morris, J. of Turner
NAYS	Senators	1	Brakey, E. of Androscoggin
	Representatives	1	Swallow, G. of Houlton
ABSENT		2	Rep. Nutting, R. of Oakland, Rep. Pringle, J. of Windham

Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and two in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Megan Garratt-Reed of South Thomaston, for appointment as the Executive Director, Office of Affordable Health Care be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Donna Bailey
Senate Chair

S/Anne C. Perry
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **FURTHER CONSIDERATION**.

The Following Communication: S.C. 110

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

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Maria A. Woodman of Monmouth, for reappointment as a District Court Judge.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Carney, A. of Cumberland, Lyford, P. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Moonen, M. of Portland, Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford
NAYS		0	

ABSENT 3 Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Rep. Andrews, J. of Paris, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe supports the Committee's recommendation.

The Following Communication: S.C. 111

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Maria A. Woodman of Monmouth, for reappointment as a District Court Judge be confirmed.

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Signed,

February 14, 2023

S/Anne Carney Senate Chair S/Matt Moonen House Chair

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson President of the Senate of Maine 131st Maine State Legislature State House Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Dear Mr. President:

The Senator from York, Senator BAILEY, requested and received leave of the Senate to be excused from voting pursuant to Senate Rule 401.3.

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Michael P. Roberts of Bangor, for reappointment as a District Court Judge.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on JUDICIARY be overridden?"

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

YEAS Senators 1 Carney, A. of Cumberland Representatives 8 Moonen, M. of Portland, Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#9)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS 0

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

ABSENT 4 Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Sen. Lyford, P. of Penobscot, Rep. Andrews, J. of Paris, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

EXCUSED: Senators: BAILEY, BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RAFFERTY, TIMBERLAKE

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe supports the Committee's recommendation.

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 27 Senators having voted in the negative, with 8 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be ACCEPTED and the nomination of Maria A. Woodman of Monmouth for reappointment as a District Court Judge was CONFIRMED.

Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Michael P. Roberts of Bangor, for reappointment as a District Court Judge be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#10)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RAFFERTY, TIMBERLAKE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Michael P. Roberts** of Bangor for reappointment as a District Court Judge was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 112

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

February 14, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Jed J. French of Yarmouth, for reappointment as a District Court Judge.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Carney, A. of Cumberland, Lyford, P. of Penobscot
	Representatives	8	Moonen, M. of Portland, Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Rep. Andrews, J. of Paris, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe supports the Committee's recommendation.

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Jed J. French of Yarmouth, for reappointment as a District Court Judge be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#11)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, RAFFERTY, TIMBERLAKE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Jed J. French** of Yarmouth for reappointment as a District Court Judge was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 109

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

February 14, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st 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 Rep. Madigan of Waterville, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 176 An Act to Increase the Safety of Patients and Staff at the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center and the Riverview Psychiatric Center

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph M. Baldacci
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Michele Meyer
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 113

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

February 14, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st 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 Rep. Moriarty of Cumberland, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 476 An Act to Amend the Law Regarding Court Locations

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Matt Moonen
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 115

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES**

February 09, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st 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 Environment and Natural Resources has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 127 An Act to Eliminate Television Recycling Fees for Charitable Entities

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Stacy Fielding Brenner
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lori K. Gramlich
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 114

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

February 10, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st 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 Taxation has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 195 An Act to Exempt Gold Star Parents from
Income Tax

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohski
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Joe Perry
House Chair

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Provide a New Dormitory Facility at the Maine School of Science and Mathematics"

S.P. 307 L.D. 749

Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Senators: DUSON of Cumberland, GROHOSKI of Hancock, PIERCE of Cumberland, RAFFERTY of York, STEWART of Aroostook, Representative: BABIN of Fort Fairfield.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Signature Requirements on Issuance of General Fund Bonds"
S.P. 318 L.D. 760

Presented by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative TERRY of Gorham and Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, COLLINGS of Portland, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, WHITE of Waterville.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Treasurer of State and Municipalities to Invest in Gold, Silver and Other Precious Metals"
S.P. 292 L.D. 734

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative GREENWOOD of Wales and Senators: LIBBY of Cumberland, MOORE of Washington, Representatives: BOYER of Poland, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, LIBBY of Auburn, MORRIS of Turner, PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft, RUDNICKI of Fairfield.

Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

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

Senator **MOORE** of Washington requested and received leave of the Senate that members and staff be allowed to remove their jackets for the remainder of this Legislative Day.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Use of Toy Cannon Fireworks Devices That Exceed 150 Decibels Without Permission from Affected Property Owners"

S.P. 303 L.D. 745

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin. (BY REQUEST)

Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for Positions in the Penobscot County Sheriff's Office"

S.P. 314 L.D. 756

Presented by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senator: BALDACCI of Penobscot, Representatives: DILL of Old Town, FOSTER of Dexter, ROEDER of Bangor.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Crime of Endangering the Welfare of a Child and to Create the Crime of Aggravated Endangering the Welfare of a Child"

S.P. 319 L.D. 761

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, LIBBY of Cumberland, Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, BAGSHAW of Windham, COSTAIN of Plymouth, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, POIRIER of Skowhegan, THERIAULT of Fort Kent.

