

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
4th Legislative Day
Tuesday, January 21, 2025

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

Prayer by Nasser and Parivash Rohani, Baha'i Community, Portland.

National Anthem by Michele Gonya, Winslow.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The Journal of Tuesday, January 14, 2025 was read and approved.

SENATE PAPERS

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Permit the Sale of Motor Vehicles on Sundays"

(H.P. 121) (L.D. 188)

REFERRED to the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** in the House on January 14, 2025.

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

The House voted to **INSIST**.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.P. 133)

STATE OF MAINE

CLERK'S OFFICE

2 STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

January 14, 2025

Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

132nd Legislature

Honorable Matthea Daughtry

President of the Senate

132nd Legislature

Dear Mr. Speaker and Madam President:

On January 14, 2025, 2 bills were received by the Clerk of the House.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to the Joint Standing Committee on January 14, 2025, as follows:

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

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, 2025" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 131) (L.D. 209) (Sponsored by Representative GATTINE of Westbrook) (GOVERNOR'S BILL)
Bill "An Act Making Unified Appropriations and Allocations from the General Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and Changing Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2025, June 30, 2026 and June 30, 2027" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 132) (L.D. 210) (Sponsored by Representative GATTINE of Westbrook) (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

S/Darek M. Grant

Secretary of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sent for concurrence.

The Following Communication: (H.P. 160)

STATE OF MAINE

CLERK'S OFFICE

2 STATE HOUSE STATION

AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002

January 16, 2025

Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

132nd Legislature

Honorable Matthea Daughtry

President of the Senate

132nd Legislature

Dear Mr. Speaker and Madam President:

On January 16, 2025, 20 bills were received by the Clerk of the House.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to the Joint Standing Committees on January 16, 2025, as follows:

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Bill "An Act to Protect Minors from Harmful Depictions Generated by Artificial Intelligence" (H.P. 153) (L.D. 230) (Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act to Make School Safer for Students with Epilepsy and Other Seizure Disorders by Requiring Seizure Action Plans and Training in Schools" (H.P. 134) (L.D. 211) (Sponsored by Representative KUHN of Falmouth) (Cosponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland and Representatives: GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, MEYER of Eliot, MITCHELL of Cumberland, MURPHY of Scarborough)

Bill "An Act to Require Schools to Provide Access to Free Condoms for Students in Grades 9 to 12 in the School Nurse's Office" (H.P. 140) (L.D. 217) (Sponsored by Representative DODGE of Belfast) (Cosponsored by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland and Representatives: BOYER of Cape Elizabeth, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, CRAFTS of Newcastle, MCCABE of Lewiston, MURPHY of Scarborough, PLUECKER of Warren, ROEDER of Bangor, STOVER of Boothbay)

Bill "An Act to Make Student Transfer Agreements Renew Automatically Except in Certain Circumstances" (H.P. 141) (L.D. 218) (Sponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield) (Cosponsored by Representative: ARATA of New Gloucester)

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Bill "An Act to Require the Valuation of Energy Produced by Hydropower Dams and Exploration of Alternative Ownership Options Before They Are Removed" (H.P. 135) (L.D. 212) (Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BISHOP of Bucksport, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, Senator: HAGGAN of Penobscot)

Environment and Natural Resources

Bill "An Act to Establish a Take-back and Disposal Program for Firefighting and Fire-suppressing Foam to Which Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Have Been Added" (H.P. 145) (L.D. 222) (Sponsored by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick) (Cosponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, CAMPBELL of Orrington, DOUDERA of Camden, GOLEK of Harpswell, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, STOVER of Boothbay, Senator: TEPLER of Sagadahoc)

Bill "An Act to Allow Coastal Seawalls to Be Raised by up to 2 Feet in Order to Accommodate Predicted Sea Level Rise" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 151) (L.D. 228) (Sponsored by Representative FOLEY of Wells) (Cosponsored by Senator BAILEY of York and Representatives: BLIER of Buxton, CAMPBELL of Orrington, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MASON of Lisbon, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, Senator: MARTIN of Oxford)

Bill "An Act to Update the Solid Waste Management Hierarchy" (H.P. 154) (L.D. 231) (Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington) (Cosponsored by Senator HAGGAN of Penobscot and Representatives: DILL of Old Town, GREENWOOD of Wales, SOBOLESKI of Phillips)

Resolve, Regarding the Operation and Future Capacity of State-owned Landfills (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 158) (L.D. 235) (Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington) (Cosponsored by Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, DILL of Old Town, SOBOLESKI of Phillips)

Health and Human Services

Bill "An Act to Limit Hypodermic Apparatus Exchange Programs to a One-for-one Exchange" (H.P. 142) (L.D. 219) (Sponsored by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford) (Cosponsored by Representative: FREDERICKS of Sanford, Senator: HARRINGTON of York)

