

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

In Senate Chamber  
Thursday  
April 20, 2023

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

Prayer by Pastor Glenn Peterson of the Hope Baptist Church in Manchester.

**PASTOR PETERSON:** Let's pray. Lord God, many of the people of Maine today, including these Senators, are grieving, sighing, somewhat angry, and definitely sad over what happened in Bowdoin and on 295 on Tuesday. We are weary of the madness. How long, O' Lord, until You return and put an end to all violence, whether it's in homes or highways or the hallways of schools, the crowded space of a Sweet-16 party or in the chambers of our hearts. When will the dawn break on the day of no more fruitless arguments between friends or spiteful anger between families? No more pointing of guns or even pointing of fingers. Jesus, when will peace be our leader and wellbeing our ruler? Can you hurry it up, please? Jesus, You promised that wolves and lambs, calves and lions will live together one day in kindness, and that Your glory, not our lovelessness, will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. When is that actually going to happen, Lord? We crave it. I can hardly imagine only using our words to praise You and to encourage each other. Never again weaponizing our disappointments or even thinking ill of anyone. Until then, Jesus, help these Senators, and all of us, to live by the gospel, not by the sword. May we live by the way of sacrifice and love and Your cross, not by the gracelessness in our hearts. May we add to the kindness and not to the madness. In the name of the Prince of Peace, we pray. Amen.

National Anthem Performed by Terrance Coley, Sr. of Lewiston.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Joseph Rafferty of York County.

Reading of the Journal of Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

Doctor of the Day, Diane Zavotsky, M.D. of Embden.

Off Record Remarks

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

**ORDERS**

**Joint Resolution**

WHEREAS, the Legislature has learned with deep regret of the death of:

Mark Charles Geiger, of Arrowsic. Mr. Geiger founded Preservation House Painters and maintained historic buildings up and down the New England coast for over 40 years. He was a staunch environmentalist and an active member in his community and local politics. Mr. Geiger will be long remembered and sadly missed by his family and friends;

SLS 406

Sponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc.  
Cosponsored by Representative: HEPLER of Woolwich.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair recognizes the Senator from Sagadahoc, Senator Vitelli.

Senator **VITELLI:** Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, I rise this morning sad of heart but full of joy as well for having known Mark Geiger as a member of my small community in Arrowsic over many, many years. Mark was a devoted husband, father, and community member. He was active in our town, was a good neighbor, and a friend to all. Mark had a wonderful sense of humor. He loved music. He took an active interest in politics, the environment. Whatever the issues of the day were, he would be more than willing to get into a discussion with you on what he cared about. Oftentimes, we would disagree, but we always had great conversations going forward. In addition, I am most grateful for Mark's role as a business owner and an employer of Preservation House Painters. Both of my sons were his employees at different periods of time. Mark not only taught them a skill, a very useful skill, I will say, but he also taught them how to put in a good day's work, how to do a quality job, that if something was worth doing, it was worth doing well. Mark had a high level of quality expectations for the people who worked for him, and he taught that to my sons. They learned about teamwork, about how to get things done, but also how to have fun. Thursday barbecues were a favorite day of the week, when Mark would treat his employees to some good grub, and they would appreciate each other even as they worked really hard to get the job done. I really wish that there were more folks in the world like Mark. He was full of joy, full of passion, and he contributed mightily to the fabric of our community. I am pleased to have with us today his wife, his son, and his two grandchildren, who would - I know Mark would be delighted were here on his behalf to receive this recognition from the Maine State Senate. Thank you, Mr. President.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair would like to recognize in the rear of the Chamber the Geiger family: Jennifer, Trevor, Johan, and Oren. They're all from Arrowsic. The guests today of the Senator from Sagadahoc, Senator Vitelli, and the entire Maine Senate. Would they please rise and accept the condolences of the Maine Senate.

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Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Joint Order:  
S.P. 698

**ORDERED**, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, April 25, 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 for concurrence.

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#### PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

##### Non-Concurrent Matter

An Act to Protect the Quality of Care Provided via Telehealth by Prohibiting Physicians from Prescribing Abortion-inducing Drugs or Devices Through Telehealth or Other Electronic Communication

H.P. 797 L.D. 1249

In Senate, March 23, 2023, on motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Comes from the House, that Body having **INSISTED** on its former action whereby the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the Senate **RECEDED** and **CONCURRED**.

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##### House Papers

Resolve, Directing the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to Study and Report on Soil Carbon Sequestration Incentive Programs

H.P. 1077 L.D. 1678

Bill "An Act to Create the Maine Experiential Education Program"  
H.P. 1081 L.D. 1682

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

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

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Resolve, to Reestablish and Continue the Work of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State

H.P. 1090 L.D. 1701

Bill "An Act to Replace Certain Stigmatizing Language in the Maine Revised Statutes, Titles 22, 25 and 34-A with Respectful Language"

H.P. 1104 L.D. 1715

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

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

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Bill "An Act Regarding Incarcerated Individuals and Legislative Apportionment"

H.P. 1093 L.D. 1704

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

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Give Consumers Control over Sensitive Personal Data by Requiring Consumer Consent Prior to Collection of Data"  
H.P. 1094 L.D. 1705

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

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

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Implement Background Checks for School Board Members"

H.P. 1086 L.D. 1697

Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Improve the Educational Experience of People Who Are Resettling in Maine

H.P. 1091 L.D. 1702

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Protect Agricultural Lands by Creating a Permitting Process for Solar Development on Those Lands"

H.P. 1089 L.D. 1700

Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** suggested and ordered printed.