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.

Bill "An Act to Add an Adult Education Pathway to a High School Diploma"

S.P. 283 L.D. 725

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative LEE of Auburn and Senator: LIBBY of Cumberland, Representatives: LIBBY of Auburn, SHAW of Auburn.

Bill "An Act to Provide Traffic Safety Education in Schools"

S.P. 288 L.D. 730

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick and Senator: CARNEY of Cumberland, Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, BELL of Yarmouth.

Bill "An Act to Allow Retired Teachers and Educational Technicians to Be Recertified"

S.P. 311 L.D. 753

Presented by Senator RAFFERTY of York.
Cosponsored by Senator: President JACKSON of Aroostook.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Increase the Beneficial Reuse of Construction and Demolition Debris"

S.P. 276 L.D. 718

Presented by Senator BLACK of Franklin.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Child Protection"

S.P. 273 L.D. 715

Presented by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, CURRY of Waldo, TIPPING of Penobscot, Representative: ARATA of New Gloucester.

Resolve, to Direct the Department of Health and Human Services to Perform Rate Studies and Rate Determinations for Providers of Certain Services for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder

S.P. 302 L.D. 744

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senator: BENNETT of Oxford.

Bill "An Act to Expand Telemonitoring for MaineCare Patients"

S.P. 315 L.D. 757

Presented by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative JAVNER of Chester and Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, MOORE of Washington, Representatives: GRIFFIN of Levant, MADIGAN of Waterville.

Bill "An Act to Authorize Burials with Biodegradable Containers, Including Tree Pods"

S.P. 320 L.D. 762

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Expedite the Health Insurance Referral Process for Specialists by Allowing Referrals from Urgent Care Facilities"

S.P. 280 L.D. 722

Presented by Senator RENY of Lincoln.
Cosponsored by Representative: PRINGLE of Windham.

Bill "An Act to Protect Consumers by Prohibiting Discrimination by Insurers Based on Certain Information"

S.P. 281 L.D. 723

Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais and Senators: BAILEY of York, RENY of Lincoln, Representative: Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Bill "An Act to Expand Access to Banking Services for Minors"
S.P. 310 L.D. 752

Presented by Senator CURRY of Waldo.
Cosponsored by Senators: BAILEY of York, BALDACCI of Penobscot, BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, WHITE of Waterville.

Bill "An Act to Reduce Out-of-pocket Prescription Drug Expenses for Coinsurance"
S.P. 317 L.D. 759

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senators: BAILEY of York, RAFFERTY of York, TIPPING of Penobscot, Representatives: MADIGAN of Waterville, SHAGOURY of Hallowell.

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.

Bill "An Act to Preserve Historic Buildings and Promote Affordable Housing"
S.P. 279 L.D. 721

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Expand Workforce Housing in Rural Maine by Funding the Maine State Housing Authority's Rural Affordable Rental Housing Program"
S.P. 282 L.D. 724

Presented by Senator RENY of Lincoln.
Cosponsored by Senator: POULIOT of Kennebec.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Bag Limit for Turkey"
S.P. 286 L.D. 728

Presented by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative WOOD of Greene and Senator: BLACK of Franklin, Representatives: LYMAN of Livermore Falls, MASON of Lisbon.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Off-trail Operation of a Snowmobile in an Area Closed to Off-trail Operation"
S.P. 290 L.D. 732

Presented by Senator BLACK of Franklin.
Cosponsored by Representative LANDRY of Farmington and Representatives: MASON of Lisbon, WOOD of Greene.

Bill "An Act to Provide Antlerless Deer Permits to Certain Landowners"
S.P. 321 L.D. 763

Presented by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senators: BLACK of Franklin, LYFORD of Penobscot.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Promote Higher Blends of Biofuel by Regulating the Sale or Transfer of Biofuels"
S.P. 313 L.D. 755

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative THERIAULT of Fort Kent and Senators: HARRINGTON of York, President JACKSON of Aroostook, STEWART of Aroostook, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, FOSTER of Dexter.

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.

Bill "An Act to Adopt the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact"
S.P. 275 L.D. 717

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Senator: BRENNER of Cumberland.

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

On motion by Senator CURRY of Waldo, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Assist Nonprofit Service Providers"
S.P. 274 L.D. 716

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Implement Certain Recommendations of the Commission to Examine Reestablishing Parole"
S.P. 278 L.D. 720

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative CYRWAY of Albion and Senator: CARNEY of Cumberland, Representative: MOONEN of Portland.