Marine Resources

Bill "An Act to Create a For-hire Charter Boat Operator License and to Require Individuals Recreationally Fishing for Halibut in Coastal Waters to Register with the Saltwater Recreational Fishing Registry" (H.P. 137) (L.D. 214) (Sponsored by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich) (Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

State and Local Government

Bill "An Act to Change the Statutory Adjournment Date for the Second Regular Session of the Legislature" (H.P. 139) (L.D. 216) (Sponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield)

Bill "An Act to Provide Legislative Oversight of the Rule-making Petition Process" (H.P. 159) (L.D. 236) (Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington) (Cosponsored by Representatives: SOBOLESKI of Phillips, THORNE of Carmel)

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Address the Effect of Changes to Federal Income Tax Laws on Maine Income Tax Laws" (H.P. 144) (L.D. 221) (Sponsored by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston) (Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Mining Excise Tax Laws" (H.P. 146) (L.D. 223) (Sponsored by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston) (Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Bill "An Act to Reduce Property Taxes and Finance Public School Construction and Education Through a 3 Percent Sales Tax on Hotel and Lodging Place Rentals" (H.P. 148) (L.D. 225) (Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland) (Cosponsored by Senator RAFFERTY of York and Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, CROCKETT of Portland, DODGE of Belfast, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MALON of Biddeford, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MOONEN of Portland, MURPHY of Scarborough)

Bill "An Act to Bring Fairness in Income Taxes to Maine Families by Adjusting the Tax Brackets and Tax Rates" (H.P. 152) (L.D. 229) (Sponsored by Representative MATLACK of St. George) (Cosponsored by Representatives: GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MCCABE of Lewiston, ROEDER of Bangor, SACHS of Freeport)

Transportation

Bill "An Act to Impose a Vehicle Weight Limit on Route 46 in the Town of Eddington" (H.P. 155) (L.D. 232) (Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington) (Cosponsored by Senator HAGGAN of Penobscot)

Veterans and Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act to Increase the Sales Commission of Retailers Selling Lottery Tickets" (H.P. 136) (L.D. 213) (Sponsored by Representative CHAPMAN of Auburn)

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Ranked-choice Voting" (H.P. 157) (L.D. 234) (Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington) (Cosponsored by Senator BRADSTREET of Kennebec and Representatives: GIFFORD of Lincoln, GREENWOOD of Wales, GRIFFIN of Levant, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, STROUT of Harrington)

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

S/Darek M. Grant

Secretary of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sent for concurrence.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 20)

STATE OF MAINE

132ND MAINE LEGISLATURE

January 13, 2025

The Honorable Janet T. Mills

Governor, State of Maine

#1 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Governor Mills:

On behalf of the 132nd Maine Legislature, we would like to invite you to deliver your State of the Budget Address. At your direction, we will call for a Joint Convention of the Legislature on Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the House Chamber. We look forward to coordinating any details necessary to see that your Address is received by the Legislature.

Sincerely,

S/Matthea Elizabeth Larsen Daughtry

President of the Senate

S/Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 21)

**STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL
AND FINANCIAL REGULATION
BUREAU OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
36 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0036**

January 15, 2025

Hon. Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Speaker Fecteau,

Enclosed please find a copy of the Annual Report from the Superintendent of the Bureau of Financial Institutions to the Legislature. This Annual Report contains statistical information for financial institutions doing business in Maine.

If you or your office have any questions regarding the information contained in this Annual Report, the Bureau would be pleased to respond. This Annual Report will also be available in electronic format on the Bureau of Financial Institutions' website at

www.maine.gov/pfr/financialinstitutions/.

Very truly yours,

S/Lloyd P. LaFountain III

Superintendent

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

The Following Communication: (S.C. 26)

**MAINE SENATE
132ND LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

January 14, 2025

Honorable Ryan Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Dear Speaker Fecteau:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A. §158 and Joint Rule 506 of the 132nd Maine Legislature, please be advised that the Senate today confirmed the following nominations:

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services, the Honorable Joan Cohen, Esq. of Portland for appointment as the Commissioner of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation.

Best Regards,

S/Darek M. Grant

Secretary of the Senate

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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

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

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act to Expand the Definition of 'Terrorism' in the Laws Governing the Maine Emergency Management Agency" (H.P. 147) (L.D. 224)

Sponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield.

Submitted by the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Establish the Hope and Inclusion Scholarship Program in Order to Provide Funding for Students Attending Certain Private Schools and Students Receiving Home Instruction"

(H.P. 143) (L.D. 220)

Sponsored by Representative BAGSHAW of Windham.

Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of Cumberland and Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, COLLINS of Sidney, HAGGAN of Hampden, LYMAN of Livermore Falls, SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico, SWALLOW of Houlton, Senators: BRADSTREET of Kennebec, GUERIN of Penobscot.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Biological Males from Participating in School Athletic Programs and Activities Designated for Females When State Funding Is Provided to the School"

(H.P. 156) (L.D. 233)

Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington.

Cosponsored by Senator HAGGAN of Penobscot and Representatives: COLLINS of Sidney, GREENWOOD of Wales, HAGGAN of Hampden, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, STROUT of Harrington, THORNE of Carmel, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle.

Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** suggested.

On motion of Representative MURPHY of Scarborough, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Program to Assist Residents of Large Recovery Residences"

(H.P. 138) (L.D. 215)

Sponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield.

Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Prevent the MaineCare Program from Covering Abortion Services"

(H.P. 162) (L.D. 253)

Sponsored by Representative JAVNER of Chester.
Cosponsored by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot and Representatives: GRIFFIN of Levant, PAUL of Winterport.

Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** suggested.

On motion of Representative MEYER of Eliot, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

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

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Harrington, Representative Strout, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **STROUT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As they're leaving to go to the Senate to be recognized as well, I just wanted to say congratulations to the team. Their school is a half a mile from my house, I've watched these kids all grow up, they do a great job, very good with their academics as well. And I just want to recognize their coach really quick, too; Holly Strout's put a lot into the program. This year, she was named the Maine Principals Association and the National Federation of State High School Association Coach of the Year for volleyball. She starts with the Bold Coast Volleyball Club at sixth and eighth grade, and she also was instrumental in starting the boys' volleyball team in our district that now is becoming like the Downeast Athletic Conference. So, I'm very proud of these kids. The community; it'll be a five-hour trip for them today, round trip, so, thank you all for letting me talk about them a little bit.

Bill "An Act Regarding Liability for Acts of Violence Occurring in the State House or Legislative Space in the Burton M. Cross Building"

(H.P. 150) (L.D. 227)

Sponsored by Representative UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect the Cultural Resources and Historical Heritage of Sears Island in Searsport by Extending Conservation Easement Protections"

(H.P. 149) (L.D. 226)

Sponsored by Representative PAUL of Winterport.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BISHOP of Bucksport, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, STROUT of Harrington, WHITE of Guilford, WHITE of Ellsworth, Senator: GROHOSKI of Hancock.

Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** suggested.

On motion of Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Withdraw from the National Popular Vote Compact"

(H.P. 161) (L.D. 252)

Sponsored by Representative BAGSHAW of Windham.
Cosponsored by Representative FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor and Representatives: ADAMS of Lebanon, COLLINS of Sidney, COOPER of Windham.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

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

ORDERS

On motion of Representative SMITH of Palermo, the following Joint Order: (H.P. 130)

ORDERED, the Senate concurring, that the Joint Rules be amended by amending Joint Rule 208 to read:

Rule 208. Requirements for Drafting.

A request for a bill or resolve filed with the Revisor of Statutes is considered complete when the request is properly titled and accompanied by sufficient instructions, information and data required for its preparation. When a request is not accompanied by sufficient instructions, information or data, the Revisor of Statutes is directed to give written notice of inadequate information to the legislator. Upon receipt of said written notice, the legislator has 5 business days, unless an alternative period is set jointly by the presiding officers, to file adequate information with the Revisor of Statutes, or the request for the bill or resolve will be denied. Drafts prepared by an outside source must be filed in final form by the appropriate cloture date.

~~When directed by the sponsor, the Revisor of Statutes shall prepare a bill or resolve in concept form. The bill or resolve shall contain only an enacting clause and a summary of the proposed legislation and shall not be fully drafted by the Revisor of Statutes. The bill or resolve prepared in this form shall be printed and referred to a committee in the same manner as other legislation and may be reported in fully drafted form by that committee in the same manner as other legislation. Except as otherwise provided in this Joint Rule, this method of drafting legislation is not allowed for legislation submitted by the Governor, by agencies or departments of state government, by study commissions, by joint standing committees or joint select committees or pursuant to law or statute. Any request for a bill or resolve submitted after cloture must state if it is a request for a concept draft. Any committee amendment must be germane to the detailed summary of the concept draft.~~

The Revisor of Statutes shall prepare in concept form a bill submitted pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, chapter 149 that proposes to make unified appropriations and allocations for the expenditures of state government for the biennium or supplemental appropriations and allocations, and shall include an Internet address at which may be found the text of the draft unified budget bill or supplemental budget bill submitted to the Revisor of Statutes by the Governor.

A proposal to adopt a uniform or model act must be prepared in concept form and must include an Internet address at which may be found the text of the proposed uniform or model act.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Palermo, Representative Smith.

