

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
6th Legislative Day
Tuesday, February 4, 2025

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

Prayer by Reverend Dr. Jake Clements, Carmel Union Congregational Church.

National Anthem by Rochelle Stewart, Norridgewock.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The Journal of Tuesday, January 28, 2025 was read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.P. 250)

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

January 30, 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 30, 2025, 62 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 30, 2025, as follows:

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Bill "An Act to Support Investment in Agriculture" (H.P. 199) (L.D. 299) (Sponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren) (Cosponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland)

Bill "An Act to Update the Laws Governing the Administration of the Animal Welfare Advisory Council" (H.P. 208) (L.D. 308) (Sponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren) (Cosponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland and Representatives: COOPER of Windham, CRAY of Palmyra, DILL of Old Town, FROST of Belgrade, GUERRETTE of Caribou, HALL of Wilton, HEPLER of Woolwich)

Bill "An Act to Improve Efficiency of Meat and Poultry Processing Facilities by Requiring the Designation of State Inspectors as Essential" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 211) (L.D. 311) (Sponsored by Representative FOSTER of Dexter) (Cosponsored by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot and Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, CRAY of Palmyra, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, GUERRETTE of Caribou, HALL of Wilton, QUINT of Hodgdon, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, Senator: HICKMAN of Kennebec)

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Bill "An Act to Employ Mental Health Personnel Within the Maine State Police" (H.P. 198) (L.D. 298) (Sponsored by Representative UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle) (Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook and Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, MCINTYRE of Lowell)

Bill "An Act to Repeal the Law Prohibiting Unauthorized Paramilitary Training" (H.P. 203) (L.D. 303) (Sponsored by Representative WHITE of Guilford) (Cosponsored by Senator HAGGAN of Penobscot and Representatives: BABIN of Fort Fairfield, CHAPMAN of Auburn, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, HENDERSON of Rumford, HYMES of Waldo, LEMELIN of Chelsea, LIBBY of Auburn, THORNE of Carmel)

Bill "An Act to Stabilize Rural Maine Emergency Medical Services Departments" (H.P. 206) (L.D. 306) (Sponsored by Representative WADSWORTH of Hiram)

Resolve, to Create an Advisory Council to Oversee the Review and Technical Revision of the Maine Criminal Code and Other Statutes Establishing Criminal Offenses (H.P. 230) (L.D. 330) (Sponsored by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill) (Cosponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland and Representatives: BOYER of Poland, LIBBY of Auburn)

Bill "An Act Regarding County Jails" (H.P. 233) (L.D. 333) (Sponsored by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill)

Bill "An Act Regarding County Jail Funding" (H.P. 234) (L.D. 334) (Sponsored by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act Regarding Education" (H.P. 195) (L.D. 295) (Sponsored by Representative MURPHY of Scarborough) (Cosponsored by Senator RAFFERTY of York)

Bill "An Act to Add a Personal Finance Course to the State Graduation Requirements in High Schools" (H.P. 215) (L.D. 315) (Sponsored by Representative CROCKETT of Portland) (Cosponsored by Representatives: ARCHER of Saco, BELL of Yarmouth, BRIDGEO of Augusta, CARLOW of Buxton, LYMAN of Livermore Falls, MONTELL of Gardiner, ROLLINS of Augusta)

Bill "An Act Regarding School Funding and General Purpose Aid for Local Schools" (H.P. 218) (L.D. 318) (Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland)

Bill "An Act to Promote Student Attendance in Schools by Requiring the Commissioner of Education to Implement School Attendance Best Practices" (H.P. 222) (L.D. 322) (Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland) (Cosponsored by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin and Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DODGE of Belfast, GATTINE of Westbrook, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MURPHY of Scarborough, SARGENT of York, STOVER of Boothbay, Senator: RENY of Lincoln)