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Invest in the Health and Wellness of Older Maine Residents by Expanding Coordinated Community Programming"

H.P. 1083 L.D. 1684

Bill "An Act Regarding Driver's Licenses for Individuals in Foster Care"

H.P. 1101 L.D. 1712

Bill "An Act to Establish Substance Use Disorder Treatment Centers"

H.P. 1106 L.D. 1719

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Address Anticompetitive Terms in Health Insurance Carrier and Health Care Provider Contracts"

H.P. 1097 L.D. 1708

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Clarify Statewide Laws Regarding Affordable Housing and Accessory Dwelling Units"

H.P. 1095 L.D. 1706

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Establish a Baseline of Consistency and Safety for the Operation of Construction Cranes and Elevators"

H.P. 1098 L.D. 1709

Bill "An Act to Update Electrical Education and Other Licensure Requirements for Electricians"

H.P. 1102 L.D. 1713

Bill "An Act to Establish a Repairability Index for Consumer Electronic Products"

H.P. 1105 L.D. 1716

Bill "An Act to Encourage Participation in Maine's Essential Support Workforce Through Access to Higher Education" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 1107 L.D. 1718

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.

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Bill "An Act Regarding the Maine Indian Tribal-State Commission"

H.P. 1078 L.D. 1679

Bill "An Act to Provide for Civil Recovery Based on Nonconsensual Removal of or Tampering with a Condom and Considering Sexual Assault in Evaluating Parental Rights"

H.P. 1082 L.D. 1683

Bill "An Act to Create a Civil Cause of Action for Persons Suffering Damages Arising from the Sale of Abnormally Dangerous Firearms"

H.P. 1085 L.D. 1696

Comes 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 Increase Acreage Eligibility and Change Requirements for Filing Plans Under the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law"

H.P. 1084 L.D. 1685

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Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Equal Pay Law by Prohibiting Pay Discrimination Based on Race"

H.P. 1092 L.D. 1703

Bill "An Act to Create a Sustainable Funding Source for Recovery Community Centers Using a Percentage of the Adult Use Cannabis Tax Revenue"

H.P. 1103 L.D. 1714

Bill "An Act to Allow Workers to Work Without Having to Pay Labor Organization Service Fees"

H.P. 1096 L.D. 1707

Bill "An Act to Provide a Property Tax Exemption for All Veterans over 62 Years of Age"

H.P. 1108 L.D. 1717

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

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

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Establish the Maine Rental Assistance and Guarantee Program and Amend the Laws Regarding Tenants and the Municipal General Assistance Program"

H.P. 1099 L.D. 1710

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Bill "An Act to Provide for Safe Roadway Construction Design Criteria"

H.P. 1100 L.D. 1711

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

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

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

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

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

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Bill "An Act to Allow Cannabis Advertising and to Allow Cannabis Delivery"

H.P. 1079 L.D. 1680

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Bill "An Act to Amend the Freedom of Access Act and Related Provisions"

H.P. 1088 L.D. 1699

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Private Donations to the Maine Clean Election Fund"

H.P. 1087 L.D. 1698

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

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

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

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

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

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### Joint Resolution

The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 1075

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Bill "An Act to Encourage Residential Water Testing by Providing an Income Tax Deduction"

H.P. 1080 L.D. 1681

**JOINT RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING APRIL 2023  
AS ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

WHEREAS, for over a century, Arab Americans have been making valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American society, including in medicine, law, business, education, technology, government, military service and culture; and

WHEREAS, people of Arab ethnicity and culture who have immigrated to America have shared their rich culture and traditions with neighbors and friends, while also setting fine examples as model citizens and public servants; and

WHEREAS, these immigrants brought with them to America their resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education and diversity in faith and creed, which have added strength to our great democracy; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans have enriched our society by sharing in the entrepreneurial American spirit that makes our nation free and prosperous; and

WHEREAS, the history of Arab Americans in the United States continues to be characterized by misconceptions, bigotry and anti-Arab hate expressed by crimes and hate speech; and

WHEREAS, the civil rights abuses, harmful stereotyping and bullying suffered by Arab Americans must be combated with education and awareness; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans join all Americans in the desire to see a peaceful and diverse society where every individual is treated equally and feels safe; and

WHEREAS, the incredible contributions and heritage of Arab Americans have helped us build a better nation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to designate April 2023 as Arab American Heritage Month.

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

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair recognizes the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Baldacci.

Senator **BALDACC**: Thank you, Mr. President, and I just want to first say I appreciate my colleagues' indulgence on this matter. This is the first time I had to ask this Resolution as - since being in the State Senate, to be read. It really exemplifies the lives that my grandmother and her sisters all lived and this - these remarks are really dedicated to those four young women from Lebanon who came to this country in the 1910s and really to all immigrants who come to this country even today. These young women were my grandmother, Rose Saad Karam, and her sisters. They came to America as teenagers who literally had not a penny to their names, but what they did have was a belief in faith, family, and hard work that transcended nationality. Today, the Head of Falls area in Waterville is a very bucolic and nice park. In the 1910s, that area was filled with tenements of poor Lebanese and Syrian immigrants, and that is where my grandmother and great-aunts lived, and that is where my mom was born. Connected to this area today is still what is called the Two-Penny Bridge. The Lebanese had to pay two pennies to walk across the bridge and go to their jobs at the textile mills. My sittoo, which is Arabic for grandmother, and her sisters, Mintaha and Mary, worked at these mills. My aunt Mintaha lived in Waterville all of her life. She married a young Irish orphan who had been adopted and raised

by a Lebanese couple, and his name, that young orphan's name was George Mitchell, Sr. My grandmother Rose married a young Lebanese immigrant from Bangor and started a small grocery store in Bangor. When I think of all the hateful actions and attitudes directed towards today's new Americans, I remember that this has happened many times before and somehow, with faith and freedom, we have overcome before and we will, as Americans, continue to welcome new people to our great democracy, and we will continue to move forward as one nation under God. Thank you.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Senator Baldacci, I'm glad that you spoke on that today.