Representative **SMITH**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker and Members of the House, the people of Maine think we are hiding something. They think this because of concept drafts; because we have allowed bills to come before a committee without substance and without notice. We must have transparency. It's why our hearings, our committees and this session itself are streaming live today, and it's why all our documents and our calendar is online. We want the people of this State to know what we are doing, and we want them to be able to weigh in on every subject before this Body. However, the use and overuse of concept drafts have taken this transparency away and allowed bills to appear under the cloak of darkness and also be passed without the valuable input of the public.

The people we represent have no clue what we're doing when the concept drafts are used. Take, for instance, last session, when legislation was passed without language even being available even after the day of committee. It was a tragedy of government transparency. From start to finish, the process for that bill was a mess, but I'm here to introduce this Order to completely rid the Legislature of concept drafts. We had previously passed things that would make it so that there were parameters, but I would like to see the entire concept repealed. The changes are not enough to ensure the people of Maine can be prepared to be integral to the legislative process. Not all Mainers have the luxury of being able to only give a three-day notice to their work to take time off to testify. Not all Mainers can interpret a bill and learn of the consequences it will have on their lives in such a short period. We've had our chance to submit bills, we've had our chance to hear from constituents and put forth legislation that they wish to see. Concept drafts should be removed from the legislative process, so, I ask you to pass this Order and bring transparency and trust back to our State. Thank you.

Representative **MOONEN** of Portland moved that the Joint Order be **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **JOINT RULES**.

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

Representative **MOONEN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Colleagues of the House. I agree with a lot of what my colleague just said about the need for transparency. It's certainly something that the previous iteration of the Joint Rules Committee heard and something that the current iteration of the Joint Rules Committee discussed, particularly with regard to concept drafts. We had a unanimous vote in the Joint Rules Committee to put some pretty serious restrictions on the use of concept drafts, to place deadlines by which language has to be available in advance of public hearing so that the public can see what is being proposed in a bill and can testify accordingly. We also had a unanimous vote to require that concept drafts are automatically killed if the sponsors of bills fail to meet those deadlines and provide language with adequate notice for the public. It was a strong first step, it was unanimous in the Committee as well as in this Chamber last week.

This idea is one that was briefly discussed in the Rules Committee, but not at great length and there are certainly other ideas that are pending in the Rules Committee, so, that Committee has more conversations to be had about rules changes, but I think for the time being, we should stand by our unanimous votes of the Committee and of this Chamber last week, give those changes some time to work, and let's see what

other tweaks need to be made as we move forward. So, I ask you to join me in supporting sending this to the Rules Committee for further action. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Representative **GREENWOOD** of Wales **REQUESTED** a roll call on **REFERENCE** to the Joint Select Committee on **JOINT RULES**.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Palermo, Representative Smith.

Representative **SMITH**: Could I pose a question through the Chair?

The SPEAKER: The Member may proceed.

Representative **SMITH**: At what date will the Joint Rules Committee be meeting again?

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Palermo, Representative Smith, has posed a question through the Chair to any Member who wishes to answer. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Moonen.

Representative **MOONEN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to answer the question. A specific date has not been selected. As with all committees, the scheduling of meetings is up to the joint agreement of the Senate and House Chair. I have heard suggested on mic by the Senate Chair that she was considering sometime mid-session. I think that term is open to interpretation; is that March, is that April, I don't know, but that's what I've heard suggested so far. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Reference to the Joint Select Committee on Joint Rules. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 2

YEA - Abdi, Ankeles, Archer, Arford, Beck, Bell, Boyer M, Bridgeo, Bunker, Cloutier, Cluchey, Copeland, Crockett, DeBrito, Dhalac, Dill, Dodge, Doudera, Eaton, Farrin, Friedmann, Frost, Gattine, Geiger, Gere, Golek, Graham, Gramlich, Hasenfus, Hepler, Julia, Kessler, Kuhn, Lee, Lookner, Macias, Malon, Mastraccio, Mathieson, Matlack, McCabe, Meyer, Milliken, Mitchell, Montell, Moonen, Murphy, O'Halloran, Pluecker, Pugh, Rana, Ray, Roberts, Roeder, Rollins, Runte, Sachs, Salisbury, Sargent, Sato, Sayre, Shagoury, Sinclair, Skold, Stover, Supica, Terry, Warren, Webb, Yusuf, Zager, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Adams, Albert, Ardell, Babin, Bagshaw, Bishop, Blier, Boyer D, Campbell, Caruso, Chapman, Cimino, Collamore, Collins, Cooper, Cray, Daigle, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Eder, Faulkingham, Flynn, Foley, Foster, Fredericks, Fredette, Gifford, Greenwood, Griffing, Guerrette, Haggan, Hall, Henderson, Hymes, Jackson, Javner, Lance, Lavigne, Lemelin, Libby, Lyman, Mason, McIntyre, Mingo, Morris, Nutting, Olsen, Perkins, Poirier, Pomerleau, Quint, Rudnicki, Schmearsal-Burgess, Simmons, Smith, Soboleski, Strout, Swallow, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, Wadsworth, White J, White R, Wood P, Wood S.