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Empower the Legislature to Allow the Expungement or Sealing of Certain Criminal Records
S.P. 297 L.D. 739

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative DILL of Old Town and Senators: BAILEY of York, BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, HARRINGTON of York, Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, BOYER of Poland, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, HASENFUS of Readfield, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Bill "An Act to Require the Probate Court to Report Name Changes to the State Bureau of Identification" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 305 L.D. 747

Presented by Senator BAILEY of York.
Submitted by the Department of Public Safety and approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Bill "An Act to Strengthen the Due Process Rights of Persons in Law Enforcement Custody"
S.P. 306 L.D. 748

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative BOYER of Poland and Senator: CARNEY of Cumberland, Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, COLLINGS of Portland, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, HASENFUS of Readfield, MOONEN of Portland, RIELLY of Westbrook, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Powers of a Conservator to Transfer Property"
S.P. 309 L.D. 751

Presented by Senator BAILEY of York.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Support Maine Industry"
S.P. 277 L.D. 719

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act Regarding Workers' Compensation Benefits for First Responders Injured in the Line of Duty"
S.P. 285 L.D. 727

Presented by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, CURRY of Waldo, DUSON of Cumberland, TIPPING of Penobscot, Representatives: SALISBURY of Westbrook, STOVER of Boothbay, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Bill "An Act to Require an Annual Itemized Statement of Benefits for Public Employees and Retirees"
S.P. 291 L.D. 733

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Senator: KEIM of Oxford.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Paid Family and Medical Leave System"
S.P. 296 L.D. 738

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Training Repayment Agreements by Employers"
S.P. 299 L.D. 741

Presented by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor and Representatives: MALON of Biddeford, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth, O'NEIL of Saco, OSHER of Orono, RANA of Bangor, RUSSELL of Verona Island, SKOLD of Portland, WARREN of Scarborough.

Bill "An Act to Divest State Pensions from Companies Boycotting Maine Lobster"
S.P. 300 L.D. 742

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor and Senators: KEIM of Oxford, MOORE of Washington.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Require the State to Hold a Public Hearing in a Municipality Before the State Constructs a Solar Project in That Municipality"
S.P. 293 L.D. 735

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative LaROCHELLE of Augusta and Representative: BRIDGEO of Augusta.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Account for the Impact of Inflation on the Taxation of Capital Gains and Losses"

S.P. 316 L.D. 758

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Senator: LIBBY of Cumberland,
Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, LIBBY of
Auburn, MORRIS of Turner, QUINT of Hodgdon.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Resolve, Regarding Traffic Lights in Turner (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 287 L.D. 729

Presented by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner and
Representative: LYMAN of Livermore Falls.

Bill "An Act to Remove the Requirement That Certain Motor
Vehicles Be Equipped with a Front License Plate"
S.P. 294 L.D. 736

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative LANIGAN of Sanford.

Bill "An Act to Provide Free or Reduced-cost Vehicle Registration
to All Disabled Veterans"
S.P. 301 L.D. 743

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin. (BY
REQUEST)
Cosponsored by Senators: CHIPMAN of Cumberland, LIBBY of
Cumberland, Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, HYMES of
Waldo.

Bill "An Act to Modernize the State's Vehicle Inspection System
by Requiring Inspections Biennially and Allowing for an Electronic
Inspection Program"
S.P. 304 L.D. 746

Presented by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren and
Senators: President JACKSON of Aroostook, STEWART of
Aroostook, Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, ARATA of
New Gloucester, DILL of Old Town, FAULKINGHAM of Winter
Harbor.

Resolve, Directing the Maine-Canadian Legislative Advisory
Commission and the New England and Eastern Canada
Legislative Commission to Examine Restoring Passenger Rail
from Boston to Montreal

S.P. 312 L.D. 754

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Representative: GRAMLICH of Old Orchard
Beach.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Political Action
Committees Relating to Union, Business and Nonprofit
Organizations"

S.P. 284 L.D. 726

Presented by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Senator: FARRIN of Somerset, Representative:
MORRIS of Turner.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Licensing of Persons to Conduct
Advance Deposit Wagering"
S.P. 289 L.D. 731

Presented by Senator FARRIN of Somerset.
Cosponsored by Representative JACKSON of Oxford and
Senator: TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, Representatives:
ANDREWS of Paris, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, MORIARTY of
Cumberland, WHITE of Waterville.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Government Contracting Organizations
from Influencing Elections"

S.P. 295 L.D. 737

Presented by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, HARRINGTON
of York, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, Representative:
ANDREWS of Paris.