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Following Communication: S.C. 347

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

April 18, 2023

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

RE: Appointment of The Honorable Michael Shaw of Freeport to the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate The Honorable Michael Shaw of Freeport for appointment to the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board.

Pursuant to Title 12 MRSA §10308, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills  
Governor

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

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The Following Communication: S.C. 348

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

April 18, 2023

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

Re: Appointment of Phat Gia Thai of Portland as Student  
Member to the State Board of Education

Dear President Jackson:

It is my pleasure to nominate Phat Gia Thai of Portland for  
appointment to the State Board of Education as the Student  
Member from the First Congressional District.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §401, this appointment is  
contingent upon confirmation of the Maine State Senate 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. 343

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

April 18, 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 James F.  
Martemucci of Arundel, 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:

YEAS	Senators	2	Carney, A. of Cumberland, Brakey, E. of Androscoggin
	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. Bailey, D. of York, Rep.  
Haggan, D. of Hampden

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

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 James F. Martemucci of Arundel, for appointment  
as a Superior Court Justice 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?"

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Cumberland,  
Senator **DUSON**, the Senator from Lincoln, Senator **RENY**, the  
Senator from Somerset, Senator **FARRIN**, the Senator from  
Kennebec, Senator **POULIOT**, and the Senator from  
Androscoggin, Senator **TIMBERLAKE**, and further excused the  
same Senators 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 131<sup>st</sup> Legislature, the vote was taken by the  
Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#91)**

Representatives 9

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: DUSON, FARRIN, POULIOT, RENY, TIMBERLAKE

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 30 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 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 **James F. Martemucci** of Arundel for appointment as a Superior Court Justice was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 344

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

April 18, 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 Harold L. Stewart, II of Portland, for reappointment 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:

YEAS Senators 2 Carney, A. of Cumberland, Brakey, E. of Androscoggin

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. Bailey, D. of York, Rep. Haggan, D. of Hampden

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

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 Harold L. Stewart, II of Portland, for reappointment as a Superior Court Justice 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 131<sup>st</sup> Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#92)**

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: DUSON, FARRIN, POULIOT, RENY, TIMBERLAKE



No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 30 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 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 **Harold L. Stewart, II** of Portland for reappointment as a Superior Court Justice was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 346

**STATE OF MAINE  
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE  
COMMITTEE ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

April 18, 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 Criminal Justice and Public Safety has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 647 An Act to Amend the Life Safety Code Regarding When Sprinkler Systems May Be Shut Off

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Beebe-Center S/Rep. Suzanne M. Salisbury  
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 342

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

April 18, 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 Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 1041 An Act to Ensure Dental Insurance Coverage for Certain Adults with Disabilities
- L.D. 1146 An Act to Authorize Certain Health Care Professionals to Prescribe Methadone

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Donna Bailey S/Rep. Anne C. Perry  
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 345

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

April 12, 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. 793 An Act to Support Municipal Services with Revenue Sharing

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Nicole Grohoski S/Rep. Joe Perry  
Senate Chair House Chair

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

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**SENATE PAPERS**

Bill "An Act to Enact the Beneficial Electrification Policy Act"  
S.P. 688 L.D. 1724

Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock.  
Cosponsored by Representatives: FOSTER of Dexter, KESSLER of South Portland.

Bill "An Act to Protect Northern Maine Standard-offer Ratepayers"  
S.P. 691 L.D. 1727

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Senator: HARRINGTON of York,  
Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, FOSTER of Dexter,  
THERIAULT of Fort Kent.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Prevent the Automatic Transfer of Permits and Contracts in a Sale of Assets of a Water Export Company Without Review and to Amend the Membership of the Water Resources Planning Committee and the Maine Public Drinking Water Commission"

S.P. 687 L.D. 1723

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.  
Cosponsored by Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach and Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, CHIPMAN of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec, KEIM of Oxford,  
Representatives: BLIER of Buxton, COLLINGS of Portland,  
O'NEIL of Saco, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Build Maine's Economy by Supporting Child Care for Working Families"

S.P. 690 L.D. 1726

Presented by President JACKSON of Aroostook.  
Cosponsored by Representative TERRY of Gorham and Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, BENNETT of Oxford, RENEY of Lincoln, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, MEYER of Eliot, MILLETT of Waterford, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth.

Bill "An Act to Reduce Child Care Provider Regulation"  
S.P. 693 L.D. 1729

Presented by Senator MOORE of Washington.  
Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin,  
Representative JAVNER of Chester and Senators: GUERIN of Penobscot, KEIM of Oxford, Representative: FREDERICKS of Sanford.

Bill "An Act to Maximize Federal Funding in Support of Emergency Medical Services"

S.P. 696 L.D. 1751

Presented by Senator CURRY of Waldo.  
Cosponsored by Representative CYRWAY of Albion and Senators: FARRIN of Somerset, President JACKSON of Aroostook, LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec, MOORE of Washington, NANGLE of Cumberland, Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, SALISBURY of Westbrook, Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Bill "An Act to Establish an Independent Adjudicatory Process Regarding the Department of Health and Human Services"  
S.P. 699 L.D. 1753

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.  
Cosponsored by Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, HICKMAN of Kennebec, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, Representative: FAY of Raymond.

Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Study the Delivery of Services to Children and Families (EMERGENCY)  
S.P. 700 L.D. 1754

Presented by Senator CURRY of Waldo.  
Cosponsored by Representative GRAHAM of North Yarmouth and Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, HICKMAN of Kennebec, INGWERSEN of York, Representatives: SHAGOURY of Hallowell, STOVER of Boothbay.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Establish the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact"

S.P. 694 L.D. 1749

Presented by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative MATHIESON of Kittery and Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, HICKMAN of Kennebec, STEWART of Aroostook, Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, GATTINE of Westbrook, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MURPHY of Scarborough.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Ensure Access to Federally Approved Opioid Overdose-reversing Medication"

S.P. 692 L.D. 1728

Presented by Senator MOORE of Washington.

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

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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Resolve, to Prepare Preapproved Building Types

S.P. 697 L.D. 1752

Presented 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.

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Bill "An Act to Protect Employee Freedom of Speech"

S.P. 702 L.D. 1756

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Senator: BALDACCI of Penobscot, Representative: CLOUTIER of Lewiston.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Strengthen Legislative Oversight of Government Agencies and Programs by Providing the Government Oversight Committee Access to Confidential Records" (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 689 L.D. 1725

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.

Cosponsored by Representative ARATA of New Gloucester and Senators: BAILEY of York, BENNETT of Oxford, DUSON of Cumberland, KEIM of Oxford, TIPPING of Penobscot, Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, FAY of Raymond, MADIGAN of Waterville.

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

Bill "An Act to Require a Municipality to Pay a Homeless Shelter on a Per Capita Basis for Persons Released or Delivered by the Municipality to the Shelter"

S.P. 704 L.D. 1758

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.

Cosponsored by Senator: MOORE of Washington, Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, JAVNER of Chester.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act to Exempt All Youth Development Nonprofit Organizations from Sales Tax and the Service Provider Tax"

S.P. 701 L.D. 1755

Presented by Senator CURRY of Waldo.

Cosponsored by Representative DODGE of Belfast and Senator: CHIPMAN of Cumberland.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation to Complete a Service Plan and Determine the Scope of Work for Restoration of Rail Use of the Berlin Subdivision Rail Corridor from Downtown Portland to Auburn

S.P. 695 L.D. 1750

Presented by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Representative WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor and Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, NANGLE of Cumberland, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, ANKELES of Brunswick, O'CONNELL of Brewer, THERIAULT of Fort Kent, WHITE of Guilford.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Reporting and Tracking of Adult Use Cannabis"

S.P. 703 L.D. 1757

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec. Cosponsored by Representative PERRY of Bangor and Representatives: BOYER of Poland, COLLINGS of Portland, RIELLY of Westbrook, SUPICA of Bangor.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

Off Record Remarks

ORDERS

Joint Resolution

On motion by Senator BENNETT of Oxford (Cosponsored by Representative PERRY of Bangor and Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, GROHOSKI of Hancock, HARRINGTON of York, Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, GREENWOOD of Wales, WARREN of Scarborough), the following Joint Resolution:

S.P. 705

JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING SEPARATE APPLICATIONS TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES CALLING CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS TO CONSIDER REPRESENTATIONAL INTEGRITY AND PROPOSE AMENDMENTS ESTABLISHING TERM LIMITS FOR CONGRESS AND ADDRESSING CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution, Article V places substantial authority and responsibility upon the legislatures of the several states to ensure that the Federal Government and each of its branches remain within their enumerated powers and remain protective of the rights of the people; and

WHEREAS, a variety of important movements have arisen within the legislatures of the several states to address a wide variety of concerns that may be appropriately addressed within the context of Article V of the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Maine wishes to address these various approaches in a bipartisan manner; and

WHEREAS, an agreement to call for a convention under Article V of the United States Constitution does not commit the Legislature of Maine to approve any proposal that may arise from any subsequent convention; rather, this Legislature is simply exercising its will to engage in a formal process with other states

to give full and authoritative consideration to various proposals consistent with the topics expressed by this joint resolution; and WHEREAS, under the United States Constitution, Article V, the Congress of the United States, whenever two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to the United States Constitution, or, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments that, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of the United States Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three-fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Legislature of Maine hereby applies to the Congress of the United States, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, to call a convention of the states limited to proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected to the United States House of Representatives and to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected to the United States Senate; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this application is intended to address the same subject matter as applications from other states under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution to call a convention to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected to the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate; and this application must be aggregated with the same for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds of states necessary to require Congress to call a limited convention on this subject, but may not be aggregated with any other applications on any other subject; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Legislature of Maine hereby applies to the Congress of the United States, under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution, to call a convention of the states limited to proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution to regulate the role of money in elections and governance to ensure transparency, prevent corruption, protect against the buying of access to or influence over representatives and overturn the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the case of Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission and related cases; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this application is intended to address the same subject matter as applications from other states under the provisions of Article V of the United States Constitution to call a convention to regulate the role of money in elections and governance to ensure transparency, prevent corruption, protect against the buying of access to or influence over representatives and overturn the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the case of Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission and related cases; and this application must be aggregated with the same for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds of states necessary to require Congress to call a limited convention on this subject, but may not be aggregated with any other applications on any other subject; and be it further

RESOLVED: That these applications constitute continuing applications in accordance with Article V of the United States Constitution until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subjects; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Secretary of the Senate and presiding officers of both houses of the legislatures of each of the several states in the nation, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the President and Secretary of the United States Senate and each member of the Maine Congressional Delegation.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford moved the Joint Resolution be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**.