Bill "An Act to Fund Staff Support for the State Board of Education" (H.P. 223) (L.D. 323) (Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland) (Cosponsored by Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DODGE of Belfast, GATTINE of Westbrook, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, MURPHY of Scarborough, SARGENT of York, STOVER of Boothbay)

Bill "An Act to Increase Reading Proficiency in Public Schools" (H.P. 224) (L.D. 324) (Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland)

Resolve, to Provide Funds to the Maine Indian Education School District to Develop a Wabanaki-centered Curriculum (H.P. 239) (L.D. 339) (Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland) (Cosponsored by Representatives: DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, DODGE of Belfast, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, LOOKNER of Portland, MURPHY of Scarborough, SACHS of Freeport, SARGENT of York)

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Debt Limit of the Boothbay Region Water District" (H.P. 193) (L.D. 293) (Sponsored by Representative STOVER of Boothbay) (Cosponsored by Senator RENY of Lincoln)

Resolve, to Direct the Public Utilities Commission to Study Expanding the Use of Hydroelectric Power and the Development of a Geothermal Power Plant in the State (H.P. 200) (L.D. 300) (Sponsored by Representative MCINTYRE of Lowell) (Cosponsored by Representative COLLINS of Sidney)
 Bill "An Act to Allow the Public Utilities Commission to Establish Performance-based Metrics and Rate-adjustment Mechanisms for a Public Utility in Any Proceeding" (H.P. 201) (L.D. 301) (Sponsored by Representative SACHS of Freeport) (Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)
 Bill "An Act Regarding Energy, Utilities and Technology" (H.P. 207) (L.D. 307) (Sponsored by Representative SACHS of Freeport)

Bill "An Act to Include Nuclear Power in the State's Renewable Portfolio Standard" (H.P. 242) (L.D. 342) (Sponsored by Representative PAUL of Winterport) (Cosponsored by Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, FOSTER of Dexter, MCINTYRE of Lowell, WADSWORTH of Hiram, WARREN of Scarborough, Senator: HARRINGTON of York)

Bill "An Act to Direct the Public Utilities Commission to Seek Informational Bids Regarding Small Modular Nuclear Reactors in the State" (H.P. 243) (L.D. 343) (Sponsored by Representative PAUL of Winterport) (Cosponsored by Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, CAMPBELL of Orrington, DRINKWATER of Milford, FOSTER of Dexter, HYMES of Waldo, MCINTYRE of Lowell, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, Senator: HARRINGTON of York)

Environment and Natural Resources

Bill "An Act to Appropriate Funds to the Department of Environmental Protection, Lake Water Quality Restoration and Protection Fund" (H.P. 196) (L.D. 296) (Sponsored by Representative BRIDGEO of Augusta) (Cosponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc and Representatives: BELL of Yarmouth, CAMPBELL of Orrington, DOUDERA of Camden, DUCHARME of Madison, RIELLY of Westbrook, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, STOVER of Boothbay, WOODSOME of Waterboro)
 Bill "An Act Regarding the Management of Oversized Bulky Waste from Wastewater Treatment Plants" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 197) (L.D. 297) (Sponsored by Representative BRIDGEO of Augusta) (Cosponsored by Representative SOBOLESKI of Phillips)

Bill "An Act to Enact the Safe Cosmetics Act" (H.P. 217) (L.D. 317) (Sponsored by Representative WARREN of Scarborough) (Cosponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, RANA of Bangor)

Health and Human Services

Bill "An Act to Provide Additional Funding to Support In-home Personal Support Services for Qualified Senior Citizens" (H.P. 227) (L.D. 327) (Sponsored by Representative BRIDGEO of Augusta) (Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, MINGO of Calais, Senators: BRENNER of Cumberland, MOORE of Washington)
 Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Ensure Timely Reimbursement Under MaineCare Regarding Hospital Cost Reports (H.P. 231) (L.D. 331) (Sponsored by Representative DRINKWATER of Milford) (Cosponsored by Senator BERNARD of Aroostook and Representatives: COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, DUCHARME of Madison, FOLEY of Wells, HAGGAN of Hampden, HALL of Wilton, MASON of Lisbon, POIRIER of Skowhegan, QUINT of Hodgdon)