ABSENT - Arata, Brennan, Carlow, Crafts, Lajoie, Lanigan, Osher, Parry, Paul, Rielly, Walker, Woodsome.

Yes, 72; No, 66; Absent, 12; Vacant, 1; Excused, 0.

72 having voted in the affirmative and 66 voted in the negative, 1 vacancy with 12 being absent, and accordingly the Joint Order was **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **JOINT RULES**.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Change of Committee

Representative MEYER from the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act Concerning the Filing of Marriage Licenses and the Recording of Intentions as Part of the Electronic Vital Records System"

(H.P. 47) (L.D. 83)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Subsequently, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and sent for concurrence.

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

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

Recognizing:

Julie Jones, of Hallowell, a Senior Legislative Analyst with the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, on her retirement from the Maine State Legislature after over four decades of public service. During her tenure with the Legislature, Ms. Jones worked in the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis and the Office of the Revisor of Statutes as well as the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, holding the positions of Legislative Analyst, Principal Analyst and Senior Attorney as well as Senior Legislative Analyst. At the beginning of her career, she worked at the Bureau of Maine's Elderly, Legal Services for the Elderly from 1977 to 1981, when she joined the Legislature's nonpartisan staff. Ms. Jones has worked in every production office in the Legislature and has produced a body of work that is without parallel among the nonpartisan staff. Her dedication to the job, her skill and the breadth and depth of her knowledge will be greatly missed. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 22)

Presented by Representative SHAGOURY of Hallowell.

Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative SHAGOURY of Hallowell, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Hallowell, Representative Shagoury.

Representative **SHAGOURY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I find myself saying words this morning that I thought I'd never hear; Julie Jones has retired. Julie was part of the State House family for over 40 years, and I really can't imagine this place without her. She simply knows, or could find at a drop of a hat, anything to do with taxation policy in Maine. If I ever, as either an aide or a legislator, needed to know something about Maine tax policy, I could go to Julie and she would tell me, and in the kindest possible way, even if it was a somewhat dumb question, as it was sometimes in my case. So, her kindness and her incredible depth of knowledge will be sorely missed in this place. I'd like to thank her for her long years of service to the State House and congratulate her on her retirement. It's been well earned.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from St. George, Representative Matlack.

Representative **MATLACK**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm one of the lucky people; this is my fourth term in Taxation, but it's going to be the first term without Julie. Julie Jones was our stalwart. She was always there. She knew the answer to all of our questions. She was very witty, but she would also shake her head at us. She was the reason I know so much about the Red Book, which is the expenditures for the State of Maine; tax expenditures for the State of Maine. She was great to deal with, she could answer all the questions, most of the time she had the answers already available in case somebody did ask that question, as Mr. Shagoury said. I will really miss her. She was great to work with, you could always count on her to find something for you when you really, really needed it, and I look forward to hearing about what a wonderful retirement that she's having, I hope she finds wonderful places to go and things to do. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Hodgdon, Representative Quint.

Representative **QUINT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just couldn't let this moment go by without also thanking Julie. She was so wonderful when I first walked into Tax Committee last session. I chose to be on Tax Committee because I wanted to help reduce taxes, and so, I had so many questions and not a lot of knowledge, and the two years that I was able to learn from her and to sit under her and let it all seep into me, I'm forever grateful for. She will be greatly missed, so, thank you, Julie.

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

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

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Falmouth, Representative Kuhn, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **KUHN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Esteemed Colleagues. I'm very pleased to welcome Paralympic champion cyclist Clara Brown and her family to the Chamber today. I've known Clara for many years, and I was delighted to deliver a Legislative Sentiment to her earlier this morning that was previously adopted in the 131st.

Growing up in Falmouth, Clara was a strong student and an avid athlete, a competitive gymnast and an accomplished skier and runner. Back in 2008, when Clara was 12, she suffered a serious accident at a gymnastics practice, which left her paralyzed. At that time, her road to recovery appeared daunting, to say the least, but Clara and her family; and I'll note her amazing parents are here today; committed to years of grueling effort, progress and setbacks, surgeries and rehabilitation. Through her grit and determination and supportive family and friends, Clara not only overcame the obstacles her injury caused, but went on to become truly an elite athlete by any measure. Today, Clara is a three-time World Champion Cyclist. Most recently, last summer, she won a bronze medal in the women's road race C1-3 event in Paris.