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

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. Joint Resolutions such as this is customarily sent to committee and, in this particular case, it particularly should. It is a Joint Resolution that's bipartisan in nature, seeking to resolve the impasse on a couple of very important issues that relate to the proper functioning of our federal government. In particular, campaign finance reform and the questions that have been raised by Citizens United, and also congressional term limits. It's very important that the committee, I think, take - it's a novel approach, of joining two Article 5 calls into one document, and I am hopeful that the Senate will not defer action on this, but would rather send this off to committee so that it can be considered properly and try this experiment in innovation with respect to these two issues which have plagued our nation for many, many years. Thank you, Mr. President.

Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc moved the Joint Resolution be **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending the motion by Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford to **REFER** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**.

On motion by Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#93)**

**YEAS:** Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

**NAYS:** Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CHIPMAN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, STEWART

**EXCUSED:** Senators: DUSON, FARRIN, POULIOT, RENY, TIMBERLAKE

17 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc to **TABLE** until Later in Today's Session, pending the motion by Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford to **REFER** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** **PREVAILED**.

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**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**House**

**Ought to Pass**

The Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Improve Road Safety for Waste and Recycling Collection Employees"

H.P. 333 L.D. 528

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.**

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The Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Increase the Allowable Width of a Snowplow"

H.P. 456 L.D. 687

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.**

---

**Ought to Pass As Amended**

The Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Authority of the Public Utilities Commission Regarding Special Rate Contracts"

H.P. 118 L.D. 177

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-36)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-36)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-36) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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The Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Working Waterfront Covenants"

H.P. 369 L.D. 574

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-34)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-34)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-34) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

---

The Committee on **TAXATION** on Resolve, Authorizing the State Tax Assessor to Convey the Interest of the State in Certain Real Estate in the Unorganized Territory

H.P. 10 L.D. 6

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-33)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-33)**.

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-33) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Support Environmental Justice by Requiring Certain Notice Requirements for Whistleblower Protections"

H.P. 586 L.D. 939

Reported that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:

LAWRENCE of York

Representatives:

ZEIGLER of Montville  
BABIN of Fort Fairfield  
BOYLE of Gorham  
DUNPHY of Embden  
FOSTER of Dexter  
PAUL of Winterport  
RUNTE of York  
WARREN of Scarborough

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:

GROHOSKI of Hancock

Representative:

KESSLER of South Portland

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **LAWRENCE** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

On motion by Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#94)**

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BLACK, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, CHIPMAN, GROHOSKI

EXCUSED: Senators: DUSON, FARRIN, POULIOT, RENY, TIMBERLAKE

26 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 4 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **LAWRENCE** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** on Bill "An Act to Increase the Chance of Receiving a Moose Permit for Maine Service Members and Veterans" H.P. 349 L.D. 544

Reported that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senators:  
LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec  
CURRY of Waldo

Representatives:  
LANDRY of Farmington  
CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham  
DILL of Old Town  
DRINKWATER of Milford  
GOLEK of Harpswell  
HEPLER of Woolwich  
MASON of Lisbon  
WOOD of Greene

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass**.

Signed:

Representatives:  
THORNE of Carmel  
WOODSOME of Waterboro

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **LAFOUNTAIN** of Kennebec, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Severance Pay to Cover More Types of Employers and Include More Workers" H.P. 16 L.D. 12

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-35)**.

Signed:

Senators:  
TIPPING of Penobscot  
DAUGHTRY of Cumberland  
POULIOT of Kennebec

Representatives:  
ROEDER of Bangor  
GEIGER of Rockland  
GERE of Kennebunkport  
MALON of Biddeford  
RUSSELL of Verona Island  
SKOLD of Portland

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Representatives:  
BRADSTREET of Vassalboro  
DRINKWATER of Milford  
SOBOLESKI of Phillips

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-35)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-35)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#95)**

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, BRAKEY, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, STEWART

EXCUSED: Senators: DUSON, FARRIN, POULIOT, RENY, TIMBERLAKE

21 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 9 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-35) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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**Senate**

**Ought to Pass As Amended**

Senator BRENNER for the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Update the Responsibilities of the Clean-up and Response Fund Review Board"

S.P. 46 L.D. 74

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-33)**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-33) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

---

Senator BRENNER for the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Increase the Handling Fee for Beverage Containers Reimbursed to Dealers and Redemption Centers"

S.P. 73 L.D. 134

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-34)**.

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-34) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Bill "An Act to Streamline Rulemaking for Revisions to Screening Levels for the Solid Waste Beneficial Use Program"

S.P. 20 L.D. 28

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-31)**.

Signed:

Senators:

BRENNER of Cumberland  
CARNEY of Cumberland  
LYFORD of Penobscot

Representatives:

GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach  
BELL of Yarmouth  
BRIDGEO of Augusta  
CAMPBELL of Orrington  
DOUDERA of Camden  
HOBBS of Wells  
SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico  
SOBOLESKI of Phillips  
WOODSOME of Waterboro

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (S-32)**.

Signed:

Representative:

O'NEIL of Saco

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BRENNER** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-31)** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-31) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.