Bill "An Act to Help Child Care Providers by Requiring Recipients of Benefits to Pay the Difference Between the Amount Reimbursed and the Amount Charged" (H.P. 246) (L.D. 346) (Sponsored by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill) (Cosponsored by Representatives: CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, CRAFTS of Newcastle, HASENFUS of Readfield, JULIA of Waterville, LEE of Auburn)

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 100: Enforcement Procedures, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 210) (L.D. 310) (Submitted by the Maine Health Data Organization pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 8072.)

Bill "An Act to Establish Consumer Protections Regarding Small Dollar Loans" (H.P. 214) (L.D. 314) (Sponsored by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford) (Cosponsored by Representatives: CROCKETT of Portland, FLYNN of Albion, FOLEY of Wells, MORRIS of Turner, OLSEN of Raymond, Senator: HAGGAN of Penobscot)

Bill "An Act to Repeal the Law Establishing the Maine Retirement Savings Board" (H.P. 244) (L.D. 344) (Sponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner) (Cosponsored by Representatives: FLYNN of Albion, LANCE of Paris, LIBBY of Auburn, PAUL of Winterport, QUINT of Hodgdon, SMITH of Palermo, SWALLOW of Houlton, Senator: HAGGAN of Penobscot)

Housing and Economic Development

Bill "An Act to Implement the Automotive Right to Repair Working Group Recommendations" (H.P. 192) (L.D. 292) (Sponsored by Representative COLLAMORE of Pittsfield) (Cosponsored by Representative: ROBERTS of South Berwick)
 Bill "An Act to Allow Residential Housing on Church Property Located in Commercial Zones" (H.P. 219) (L.D. 319) (Sponsored by Representative GERE of Kennebunkport)

Bill "An Act to Repeal the Sunday Amateur Sports Law, the Law Allowing Municipalities to Permit the Operation of Movie Theaters on Sundays and the Law Imposing a Fine or Imprisonment for Playing Games and Sports with Admission Charges on Memorial Day" (H.P. 237) (L.D. 337) (Sponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner) (Cosponsored by Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, BOYER of Poland, LANCE of Paris, LIBBY of Auburn)

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

Bill "An Act to Amend the Definition of 'Oversized ATV' to Increase the Minimum Weight Requirement" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 241) (L.D. 341) (Sponsored by Representative GUERRETTE of Caribou) (Cosponsored by Representative JACKSON of Oxford and Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, BABIN of Fort Fairfield, COOPER of Windham, DAIGLE of Fort Kent, DRINKWATER of Milford, FREDERICKS of Sanford, HENDERSON of Rumford, THORNE of Carmel)

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Establish Mandatory Minimum Sentences for Gross Sexual Assaults Against Children and Aggravated Sex Trafficking of Children" (H.P. 232) (L.D. 332) (Sponsored by Representative GREENWOOD of Wales) (Cosponsored by Senator BICKFORD of Androscoggin and Representatives: CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, HENDERSON of Rumford, LAVIGNE of Berwick, POIRIER of Skowhegan, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, THORNE of Carmel, WHITE of Guilford, Senator: HARRINGTON of York)

Bill "An Act to Safeguard Reproductive Rights" (H.P. 235) (L.D. 335) (Sponsored by Representative KUHN of Falmouth)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Size and Balance of Jury Pools" (H.P. 238) (L.D. 338) (Sponsored by Representative LEE of Auburn) (Cosponsored by Senator BAILEY of York and Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, DHALAC of South Portland, HENDERSON of Rumford, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, POIRIER of Skowhegan, SATO of Gorham, SINCLAIR of Bath)

Bill "An Act Regarding Speedy Trials" (H.P. 240) (L.D. 340) (Sponsored by Representative MOONEN of Portland) (Cosponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland and Representatives: Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, KUHN of Falmouth, LEE of Auburn, PUGH of Portland, SATO of Gorham, SINCLAIR of Bath, Senator: TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland)