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Criteria for State Approval of Alcoholic
Beverage Container Labels"

S.P. 298 L.D. 740

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: MONTELL of Gardiner,
RIELLY of Westbrook.

Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Limits on Candidates' Speech at the
Polls"

S.P. 308 L.D. 750

Presented by Senator LIBBY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senator: BRAKEY of Androscoggin.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, the Senate considered the following Tabled and Later Assigned (January 31, 2023) matter:

JOINT ORDER - Expression of Legislative Sentiment Recognizing Jules Vazquez, of South Portland, who won the statewide Telling Room Poetry Contest with the poem "Older Sisters to Younger Brothers."

SLS 72

Tabled - January 31, 2023 by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland

Pending - **PASSAGE**

(In Senate, January 31, 2023, **READ**.)

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President and colleagues of the Senate, today I am truly delighted to welcome Jules Vazquez of South Portland and their family to the Maine Senate. Jules is the Grand Prize Winner of the Telling Room's 16th Annual Statewide Writing Contest. On your desks you'll see a copy of Jules' award winning poem titled 'Older Sister to Younger Brother.' As the Grand Prize Winner, Jules will receive a cash prize of \$250 and have their poem published in the Telling Room's upcoming anthology of youth writing. Reflecting on their poem, Jules shared these words: 'Many of the people around me have younger siblings and, in talking to them, I found that a lot of us felt the same way about our siblings growing up and becoming their own person. It is my experience, in the sense that it's personal when talking about how he is growing up, that it is a universal experience to watch someone you love grow up and not be able to stop it.' Those are Jules' words. Poetry has the power to make us feel deeply and reflect thoughtfully. Like the most powerful poetry, Jules' poem addresses universal, relatable themes and images that transport us back in time and also bring us together. At 15 years of age, Jules, who is a sophomore at the Baxter Academy of Science and Technology and a ballerina with the Maine State Ballet, reveals a mature, vulnerable, and wise voice in their poem. As an older sister to four younger brothers, I can relate to how the changes in their brother's appearance, behavior, and even his smell, which surely occur slowly over time, are noticed suddenly. It's like suddenly seeing what has been right in front of you all along. We all know this feeling. The second half of the poem really tugs at my heart, especially the wish to turn the clock back and have more time with your younger siblings - excuse me - close and near, when you and they created your own world. Thank you, Jules, for sharing your beautiful poem with the Maine Senate and with the state of Maine. When

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 127 L.D. 206

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-3)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-3) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-4)** thereto.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-3) **READ**.

House Amendment "A" (H-4) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-3) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-3) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-4) thereto **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-3) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-4)** thereto, in concurrence.

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

he was a U.S. Senator, John F. Kennedy once remarked: 'If politicians knew poetry and more poets knew politics I'm convinced the world would be a better place in which to live.' Thanks to you and your poem, Jules, you've helped all of us be better public servants and you've helped make the world a better place to live in, and I know you'll continue to do so.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Hickman.

Senator **HICKMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President. I did not intend to do this but I'm a poet and a politician and so I cannot resist. Older Sister to Younger Brother.

Recently my younger brother smells unfamiliar. He leaves with little to no warning and returns with the lingering scent of grass stains, sweat, and someone else's living room on his sweater. He walks out quickly and clean, returning with a mature, teenage kind of mud on his knees. In the beds of his fingernails rests paint and dirt. I can feel him tearing away from our mother, ready to take on the vastness of his future without me or our cozy loft beds to return to. I wish I had missed him this much when he was small and moldable. As foolish as it sounds, maybe he'd want to stay where blood was stronger than any friendship and our whole world was our messy bedroom floor.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is very pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Jules Vazquez and family. His Mom, Lindsey; his Dad, Pedro; sister Josie; and other sister, Silas. They're all from South Portland. The guests today of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Carney. Would they all please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine State Senate.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 126

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

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Wayne R. Douglas of Ocean Park, for appointment as a Associate Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Carney, A. of Cumberland, Bailey, D. of York
	Representatives	7	Moonen, M. of Portland, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford
NAYS	Senators	0	
	Representatives	2	Andrews, J. of Paris, Henderson, R. of Rumford
ABSENT		2	Sen. Lyford, P. of Penobscot, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe supports the Committee's recommendation.

Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and two in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Wayne R. Douglas of Ocean Park, for appointment as a Associate Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I wish to rise briefly to speak to the qualifications of Justice Douglas for appointment to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. Justice Douglas' path to the bench speak of a life of dedication, hard work, and compassion. As a teenager, Justice Douglas worked in the tobacco fields in Connecticut and in a paper mill. He started to consider a legal career due to his work in the mental health field. His work in Superior Court is noteworthy for his participation in and championing the Treatment and Recover courts. He identified this work as a top priority for himself and for the state of Maine. He has also served a leadership role in the transition of the court operations in York County to the soon to be opened York Judicial Center. Those who spoke in favor of Justice

Douglas' elevation to the Supreme Judicial Court said that his noteworthy for his work ethic, one person observing that late in the day on sunny Saturdays in the summer Justice Douglas' car was the only car in the parking lot of the courthouse and he was there doing his work on behalf of the people of Maine. He was universally recognized to be thoughtful, reasonable, welcoming and calm, and to have a courtroom that demonstrated fairness to everyone in the room. Those who testified stated that he takes on the toughest challenges with a calm demeanor and that although he's elevation to the Supreme Court would be a loss for York County, it would be a win for the people of Maine. He is a wonderful candidate and I urge my colleagues to support his advancement to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. It will be truly a win for our state. Thank you.

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, too, rise today in support of the nominee. I've had two different occasions to converse with Justice Douglas, both in my office and in front of our caucus earlier this morning, and appreciate his flexibility with scheduling to come in and do that today given the pace at which this came out of committee and how quickly we've had to turn things around here to get this through today. I would echo the remarks of the Senator from Cumberland. I was impressed by the Justice's demeanor. I think he brings the right intangible qualities to the court and I also appreciated his judicial philosophy as he articulated that to my colleagues and I this morning and think that he'll be a welcome addition to the court and look forward to seeing the good things he's going to do on behalf of the people of the state of Maine. Thank you.

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

Senator **BAILEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, men and women of the Senate, I want to just rise and echo the comments of the good Senators from Cumberland and Aroostook. I find Justice Douglas to be fair, competent, respectful, intelligent. I have practiced in front of him for, I don't know, a couple of decades now and I've always been impressed with both the knowledge - his knowledge of the law, his courtroom demeanor, the way he treated everyone fairly and respectful, and I would just say, having known and practiced in front of him for all those decades, the one thing I never knew about Justice Douglas, and I think this is true for all of our Judges in the state of Maine, is I know nothing about his politics and I know nothing about the other Judges in the state of Maine that I go before and that's because this state has a long tradition of confirming Judges based on their qualifications. Are they competent? Are they qualified? Do they have judicial temperament? That is the benchmark. I will tell you that serving on the Judiciary Committee, both in the House and now serving there again in the Senate, I have voted to confirm Judges appointed by Governors who were Republicans, who were Democrats, who were Independents, and that is always the criteria that I have used: are they competent, are they qualified, and do they have a judicial temperament, and Justice Douglas meets that criteria in spades. Thank you.

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

Senator **LAWRENCE:** Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, I also have had the opportunity to get to know Justice Douglas very well. I first knew him when I was Senate President and he was legal counsel for Governor King, and I'm sure the good Senator from Oxford, Senator Bennett, remembers that time, and I will say we had a few tussles, we had a few disagreements. We always ended up fair and polite to each other and respectful of each other. And then I got to know him when he was first appointed to the District Court. Practicing in York County, and at the time I became D.A. I dealt a lot with him and a lot with the Justices - Judges in the District Court. And I have to tell you the District Court is one of the most time-consuming courts out there. The Judges who serve there really do a tremendous amount of work and I know Justice Douglas was reluctant to leave the District Court because he felt there was so much there and so many important things to be accomplished in the District Court that were very important in average people's lives, but he filled the vacuum when he came up to the Superior Court in York County. We lost two long-standing, great Justices to retirement: Justice Brennan and Justice Fritzsche, and there was a big vacuum in the Superior Court and he came up and filled that. And I practiced before him as a private attorney, as District Attorney. I've seen his work on family law issues, other issues, things he's been involved with that have become law here regarding the Parentage Act and different issues before us. He is one eminently qualified to be on the Supreme Court and I hope you will join me in supporting his nomination.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Kennebec, Senator **POULIOT**, and further excused the same Senator from today's Roll Call votes.

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#12)

YEAS: Senator: LYFORD

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, TIMBERLAKE

1 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 26 Senators having voted in the negative, with 8 Senators being excused, and 1 being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Wayne R. Douglas** of Ocean Park for appointment as a Associate Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 128

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

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Phillip G. Mohlar, Esq. of Readfield, for appointment as a District Court Judge.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Carney, A. of Cumberland, Bailey, D. of York
	Representatives	9	Moonen, M. of Portland, Andrews, J. of Paris, Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		2	Sen. Lyford, P. of Penobscot, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe was absent.

Eleven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Phillip G. Mohlar, Esq. of Readfield, for appointment as a District Court Judge be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#13)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, TIMBERLAKE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 27 Senators having voted in the negative, with 8 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Phillip G. Mohlar**, Esq. of Readfield for appointment as a District Court Judge was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 129

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

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Tracy J. Gorham, Esq. of South Portland, for appointment as a District Court Judge.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Carney, A. of Cumberland, Bailey, D. of York
	Representatives	8	Moonen, M. of Portland, Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Lyford, P. of Penobscot, Rep. Andrews, J. of Paris, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe was absent.