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

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Limit Public Access to or Dissemination of Electronic Citation Information"

S.P. 15 L.D. 23

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-28).**

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland  
BAILEY of York

Representatives:

MOONEN of Portland  
HAGGAN of Hampden  
KUHN of Falmouth  
LEE of Auburn  
MORIARTY of Cumberland  
POIRIER of Skowhegan  
RECKITT of South Portland  
SHEEHAN of Biddeford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass.**

Signed:

Senator:

LYFORD of Penobscot

Representatives:

ANDREWS of Paris  
HENDERSON of Rumford

(Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Majority **Ought To Pass as Amended Report.**)

Reports **READ.**

Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report.

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Colleagues of the Senate, I just wish to speak briefly on this bill because I think it's so important. What it does is it adapts our laws for a new process that's being used by public safety officials. With the increasing use of electronic summons and complaint processes, and soon-to-be-added electronic warrant systems, we have the situation where confidential personally identifying information goes into a

database on its way to the court system and basically what this legislation does is it protects all Mainers from data mining companies making FOIA requests for that personally identifying information during the brief time that it rests in that database, and what this bill does is it makes that information confidential. It's still a public record when it gets to the courthouse, but it basically protects Mainers from this kind of broad scale harvesting of personally identifying information and I would ask that you support the motion. Thank you.

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED.**

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-28) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

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

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Require the Recording of Grand Jury Proceedings"

S.P. 207 L.D. 453

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-29).**

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland  
BAILEY of York

Representatives:

MOONEN of Portland  
KUHN of Falmouth  
LEE of Auburn  
RECKITT of South Portland  
SHEEHAN of Biddeford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass.**

Signed:

Senator:

LYFORD of Penobscot

Representatives:

ANDREWS of Paris  
HAGGAN of Hampden  
HENDERSON of Rumford  
MORIARTY of Cumberland  
POIRIER of Skowhegan

Reports **READ.**

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **ACCEPTANCE OF EITHER REPORT**.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Improve Access to Civil Legal Services" (EMERGENCY)  
S.P. 235 L.D. 564

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-30)**.

Signed:

Senators:  
CARNEY of Cumberland  
BAILEY of York

Representatives:  
MOONEN of Portland  
KUHN of Falmouth  
LEE of Auburn  
MORIARTY of Cumberland  
RECKITT of South Portland  
SHEEHAN of Biddeford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:  
LYFORD of Penobscot

Representatives:  
ANDREWS of Paris  
HAGGAN of Hampden  
HENDERSON of Rumford  
POIRIER of Skowhegan

(Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Majority **Ought To Pass as Amended Report**.)

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED Report ACCEPTED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-30) **READ and ADOPTED**.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Mr. President. Apologies there. My colleague had her light pressed and I think it just got missed.

So, having voted on the prevailing side, I move to reconsider our actions whereby we adopted Committee Amendment "A".

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair would advise that he did look. There was no light but, that being said, I will definitely. The Senator from Aroostook, Senator Stewart, has asked for reconsideration, having been on the prevailing side. Is this the pleasure of the Senate? It's a vote.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby it **ADOPTED** Committee Amendment "A" (S-30).

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby it **ACCEPTED** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED Report**.

**THE PRESIDENT:** Alright, so we're at the point where the report is before us. If there's a roll call that's wanted.

On motion by Senator **KEIM** of Oxford, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Colleagues of the Senate, I just wish to speak to you about this important bill. LD 564 is an Act to Improve Access to Civil Legal Services. What this legislation does is it increases funding for civil legal services that are used throughout our state to help Mainers with low or no income in a range of civil matters. From helping veterans access benefits they earned through serving our country in the armed forces - and I would just note that Maine is a leader in the nation in providing civil legal services to both Mainers - and actually our resources are used by veterans across the country - as well as to, for example, protecting older Mainers from financial exploitation and other harm. Funding requested in this bill will be distributed to the seven legal services providers through the Civil Legal Services Fund Commission, which is a commission created by our statutes consisting of three persons knowledgeable about the problems of ensuring access to justice in this state, and they determine how to distribute the funds in a manner that will be most efficiently and effectively maintained and enhance access to justice in Maine. If enacted, LD 564 aims to provide \$3.9 million in the first year of this biennium and \$7.8 million in the second year of this biennium, although in reality it will probably go to the Appropriations Table. Maine's civil legal services agencies, I would like to share with you, provide excellent representation to Mainers throughout our state on critical matters that vulnerable families face; including the custody of a child, the loss of a home, essential services for veterans, financial exploitation, domestic violence, unemployment, and food insecurity. We can and must do everything we can to ensure that Maine provides adequate civil legal aid funding to meet the challenges that Mainers throughout our state with no or low-income face and I urge you all to support the pending motion. Thank you.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#96)**

**YEAS:** Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, GROHOSKI, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

**NAYS:** Senators: BLACK, BRAKEY, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, KEIM, LYFORD, STEWART

**EXCUSED:** Senators: DUSON, FARRIN, POULIOT, RENY, TIMBERLAKE

23 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 7 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-30) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

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**SECOND READERS**

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

**House**

Bill "An Act to Designate Maine Irish Heritage Day"  
H.P. 405 L.D. 628

**READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**, in concurrence.

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**Senate**

Bill "An Act to Increase the Statutory Fee for Defensive Driving Courses"

S.P. 22 L.D. 30

**READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Senate As Amended**

Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for Drought Relief and Other Programs Benefiting Maine Farmers"

S.P. 136 L.D. 315  
(C "A" S-27)

Bill "An Act to Support the Maintenance of Historic Fort George in Castine"

S.P. 350 L.D. 791  
(C "A" S-26)

**READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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Bill "An Act Regarding the Authority of Municipalities to Regulate Timber Harvesting"

S.P. 417 L.D. 1048  
(C "A" S-25)

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **PASSAGE TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**.