Clara has not yet decided if she will compete again in the 2028 Paralympics in LA, but she is well on her way to achieving another dream; becoming a commercial pilot like her dad. I found a quote from Clara talking about her dream of a career in aviation and it seemed to sum up a lot of things about her and I wanted to share it. She said, "it sounds *cliché*, but soaring really

has been a part of my life. I've always wanted to reach great heights. I've always loved the feeling of pushing myself and feeling limitless and free." Clara's strength, resilience, excellence and joy have been an inspiration for me and no doubt so many others. In recognition of the great pride Clara has brought to her hometown of Falmouth and the great State of Maine, it's my pleasure to congratulate and recognize her here today. Thank you.

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from East Machias, Representative Tuell.

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Request permission to speak on the record?

The SPEAKER: The Representative from East Machias, Representative Tuell, has requested unanimous consent to address the House on the record. Hearing no objection, it is so ordered.

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, usually when someone requests to speak on the record, it is to say how they would've voted had they been present, to voice their displeasure over a bill or policy, to draw attention to an issue dear to their heart. But today, as we are about to scatter in 150 directions to committees, lunch meetings, have conversations about the work that is important to us, I ask for an entirely different reason that we do so and pause as we began by beseeching our Creator for the things that really matter.

About a week and a half ago, two-year-old Isaac Hall, a seemingly healthy, happy toddler, with a love of toy trucks and a strong family bigger than Washington County, was diagnosed with leukemia. Like many Downeast families, Isaac's parents, Andrew and Brandee Hall, who are everyday people trying to make a go of it. Brandee recently took a job as a school nurse, while Andrew, known to many as Sal, is a commercial fisherman and bait dealer. Some of you may even know the family through our former colleague and friend, Robert Alley, who served here from the 127th through the 130th. Brandee is his granddaughter, and her and Sal's son, Isaac, is his great-grandson.

I mentioned earlier how Isaac has a family bigger than Washington County. When you are born into the Alley and Hall families, that couldn't be more true. But even that pales in comparison to what has unfolded over the past week. Within hours of Isaac's diagnosis becoming public, the community had raised thousands of dollars online for his care. Upward of \$25,000 in less than a day and north of \$60,000 in a week. People who never donate to online fundraisers were dropping hundreds, and in some cases, thousands, to help Brandee, Sal and Isaac through this harrowing time. It didn't stop there. Isaac's aunt, Sarah Hall, organized a fundraiser at her new dog grooming business. A Jonesporter invited community members to join him on a Sunday morning walk-a-thon this past weekend, when it was none too warm. All the schools in Jonesport and Machias areas went blue, as I am today, for Isaac as a show of solidarity last Thursday. T-shirts bearing the mantra "Fight Like Isaac" and "Isaac Strong" have become commonplace and numerous benefit suppers, cornhole tournaments, auctions and such are in the works. In short, the outpouring has been nothing short of spectacular. Why? Because Downeast people look out for their own.

Brandee and Sal are generous, community-minded people with a heart for children. I was told last week that Sal, while on a bait delivery, made a generous donation to a school fundraiser well outside of our area. And during the height of everything going on with their own son, the Halls made a donation to another local family whose relative is fighting breast cancer.

Isaac will have a long battle ahead of him. He has a strong, courageous family behind him and a community in his corner. He has doctors working to give him the best care possible and, according to his Aunt Renee, he has somebody else; the ultimate physician, if you will; our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. While the money, fundraisers and outpouring of support goes a long way, prayer is at the heart of all of this. Isaac's family is drawing on the Lord's strength, praying for him, praying that their needs are met and getting through the best they can.

As we go about our work today, whether we are going to committee or a meeting, or gathering with friends and colleagues at the State House to talk over the issues that are important to us, may we all take a few quiet moments and pray for Isaac and the entire Hall family. Lastly, if you are led to give, there is a fund set up online and a fund at Machias Savings Bank, which is accepting donations of any amount. May we all; Democrat, Republican and Independent; join together in wishing Isaac a speedy recovery and say with one voice that we are Isaac Strong. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Harrington, Representative Strout, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **STROUT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just wanted to kind of go with Representative Tuell and ask that everybody here keep their thoughts with the Downeast community; sorry, this is emotional.

Saturday, a boat was reported missing from coming to port. Their port is South Addison, and on board was Chet Barrett and son Aaron. Melanie and Chet have been married for 36 years, and Aaron is their only son. The Coast Guard, Marine Patrol and local fishermen began the search and have covered over 900 miles of the rugged coast. Yesterday, local fishermen and Chet's nephew were able to find something located in about 160 feet of water. The Coast Guard called off any recovery efforts due to the safety of all involved; however, Marine Patrol is going to supervise, when they look today, to get further into finding what that object may be.

So, as you guys know, my son is a fisherman, and like every fishing community, this is the worst nightmare that you guys can receive. So, when we think about Downeast Maine, think about the community and what these guys and girls do to go to work every day and bring us the commodities that we get. So, I would just ask you if you could just keep them in your thoughts and send well wishes and hope for the best. Thank you.