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Tracy J. Gorham, Esq. of South Portland, for appointment as a District Court Judge be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#14)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, TIMBERLAKE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 27 Senators having voted in the negative, with 8 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Tracy J. Gorham**, Esq. of South Portland, for appointment as a District Court Judge was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 127

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

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Patrick C. Larson of Bangor, for appointment as a Superior Court Justice.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Barbara Raimondi of Brunswick, for appointment as an Active Retired Judge of the District Court be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#16)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, TIMBERLAKE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 27 Senators having voted in the negative, with 8 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Barbara Raimondi** of Brunswick for appointment as an Active Retired Judge of the District Court was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Following Communication: S.C. 130

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

February 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Paul A. Fritzsche of Kennebunk, for reappointment as an Active Retired Justice of the Superior Court.

After public hearing and discussion on this nomination, the Committee proceeded to vote on the motion to recommend to the Senate that this nomination be confirmed. The Committee Clerk called the roll with the following result:

YEAS	Senators	2	Carney, A. of Cumberland, Bailey, D. of York
	Representatives	8	Moonen, M. of Portland, Henderson, R. of Rumford, Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Lee, A. of Auburn, Moriarty, S. of Cumberland, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Reckitt, L. of South Portland, Sheehan, E. of Biddeford
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Lyford, P. of Penobscot, Rep. Andrews, J. of Paris, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe was absent.

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Paul A. Fritzsche of Kennebunk, for reappointment as an Active Retired Justice of the Superior Court be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Matt Moonen
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#17)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CHIPMAN, FARRIN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, TIMBERLAKE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 27 Senators having voted in the negative, with 8 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Paul A. Fritzsche** of Kennebunk for reappointment as an Active Retired Justice of the Superior Court was **CONFIRMED**.

The Secretary has so informed the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Off Record Remarks

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass

The Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Invasive Aquatic Plants"

H.P. 14 L.D. 10

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

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senate

Change of Committee

Senator BALDACCI for the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "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

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**.

Sent down for concurrence.

SECOND READERS

The Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading** reported the following:

Senate

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Boundary Between Waldo and Knox Counties in Penobscot Bay"

S.P. 58 L.D. 119

READ TWICE and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

JOINT RESOLUTION - Memorializing Neal Francis Taylor, of Montville. Dr. Taylor worked for a time at Lincoln Laboratory in Boston, Massachusetts before becoming a Doctor of Philosophy in Ecology at the University of California at Davis. He went on to live and work in Waterville and Old Town before moving to Montville. Dedicated to ecological teaching, he served as Field Faculty for the Audubon Expedition Institute at Lesley University, with the Expedition Education Institute, as Lead Instructor for the Center for Ecological Living and Learning in Central America and as a Campus Manager at Ironwood Maine, a residential mental health treatment program and accredited school for teenagers. Dr. Taylor will be long remembered and sadly missed by his partner and wife of 30 years, Larkspur Morton, his family and friends and all those whose lives he touched.

HLS 59

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

Senator **CURRY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I've had the pleasure of knowing Neal. I didn't know him has an educator but I knew his reputation as an experiential educator. He was beloved by his students and his colleagues. I knew him as an ultimate frisbee player. He carried that spirit of ultimate frisbee and his spirit of generosity and care on the field and he was an amazing

soul and he will be greatly missed and the community mourns his death. Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Larkspur Morton. Would she please rise and accept the condolences of the Maine State Senate.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Direct the Maine Criminal Justice Academy to Develop a Nonresidential Law Enforcement Training Program"
H.P. 442 L.D. 673

Bill "An Act to Allow Bail Commissioners to Carry Firearms in Correctional Facilities and Jails"
H.P. 443 L.D. 674

Bill "An Act Regarding Eligibility of County Jail Inmates for a Community Confinement Monitoring Program"
H.P. 461 L.D. 692

Bill "An Act Regarding the Detention, Supervision and Transportation of Arrested Juveniles"
H.P. 471 L.D. 702

Bill "An Act to Expand the List of Crimes That Do Not Qualify for Immunity Under Maine's Good Samaritan Laws Concerning Drug-related Medical Assistance"
H.P. 483 L.D. 714

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.

Bill "An Act to Create the Public Art Fund"
H.P. 438 L.D. 669

Bill "An Act to Implement Pilot Programs with Publicly Funded Day Care and Early Childhood Education"
H.P. 453 L.D. 684

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Requirements Regarding Fingerprinting Law Enforcement Officers in Schools"
H.P. 472 L.D. 703

Bill "An Act to Extend or Waive Requirements for Certain Teaching Certificates"
H.P. 481 L.D. 712

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.