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**ENACTORS**

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

**Emergency Measure**

An Act to Update References to the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 Contained in the Maine Revised Statutes and Change the Standard Deduction and References in the Dependent Exemption Tax Credit

H.P. 11 L.D. 7  
(C "A" H-27)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

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**Off Record Remarks**

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**Emergency Measure**

An Act to Raise the Cap on Retirement Benefits for State Employees and Teachers to Which a Cost-of-living Adjustment Is Made

H.P. 45 L.D. 70  
(C "A" H-24)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

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**Emergency Measure**

An Act to Make Permanent the Ability of Certain Retailers and Distilleries to Sell Liquor for Off-premises Consumption and Cocktails for On-premises Consumption

S.P. 101 L.D. 201  
(C "A" S-19)

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 28 Members of the Senate, with 2 Senators having voted in the negative, and 28 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 approval.

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**Emergency Measure**

An Act to Provide Electronic Access to Confidential Juror Information

H.P. 213 L.D. 339

This being an Emergency Measure and having received the affirmative vote of 28 Members of the Senate, with 2 Senators having voted in the negative, and 28 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 approval.

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**Emergency Resolve**

Resolve, Directing the Department of Labor to Request a Federal Waiver to Allow Presumptive Work Eligibility for Asylum Seekers

S.P. 419 L.D. 1050  
(C "A" S-18)

Comes from the House, **FAILED FINAL PASSAGE**.

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Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

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On motion by Senator **BRAKEY** of Androscoggin, the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-18)**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **SUSPENDED THE RULES**.

On further motion by same Senator, the Senate **RECONSIDERED** whereby it **ADOPTED** Committee Amendment "A" (S-18) and **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED** the same.

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

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President and colleagues of the Senate. The right to work is as natural and unalienable as any other right that we possess. This legislation before us is the product of collaboration between lawmakers and it would direct the Department of Labor to request a federal waiver to allow presumptive work eligibility for asylum seekers who reside here in the state of Maine. This collaboration between lawmakers has come together despite many disagreements over many of the other questions involved in the immigration debate but, instead of focusing on those questions that divide us, we focused on areas of shared common ground. In the years past, there were fierce arguments in this Chamber over whether asylum seekers should qualify for taxpayer funded welfare programs and that's not the subject of this bill today. I'm sure there're going to be debates in the future around all of that. As far as I can tell, the Speaker of the House, who is the lead co-sponsor on this bill with me, she and I are probably as far apart on that question as any two members of this legislature can be, but that did not stop us from collaborating on this bill. Those disagreements did not stop other members of this Body, including Senator Hickman, Senator Stewart, Senator Keim, and Senator Bennett, from joining on as co-sponsors of this legislation and members of all four caucuses in the legislature from signing on and even received a unanimous report from the Committee on Labor and Housing, a rare moment of agreement between Senator Tipping and myself. However, we got into the situation where we are today. The facts are pretty straight forward. We have a workforce shortage. We also have many asylum seekers residing in Maine who would gladly work available jobs and federal laws standing in the way. For any familiar with the terminology, an asylum seeker is a non-citizen who has requested to remain in America on the grounds that they have been forcibly displaced from their home country due to war or other factors harming them or their family. Evaluating that request can take many years. If granted asylum, they are authorized to work, apply for a social security card, request permission to travel overseas, petition to bring family members, and qualify for federal welfare benefits. If denies, they are not allowed to remain in the country. In the space between applying and receiving a determination, asylum seekers are caught in a legal limbo that can stretch on for years. They're allowed to remain in the country but they are not eligible for federal welfare benefits. They are prohibited from working for the first six months after they file for asylum and they must renew a work permit

annually afterwards. Additionally, even when filing to renew a work permit on time, federal officers are often backed up with renewal requests and delayed renewals regularly require asylum seekers in Maine to leave jobs that they are already well established and creating disfunction for them and for their employer. Here in Maine, we are one of a handful of states that has responded to this situation by making asylum seekers eligible for state taxpayer funded welfare benefits, primarily for the general assistance program. This policy has always been controversial and only stands today due to a botched pocket veto that I won't go into the history of, but there is some interesting history there all the same, and there were many heated debates around that policy. But even as I chaired the Health and Human Services Committee along side Representative Drew Gattine and former-Representative Patty Hymanson, Republican and Democrat caucuses could all agree on one thing, that the federal prohibition of work just makes everything in this entire situation much worse. Whatever your individual view on broader questions of immigration and welfare eligibility, it is clearly better for society, as a whole, when people are allowed to be in - who are allowed to be in this country are collecting paychecks instead of welfare checks and any policy that would prohibit a man from earning an honest days wage to care for his family and reduce him instead to total dependency on taxpayer funded welfare benefits is an insult to the work ethic America was built upon and the dignity of the human spirit. In those years on Health and Human Services, we discussed several potential solutions, including the possibility of state nullification, just as Maine nullified federal cannabis prohibition, by establishing in state statute that asylum seekers can work in the state of Maine. The flaw in that idea, however, was that asylum seekers ultimate immigration status hangs on a determination from the federal government. No matter what state law says, violations of federal work prohibitions can result in the denial of an asylum application. So, we left those conversations with clear resolution other than a unanimous decision to send a letter to our federal delegation asking them to work on the issue. Half a decade later, I appreciate the work that's been done, but they're still working on the issue. Along with the co-sponsors from all four caucuses, I introduced this bill to give Washington D.C. just another push and a suggested pathway for granting presumptive work eligibility for asylum seekers here in Maine. This bill would do exactly what it says. It would just direct the Department of Labor to request a federal waiver to allow presumptive work eligibility for asylum seekers. If that waiver were granted, it would mean asylum seekers in Maine, instead of being sent to the state welfare office the moment they applied, can instead be directed to a job fair to contribute to the community that they are joining and earn an honest living in the American way. Now, some have questioned whether the federal government will even accept requests for waivers on the work prohibition. I say send the request anyway. Conversation on this legislation in Maine has sparked desire for waivers in other states across the union and the more states demonstrate demand for waivers the more it raises the issue in Congress. Further, passing this legislation would present directly to Washington a federalist solution more politically viable than a one-size fits all change effecting all 50 states. As I understand it, the work prohibitions are driven, at least in part, by concerns in southern states about immediate work eligibility incentivizing illegal border crossings and false asylum applications. From up here in New England, I'm not qualified to tell Arizona or Texas what makes sense in their unique position on the Mexican border. At the