Labor

Bill "An Act Requiring the State to Pay a Retired State Employee's or Retired Teacher's Premium for Medicare Part B Under Medicare Advantage" (H.P. 228) (L.D. 328) (Sponsored by Representative SHAGOURY of Hallowell) (Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and Representatives: BECK of South Portland, BRIDGEO of Augusta, DODGE of Belfast, HASENFUS of Readfield, MONTELL of Gardiner, ROLLINS of Augusta, SKOLD of Portland)

Marine Resources

Bill "An Act Related to the Disbursement of Revenue Generated from the Harvesting of River Herring" (H.P. 225) (L.D. 325) (Sponsored by Representative BRIDGEO of Augusta) (Cosponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot and Representatives: CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, DILL of Old Town, RIELLY of Westbrook)

Bill "An Act to Change the Waiting List System for Commercial Lobster and Crab Fishing Licenses" (H.P. 236) (L.D. 336) (Sponsored by Representative BAGSHAW of Windham) (Cosponsored by Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, GERE of Kennebunkport, GIFFORD of Lincoln, LYMAN of Livermore Falls, THORNE of Carmel)

State and Local Government

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Create Equity in State Senate Representation (H.P. 216) (L.D. 316) (Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington) (BY REQUEST) (Cosponsored by Representatives: DRINKWATER of Milford, GIFFORD of Lincoln, GRIFFIN of Levant, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, STROUT of Harrington)

Bill "An Act to Make May Progressive Supranuclear Palsy Month" (H.P. 221) (L.D. 321) (Sponsored by Representative DUCHARME of Madison) (BY REQUEST)

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Make Technical Changes to Maine's Tax Laws" (H.P. 188) (L.D. 288) (Sponsored by Representative CLOUTIER of Lewiston) (Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Lodging Tax on Campground Sites and Revert to Using the Current Sales Tax" (H.P. 191) (L.D. 291) (Sponsored by Representative POIRIER of Skowhegan) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BOYER of Poland, COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, GIFFORD of Lincoln, GREENWOOD of Wales, MORRIS of Turner, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle)

Bill "An Act to Expand Municipal Volunteer Program Eligibility Requirements in the Municipal Property Tax Assistance Laws" (H.P. 194) (L.D. 294) (Sponsored by Representative BUNKER of Farmington)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Property Tax Exemption Provided to Individuals Who Are Legally Blind" (H.P. 226) (L.D. 326) (Sponsored by Representative BRIDGEO of Augusta) (Cosponsored by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland and Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, BRENNAN of Portland, LAJOIE of Lewiston, LEE of Auburn, ROLLINS of Augusta)

Transportation

Resolve, to Rename a Bridge in Bingham the Barry A. DeLong Bridge (H.P. 189) (L.D. 289) (Sponsored by Representative DUCHARME of Madison) (Cosponsored by Senator FARRIN of Somerset and Representatives: CARUSO of Caratunk, POIRIER of Skowhegan, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle, Senator: BLACK of Franklin)

Bill "An Act to Remit 15 Percent of the Fine for a Violation of the Motor Vehicle Laws to the Municipality in Which the Violation Occurred" (H.P. 190) (L.D. 290) (Sponsored by Representative BLIER of Buxton) (Cosponsored by Representatives: CARLOW of Buxton, DUCHARME of Madison)

Bill "An Act Regarding the Department of Transportation" (H.P. 204) (L.D. 304) (Sponsored by Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle)

Bill "An Act Regarding Transportation in Maine" (H.P. 205) (L.D. 305) (Sponsored by Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle)

Bill "An Act Regarding the Rates of Speed at Which School Buses Travel" (H.P. 212) (L.D. 312) (Sponsored by Representative SWALLOW of Houlton) (Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook)