Bill "An Act to Reduce Electricity Rates"
H.P. 452 L.D. 683

Bill "An Act to Study the Construction of a Nuclear Power Facility in the State"
H.P. 458 L.D. 689

Resolve, to Study the Effects of 5G Technology on Bird, Bee and Insect Populations and the Effects of Long-term Exposure on Children
H.P. 466 L.D. 697

Bill "An Act Directing the Public Utilities Commission to Study the State Natural Gas Supply Pursuant to the Maine Energy Cost Reduction Act"
H.P. 467 L.D. 698

Bill "An Act to Reduce Future Energy Costs"
H.P. 468 L.D. 699

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

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

Bill "An Act to Increase Funding for and Stabilize the Independent Housing with Services Program Under the Department of Health and Human Services"
H.P. 427 L.D. 658

Bill "An Act to Promote Seamless and Flexible Home and Community Supports Across the Lifespan for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities or Autism"
H.P. 428 L.D. 659

Bill "An Act to Support Home Share Programming for Seniors"
H.P. 478 L.D. 709

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.

Bill "An Act to Require Health Insurance Coverage for Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome"

H.P. 432 L.D. 663

Bill "An Act to Improve Access to Specialty Health Care Providers by Reducing Copayments"

H.P. 475 L.D. 706

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.

Bill "An Act to Extend the Date by Which Compliance is Required for Affordable Housing Development, Increased Numbers of Dwelling Units and Accessory Dwelling Units"

H.P. 434 L.D. 665

Bill "An Act Concerning the Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund and Expenditures by the Maine State Housing Authority"

H.P. 474 L.D. 705

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.

Bill "An Act to Establish Youth Deer Hunting Weekend"

H.P. 441 L.D. 672

Bill "An Act to Protect Inland Water Quality, Shorelines, Wildlife and Public Safety by Prohibiting Operation of a Wake Boat to Create an Enhanced Wake Close to Shore or in Shallow Water"

H.P. 462 L.D. 693

Resolve, to Direct the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife to Examine the Northern Pike Population in Sabattus Pond

H.P. 469 L.D. 700

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.

Bill "An Act to Support Community-based Volunteer Organizations"

H.P. 435 L.D. 666

Bill "An Act to Ensure Consumer Protection from Resale Ticket Vendors"

H.P. 446 L.D. 677

Come 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.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Percentage of Votes Needed for an Amendment of a Declaration in the Maine Condominium Act"

H.P. 426 L.D. 657

Bill "An Act to Protect Financial Privacy"

H.P. 445 L.D. 676

Bill "An Act Regarding Animals Abandoned by Tenants"

H.P. 448 L.D. 679

Bill "An Act Regarding Indigent Legal Services"

H.P. 450 L.D. 681

Bill "An Act to Codify That Freedom of Access Act and Freedom of Information Act Requests Are Not Hate Crimes"

H.P. 454 L.D. 685

Bill "An Act to Streamline Rental Application Screenings by Allowing Potential Tenants to Use Screening Services"

H.P. 459 L.D. 690

Bill "An Act to Reduce Barriers to Housing by Prohibiting Tenant Application Fees"

H.P. 460 L.D. 691

Bill "An Act to Increase the Notice Period for Rent Increases"

H.P. 470 L.D. 701

Bill "An Act to Update the Maine Human Rights Act with Respect to Gender Identity"

H.P. 476 L.D. 707

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

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

Bill "An Act to Protect Access to Veterinary Care by Prohibiting Noncompete Agreements"

H.P. 457 L.D. 688

Comes 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.

Bill "An Act to Fund the Lobster Legal Defense Fund"
H.P. 479 L.D. 710

Bill "An Act to Regulate Oyster Seed"
H.P. 480 L.D. 711

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

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

Resolve, Directing the State Auditor to Audit All State Agencies
H.P. 433 L.D. 664

Bill "An Act to Protect Birds and Wildlife in the Construction and Maintenance of Public Buildings"
H.P. 439 L.D. 670

Bill "An Act to Factor Conservative Projections of Sea Level Rise into State Planning on Climate Change"
H.P. 440 L.D. 671

Bill "An Act to Allow the People to Elect the State Auditor"
H.P. 465 L.D. 696

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

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

Bill "An Act to Impose a Tax Surcharge on Certain Incomes"
H.P. 436 L.D. 667

Bill "An Act to Exempt Nonprofit Land Trusts from Sales Tax"
H.P. 464 L.D. 695

Bill "An Act to Establish a Sales Tax Holiday Weekend" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 477 L.D. 708

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Dedicate a Portion of Sales and Use Taxes from All Motor Vehicle Sales and Motor Vehicle-related Sales to the Highway Fund for Road and Bridge Capital Improvements
H.P. 482 L.D. 713