The following items were taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 119)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, January 28, 2025, at 10:00 in the morning, or until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, respectively.

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **PASSED**.

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (S.P. 114)

**MAINE SENATE
132ND LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

January 16, 2025

Hon. Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry

President of the Senate

132nd Legislature

Hon. Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

132nd Legislature

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker:

On January 16, 2025, 7 bills were received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to the Joint Standing Committees on January 16, 2025, as follows:

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission to Study Emergency Medical Services in the State" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 111) (L.D. 245) (Sponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative SALISBURY of Westbrook)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act to Extend the Maximum Time Period for Certain School Construction Bonds" (S.P. 108) (L.D. 242) (Sponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative MITCHELL of Cumberland and Representative GRAHAM of North Yarmouth)

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Public Utilities Commission to Approve Rate Adjustments for Low-income Water Utility Ratepayers" (S.P. 107) (L.D. 241) (Sponsored by Senator LAWRENCE of York)

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Bill "An Act to Allow Retail Pharmacies to Operate Remote Dispensing Sites in Rural Areas" (S.P. 105) (L.D. 239) (Sponsored by Senator FARRIN of Somerset) (Cosponsored by Senator: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, SALISBURY of Westbrook, ARFORD of Brunswick)

Labor

Bill "An Act to Create Consistency in Retirement Service Benefits Deferral Under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System" (S.P. 106) (L.D. 240) (Sponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec)

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Increase the Percentage of Funds Provided to Municipalities Through State-Municipal Revenue Sharing" (S.P. 103) (L.D. 237) (Sponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Senator: GROHOSKI of Hancock)

Transportation

Resolve, to Name a Railroad Crossing in Wiscasset the James Weldon Johnson Crossing (S.P. 109) (L.D. 243) (Sponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland)

Sincerely,

S/Darek M. Grant

Secretary of the Senate

S/Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

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

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

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Resolution: (S.P. 121)

JOINT RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

WHEREAS, January 20, 2025 marks the national and state holiday in honor of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., commemorating his birth on January 15, 1929; and

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a Baptist minister who advocated the furtherance of civil and human rights for all Americans through nonviolence; and

WHEREAS, this man of great moral conviction and spirit showed this country a dream of "an oasis of freedom and justice"; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King, a model of an American patriot, provided the nation with one of the most prophetic and influential voices in our history; and

WHEREAS, for his tireless work to ensure equality and justice through nonviolence, Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, a high and honorable distinction, in 1964; and

WHEREAS, his eloquence, his perseverance and his faith moved mountains and brought about systemic legal and social changes; and

WHEREAS, the life of Dr. King, which ended so tragically on April 4, 1968, is a shining example to Americans and citizens of the world of uncompromising dedication to the highest ideals of freedom, justice and equality; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King was the first African American to be honored with a memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. with the dedication of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in West Potomac Park in 2011; and

WHEREAS, in Maine, the Honorable Gerald E. Talbot of Portland submitted legislation in 1975 to create a day commemorating Dr. King prior to the federal legislation creating the holiday; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to acknowledge the extraordinary life and works of this teacher, reformer and humanitarian, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and pause in our deliberations to recognize and commemorate the occasion of his birth.

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

READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Abdi.

Representative **ABDI**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the pending Joint Resolution before us. The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., stands as one of the most transformative civil rights leaders in our nation's history. For many of us privileged to serve in the Maine Legislature, Dr. King's unwavering commitment to nonviolence, racial justice and economic equity has served as a beacon of inspiration and a guiding light for our work in this State. His message resonates today as powerful as ever. It reminds us that progress is neither inevitable nor guaranteed; it requires action, courage and unity.

Just yesterday, I had the privilege of speaking with students and community members at Colby College, where I reflected on Dr. King's enduring wisdom. I shared his words: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things

that matter." Let us heed his call to action. Let us honor his legacy not only with words, but with our deeds. Here in Maine, we have the opportunity and the responsibility to continue to strive for equity, justice and opportunity for all. I'm committed to carrying forward his work in this Chamber, and I invite each of you to join me. Together, let us see his dream through. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Winter Harbor, Representative Faulkingham.

Representative **FAULKINGHAM**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm thankful for this Resolution today. As many of you who have been around for my four terms know that I've spoken many times about Martin Luther King, and I consider him a personal hero of mine and a great hero of this nation. I just want to drop one of his most famous quotes, and my favorite quote that he has: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, by the content of their character."

I think it was notable that yesterday, on Martin Luther King Day, that we had the inauguration of Donald J. Trump, and he made specific notice of Martin Luther King yesterday, and I would sort of paraphrase the President's words and say to this Body that, in honor of Dr. King, I would ask that we join together in working towards his goal of a merit-based society and leave policies like segregation and race quotas in the past, where they belong. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Kennebunk, Representative Sayre.