same time, this one-size fits all policy based on the situations of southern states is contributing to economic chaos here in Maine. So, a vote for this legislation simply tells Washington D.C. that Maine wants a waiver to let people work. Thank you for your time and consideration. I hope you join me in passing this legislation today and, furthermore, I request a roll call on the pending motion.

On motion by Senator **BRAKEY** of Androscoggin, supported by a Division of one-fifth of the members present and voting, a Roll Call was ordered.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#97)**

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: None

EXCUSED: Senators: DUSON, FARRIN, POULIOT, RENY, TIMBERLAKE

30 Senators having voted in the affirmative and no Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED, in NON-CONCURRENCE.**

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Acts**

An Act to Repeal the Hospital and Health Care Provider Cooperation Act

H.P. 65 L.D. 97  
(C "A" H-25)

An Act to Ensure Continuity of Care for Pretrial Defendants

S.P. 57 L.D. 118  
(C "A" S-20)

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

H.P. 476 L.D. 707

**PASSED TO BE ENACTED** and, having been signed by the President, were presented by the Secretary to the Governor for approval.

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An Act to Provide Funding for Children's Guardians Ad Litem

H.P. 81 L.D. 113  
(C "A" H-26)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

An Act to Provide Support Services for Military Members  
Transitioning to Civilian Life in Maine

H.P. 170 L.D. 265  
(C "A" H-23)

On motion by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin, placed on the **SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE** pending **ENACTMENT**, in concurrence.

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

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.

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

#### PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

##### House Papers

Bill "An Act to Enhance the Use of Critical Incident Stress Management Teams and to Require Peer Team Support"  
H.P. 1121 L.D. 1742

Bill "An Act to Support Public Health by Protecting Certain Activities Conducted Under Comprehensive Community Drug Checking Initiatives"  
H.P. 1124 L.D. 1745

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 Promote Educational Opportunity Through the Educational Choice Tax Credit Program, Eliminating Certain Restrictions on Charter Schools and Virtual Public Charter Schools, Allowing More Entities to Authorize Charter Schools and Clarifying Educational Policy on Immunization Requirements"  
H.P. 1120 L.D. 1741

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

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

Bill "An Act to Reform the School Budget Referendum Process by Limiting the Circumstances in Which Referenda Occur"  
H.P. 1127 L.D. 1748

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

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

Bill "An Act to Expand the General Assistance Program" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 1111 L.D. 1732

Comes 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 Advance the National HIV/AIDS Strategy in Maine by Broadening HIV Testing"

H.P. 1115 L.D. 1736

Comes 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 Regarding Confidentiality of Juvenile History Record Information"

H.P. 1110 L.D. 1731

Bill "An Act to Safeguard Gender-affirming Health Care"  
H.P. 1114 L.D. 1735

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.

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Bill "An Act to Require Responsible Contracting Practices for Public Construction Projects"

H.P. 1125 L.D. 1746

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.

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Bill "An Act to Clarify the Authority of Municipalities to Regulate Short-term Rentals"

H.P. 1113 L.D. 1734

Bill "An Act to Create Lodging for Legislators"

H.P. 1117 L.D. 1738

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Accountability in Rulemaking by Providing for Legislative Oversight"

H.P. 1123 L.D. 1744

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.

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Bill "An Act to Provide up to \$5,000 in Property Tax Relief to Veterans"

H.P. 1116 L.D. 1737

Bill "An Act to Extend Development District Tax Increment Financing Districts"

H.P. 1118 L.D. 1739

Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Personal Property Tax"

H.P. 1122 L.D. 1743

Bill "An Act to Return the Sales Tax Rate to 5 Percent"

H.P. 1126 L.D. 1747

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.

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**Pursuant to Statute  
Family Law Advisory Commission**

The **Family Law Advisory Commission**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 19-A, section 354, subsection 2 asked leave to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act to Implement Changes to the Laws Relating to Judicial Separation and Divorce Regarding Preliminary Injunctions as Recommended by the Family Law Advisory Commission"

H.P. 1109 L.D. 1730

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Comes from the House, Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

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

**REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218, in concurrence.

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

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Off Record Remarks

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On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **ADJOURNED**, pursuant to the Joint Order, until Tuesday, April 25, 2023, at 10:00 in the morning, or until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, in memory of and lasting tribute to Mark Charles Geiger of Arrowsic.