Bill "An Act to Repeal Certain Motor Vehicle Inspection Requirements" (H.P. 220) (L.D. 320) (Sponsored by Representative FREDERICKS of Sanford) (Cosponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin and Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, DAIGLE of Fort Kent, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, GUERRETTE of Caribou, LAVIGNE of Berwick, PAUL of Winterport)

Bill "An Act to Increase the Fine for Passing a Stopped School Bus" (H.P. 229) (L.D. 329) (Sponsored by Representative CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham) (Cosponsored by Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, BRIDGEO of Augusta, DHALAC of South Portland, LEE of Auburn, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill)

Resolve, to Rename a Bridge in the Town of Roque Bluffs the Hope Bridge (H.P. 245) (L.D. 345) (Sponsored by Representative STROUT of Harrington) (Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington)

Resolve, to Study the Effect of High-intensity Headlights on Drivers (H.P. 248) (L.D. 348) (Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington) (Cosponsored by Representatives: RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, STROUT of Harrington)

Veterans and Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act Regarding Maine's Cannabis Industry" (H.P. 202) (L.D. 302) (Sponsored by Representative BOYER of Poland)

Bill "An Act to Allow a Political Party to Determine How That Party's Nominee Is Selected in a Primary Election" (H.P. 209) (L.D. 309) (Sponsored by Representative BOYER of Poland) (Cosponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin and Representatives: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, FOLEY of Wells, MORRIS of Turner, POIRIER of Skowhegan, SMITH of Palermo, THORNE of Carmel, WADSWORTH of Hiram, WHITE of Guilford)

Bill "An Act to Improve Voter Confidence in Electronic Ballot Counting by Requiring Ballots to Contain Unique Identifiers" (H.P. 213) (L.D. 313) (Sponsored by Representative FOSTER of Dexter) (Cosponsored by Senator HAGGAN of Penobscot and Representatives: BABIN of Fort Fairfield, FLYNN of Albion, GUERRETTE of Caribou, MCINTYRE of Lowell, PAUL of Winterport)

Bill "An Act to Provide Qualifying Municipalities a Percentage of Adult Use Cannabis Sales Tax and Excise Tax Revenue" (H.P. 247) (L.D. 347) (Sponsored by Representative LEE of Auburn) (Cosponsored by Representatives: BRIDGE of Augusta, CARUSO of Caratunk, LIBBY of Auburn, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, MURPHY of Scarborough, POIRIER of Skowhegan)

Bill "An Act to Repeal the Laws That Allow Same-day Voter Registration" (H.P. 249) (L.D. 349) (Sponsored by Representative BAGSHAW of Windham) (Cosponsored by Senator BRADSTREET of Kennebec and Representatives: HAGGAN of Hampden, JAVNER of Chester, LIBBY of Auburn, LYMAN of Livermore Falls, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico, Senators: LIBBY of Cumberland, MOORE of Washington)

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. 30)

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

January 27, 2025

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,

Pursuant to my authority under Title 5, MRSA, Part 10-A, Ch. 319, §3371.2-B, I am pleased to appoint the following to serve as members of the House of Representatives to the *Maine Fire Protection Services Commission*, effective immediately:

Representative Michel Lajoie of Lewiston, reappointment;

Representative Stephan Bunker of Farmington; and

Representative Dean Cray of Palmyra.

Should you have any questions regarding these appointments, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

S/Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 31)

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

January 29, 2025

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,

Pursuant to my authority under EO 2, FY 24/25, I am pleased to appoint the following members to serve on the *Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force*, effective immediately.

These members will serve as the two members of the House of Representatives who are from each of the two parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature:

Representative Daniel Sayre of Kennebunk;

Representative Nathan Carlow of Buxton

Should you have any questions regarding these appointments, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

S/Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 32)

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

January 30, 2025

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,

Pursuant to my authority under MRSA Title 5, Part 30, Chapter 623, §24051, I am pleased to appoint the following House members to the *Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council*, effective immediately.