Representative **SAYRE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'd like to also speak briefly in honor of the birthday of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King. As we have heard before in this Chamber, some Americans embrace a version of Dr. King that reduces his legacy to one sentence in his "I Have a Dream" speech. That one day, on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood. It's a beautiful and compelling sentiment, much to be admired and aspired to, but to stop there diminishes the man and dilutes the message. The pursuit of justice aims for this vision of harmony, but the hard work to get there remains unfinished.

Some in power today, Mr. Speaker, argue that ending racial injustice can be achieved by making it illegal to mention it. But I contend that it is the height of folly to suggest that we can end problems by ignoring them, as if by falling silent about racism, poverty, inequity, they will just magically disappear one day. But this is how some choose to whitewash Dr. King's legacy, as if this great Maine black bear of a man, this passionate, nonviolent warrior for justice was just some cuddly Pooh Bear preaching personal kindness.

Mr. Speaker, if I may, I would like to widen our lens on Dr. King and his legacy by sharing a brief portion of his 1967 speech "Beyond Vietnam." In the heart of the speech, Dr. King declares that "we as a nation must undergo a radical revolution of values. We must rapidly begin the shift from a thing-oriented society to a person-oriented society. When machines and computers, profit motives and property rights, are considered more important than people, the giant triplets of racism, extreme materialism and militarism are incapable of being conquered. A true revolution of values," he said, "will soon cause us to question the fairness and justice of many of our past and present policies. On the one hand, we are called to play the Good Samaritan on life's roadside, but that will only be an initial act. One day, we must come to see that the whole Jericho Road must be transformed so that the men and women will not be constantly beaten and robbed as they make their journey on

life's highway. True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar. It comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring. A true revolution of values will soon look uneasily on the glaring contrast of poverty and wealth."

Dr. King goes on to challenge us, and I quote, "go out into a sometimes hostile world declaring eternal hostility to poverty, racism and militarism. With this powerful commitment, we shall boldly challenge the status quo and unjust mores, and thereby speed the day when;" and he quotes Scripture; "every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain." I pause, Mr. Speaker, to highlight how Dr. King makes plain the work we must do to attain the vision of brotherhood that he calls the beloved community.

And I will close by quoting again, "a genuine revolution of values means in the final analysis that our loyalties must become ecumenical rather than sectional. Every nation must now develop an overriding loyalty to mankind as a whole in order to preserve the best in their individual societies. This call for a worldwide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond one's tribe, race, class and nation is in reality a call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all mankind. This oft misunderstood, oft misinterpreted concept, so readily dismissed by the Nietzsches of the world as a weak and cowardly force, has now become an absolute necessity for the survival of man. When I speak of love, I'm not speaking of some sentimental and weak response, I'm not speaking of that force which is just emotional bosh; I'm speaking of that force which all of the great religions have seen as the supreme unifying principal of life. Love is somehow the key that unlocks the door which leads to ultimate reality. This Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Jewish, Buddhist belief about ultimate reality is beautifully summed up in the First Epistle of St. John," which Dr. King quotes, "if we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and His love is perfected in us." And Dr. King concludes with this admonition; "we can no longer afford to worship the god of hate or bow before the altar of retaliation. The oceans of history are made turbulent by the ever-rising tides of hate, and history is cluttered with the wreckage of nations and individuals that pursued the self-defeating path of hate." Now, let us begin; let us rededicate ourselves to the long and bitter but beautiful struggle for a new world. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Subsequently, the Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Provide Safe, Short-term Housing to Indigent Individuals Recently Released from Correctional Facilities"

(S.P. 110) (L.D. 244)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect Emergency Medical Services Persons' Right to Work in Multiple Health Care Settings" (S.P. 104) (L.D. 238)

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

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

Bill "An Act to Establish the Option of Sentencing Alternatives for Primary Caregivers" (S.P. 112) (L.D. 246)

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

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

Bill "An Act Regarding Recommendations for Changing Place Names in the State" (S.P. 113) (L.D. 247)

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

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

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

Bill "An Act to Rename the Administrator of the Office of Chief Medical Examiner the Director of Medical Examiner Operations" (S.P. 115) (L.D. 248)

Bill "An Act to Update Certain Medical Examiner Fees" (S.P. 116) (L.D. 249)

Bill "An Act Regarding the Disposal of Abandoned Human Remains" (S.P. 117) (L.D. 250)

Bill "An Act to Protect the Confidentiality of Information of Individual Customers of a Public Utility" (S.P. 118) (L.D. 251)

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

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

Bill "An Act to Designate November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month" (S.P. 120) (L.D. 254)

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

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

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

On motion of Representative COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, the House adjourned at 11:19 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 28, 2025, or until the call of the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, respectively, pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 119).