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 to Enhance Safety for Unregistered Farm Tractors and Animal-drawn Vehicles on Highways"
H.P. 455 L.D. 686

Bill "An Act to Increase the Allowable Width of a Snowplow"
H.P. 456 L.D. 687

Bill "An Act to Replace Annual Vanity Plate Administrative Fees with a One-time Fee"
H.P. 473 L.D. 704

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

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

Bill "An Act to Prevent Electioneering on General Election Ballots by Candidates Nominated by Petition"
H.P. 425 L.D. 656

Bill "An Act Examining On-premises Liquor License Requirements"
H.P. 449 L.D. 680

Bill "An Act to Lower the Signature Quantity Requirement for Certain Independent Candidates for Elected Office"
H.P. 463 L.D. 694

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

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Off Record Remarks

RECESSED until the sound of the bell.

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

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

ENACTORS

The Committee on **Engrossed Bills** reported as truly and strictly engrossed the following:

Emergency Measure

An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

H.P. 127 L.D. 206
(H "A" H-4 to C "A" H-3)

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

Senator **ROTUNDO:** Thank you, Mr. President. Colleagues of the Senate, I rise speak in favor of L.D. 206, the Supplemental Budget that's before this Body, having earned unanimous bipartisan support in the Legislature's Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee. My colleagues and I in Appropriations worked hard to craft a Supplemental Budget that reflects the testimony we heard from the public, the recommendations we received from the Joint Standing Committees, and the needs of the state. The result is a common-sense Supplemental Budget that contains no new programs. Instead it insures that the State will meet its obligations to Maine people and pay its bills through the end of the fiscal year. It also insures that Maine abides by its constitutional mandate for a balanced budget. None of this would have been possible without the input of those in this Chamber and we are grateful to you for taking the time to participate in the public hearing and work session process. I also want to thank my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee, in particular the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Duson, and the Senator from Oxford, Senator Bennett, for their thoughtful and conscientious work on this budget. I appreciate having wonderful partners in both Chambers to work with. I look forward to continued collaborative work as we undertake the biennial budget. Thank you.

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

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. First, let me say I respect very much the bipartisan effort that's gone into crafting this Supplemental Budget. That said, I will be voting no today and I just wanted to very briefly register as to why. In the Supplemental Budget we are appropriating millions more to systems that currently have in place a discriminatory COVID-19 vaccination mandate against healthcare workers and students and I cannot, in good conscience, vote to appropriate millions

more to those systems while that mandate is in place. So, I will be voting no today. Thank you very much.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Oxford, Senator Bennett.

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. Fellow members of the Senate, first of all I'd like to thank the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Rotundo, for her gracious words and her excellent leadership, inclusive leadership of the Appropriations Committee. It's not an easy job and I'm grateful that our Committee has such a leader on it. I would just say that, you know, budgets like this are a compromise. There are things in it that I like a lot. There are things in it I don't particularly care for. But we do have to pass this budget. It's important to have optimum functioning of this government for the rest of this fiscal year. You know, this budget is - it doesn't spend a lot of money. Most of the money that we had, as we all recall, was spent in L.D. 3, which was the actual Supplemental Budget passed this year. But this budget takes care of a lot of important functions. There are some reclassifications that are well overdue, some three years old that came out of labor disputes that we need to honor. Some reorganizations of state government and some funding of some needed systems, including legal services for the indigent which, as we all know, has been underfunded and has been a Constitutional obligation for this Legislature for far too long. So, I encourage passage of this and even if you may not like aspects of it I'm sure that you will all be better off for putting this behind us and moving on to the biennial budget which we're already having hearings on and it's always good to see the progress on that happening so rapidly as well. So, thank you, Mr. President.

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 23 Members of the Senate, with 6 Senators having voted in the negative, and 23 being less than two-thirds of the entire elected Membership of the Senate, **FAILED ENACTMENT**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

(See action later today.)

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

RECESSED until the sound of the bell.

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

On motion by Senator **HARRINGTON** of York, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby it **FAILED ENACTMENT** on the following:

Emergency Measure

An Act to Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2023

H.P. 127 L.D. 206
(H "A" H-4 to C "A" H-3)

(In House, February 16, 2023, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED.**)

(In Senate, February 16, 2023, **FAILED ENACTMENT**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE.**)

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 24 Members of the Senate, with 5 Senators having voted in the negative, and 24 being more than two-thirds of the entire elected Membership of the Senate, was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and, having been signed by the President, was presented by the Secretary to the Governor for his approval.

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

Off Record Remarks

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **ADJOURNED**, pursuant to the Joint Order, until Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 10:00 in the morning or the Call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House in memory of and lasting tribute to Neal Francis Taylor of Montville.