These members will serve as the two members of the House of Representatives who are from each of the two parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature:

Representative Michele Meyer of Eliot; and

Representative Amanda Collamore of Pittsfield, as a reappointment.

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

Sincerely,

S/Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 33)

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

January 31, 2025

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,

Pursuant to my authority under Title 20, Ch. 5, Part 679, Subpart A, §679.110 (b)(2) of federal law, I am pleased to reappoint the Honorable Amy Roeder of Bangor to the *State Workforce Board*, effective immediately.

Representative Roeder will continue to serve on this board as a member of the House of Representatives.

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

Sincerely,

S/Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 34)

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

January 27, 2025

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,

Pursuant to my authority under Title 5 MRSA, Part 8, Chapter 310, §3111, I am pleased to appoint the following to the *Office of New Americans Advisory Council*, effective immediately:

Senator James Libby of Cumberland County, representing a member of the Maine State Senate;

Senator Peggy Rotundo of Androscoggin County, representing a member of the Maine State Senate;

Barbara Stoddard of Portland, representing an adult education provider;

Budagu Makoko of Westbrook, representing a small business;

Hermenegildo Paulo of South Portland, representing a school administrative unit;

Mufalo Chitam of Portland, representing a member of the immigrant community.

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

Sincerely,

S/Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry

President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 35)

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

January 28, 2025

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,

Pursuant to my authority under PL 23, Chapter 643, Part N, I am pleased to appoint Senator Peggy Rotundo to the *Working Group to Recommend any Changes to Eligibility Standards for Expenditures from the Maine Mass Violence Care Fund*, effective immediately.

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

Sincerely,

S/Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry

President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 36)

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

January 28, 2025

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,

Pursuant to my authority under EO 2, FY 24/25, I am pleased to appoint the following to the *Maine Artificial Intelligence Task Force*, effective immediately:

Senator Nicole Grohoski of Hancock County, representing a member of the Senate holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;

Senator Jim Libby of Cumberland County, representing a member of the Senate holding the second-largest number of seats in the Legislature.

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

Sincerely,

S/Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry

President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 56)

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

January 31, 2025

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,

Pursuant to my authority under Title 10 MRSA, Part 1, Chapter 1-B, §21, I am pleased to reappoint the following House members to the *Maine-Island of Ireland Trade Commission*, effective immediately:

Representative Kelly Murphy of Scarborough will continue to serve on this commission as a member of the party holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature;
Representative Steven Foster of Dexter will continue to serve on this commission as a member of the party holding the 2nd largest number of seats in the Legislature.
If you have any questions regarding these appointments, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,
S/Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 57)

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

February 3, 2025
Honorable Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,
Pursuant to my authority under Title 5 MRSA, Part 8, Chapter 310, §3111, I am pleased to reappoint the following to the *Office of New Americans Advisory Council*, effective immediately.
These members will continue to serve as the two members of the House of Representatives who are from each of the two parties holding the largest number of seats in the Legislature:
Representative Flavia DeBrito of Waterville; and
Representative Amy Arata of New Gloucester
If you have any questions regarding these appointments, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,
S/Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 58)

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

February 3, 2025
Honorable Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt,
Pursuant to my authority under Title 5 MRSA, Part 8, Chapter 310, §3111, I am pleased to appoint Fatuma Hussein of Auburn to the *Office of New Americans Advisory Council*, effective immediately.

Ms. Hussein will serve on this advisory council as a member of the immigrant community.
If you have any questions regarding this appointment, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,
S/Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 37)

**LORING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF MAINE
119 WEINMAN ROAD
LIMESTONE, MAINE 04750**

January 23, 2025

Honorable Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Honorable Ryan Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:
Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Loring Development Authority due by February 1, 2025.
Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.
Sincerely,
S/Jonathan M Judkins
President/CEO

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 38)

**MAINE MUNICIPAL BOND BANK
127 COMMUNITY DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330**

January 27, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Honorable Ryan Michael Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:
Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine Municipal Bond Bank due by February 1, 2025.
Please feel free to contact me with any questions or if you need additional information. I can be reached at 622-9386 or by email at Terry@mmbb.com.

Thank you.
Sincerely,
S/Terry Hayes
Executive Director

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 39)

**MAINE HEALTH AND HIGHER
EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY
127 COMMUNITY DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330**

January 27, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry

President of the Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Ryan Michael Fecteau

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine Health and Higher Educational Facilities Authority due by February 1, 2025.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or if you need additional information. I can be reached at 622-1958 or by email at Terry@mhhefa.com.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

S/Terry Hayes

Executive Director

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 40)

**MAINE GOVERNMENTAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY
127 COMMUNITY DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330**

January 27, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry

President of the Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Ryan Michael Fecteau

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority due by February 1, 2025.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or if you need additional information. I can be reached at 622-9386 or by email at Terry@mgfa.com.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

S/Terry Hayes

Executive Director

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 41)

**NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND
PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY**

January 27, 2025

Honorable Matthea Daughtry

President of the Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Ryan Fecteau

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority due by February 1, 2025.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

S/Mr. James Cohen

Chairman

Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority

S/Ms. Patricia Quinn

Executive Director

Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 42)

**MAINE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM
139 CAPITOL STREET
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04332**

January 28, 2025

Honorable Matthea Daughtry

President of the Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Ryan Fecteau

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine Public Employees Retirement System due by February 1, 2025.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

S/Dr. Rebecca M. Wyke

Chief Executive Officer

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 43)
MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY
CASTINE, MAINE 04420

January 28, 2025
Honorable Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Honorable Ryan Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau.
Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine Maritime Academy due by February 1, 2025.
Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.
Thank you.
Sincerely,
S/Alice Herrick
Director of Fiscal Operations for Maine Maritime Academy
READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 44)
MAINE MUNICIPAL AND RURAL ELECTRIFICATION
COOPERATIVE AGENCY

January 28, 2025
Honorable Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Honorable Ryan Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:
Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine Municipal and Rural Electrification Cooperative Agency (MMRECA) due by February 1, 2025.
Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.
Thank you.
Sincerely,
S/Scott M. Hallowell
MMRECA
READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 45)
MAINE STATE HOUSING AUTHORITY
26 EDISON DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330-6046

January 28, 2025
Honorable Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
Honorable Ryan Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:
Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A, Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine State Housing Authority due by February 1, 2025.
Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.
Thank you.
Sincerely,
S/Daniel E. Brennan
Director
READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 46)
MAINE TURNPIKE AUTHORITY
2360 CONGRESS STREET
PORTLAND, ME 04102

January 29, 2025
Honorable Ryan Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Re: An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability and the Government Oversight Committee Regarding Quasi-Independent State Entities
Dear Speaker of the House Fecteau,
Enclosed are the reports required under 5 M.R.S.A. §12023, due February 1, 2024. The reports include: a list of all procurements in 2024 exceeding \$10,000 for which competitive procurement was waived; a list of contributions made in 2024 that exceed \$1,000. Section 12023(2c) requires a description of changes to the written policies and procedures required by Section 12022. There were no changes to the policies and procedures required by this section in 2024, therefore, there is nothing to report.
In 2024, the Maine Turnpike Authority made over \$136 million in payments to approximately 600 vendors. The vast majority of these payments, approximately \$94 million, were for competitively bid products or services or were legally or legislatively required. The Authority sole-sourced approximately \$42 million in 2024. One-half of the sole-sourced amount is attributed to a large paving contract that only one vendor submitted a bid. Most of the remaining sole-sourced products or services were either proprietary in nature or were procured under long-term contracts. As these long-term contracts expire, the Authority will seek competitive bids.
Respectfully,
S/Peter Merfeld
Interim Executive Director

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 47)

**STATE OF MAINE
WORKERS' COMPENSATION BOARD
OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CHAIR
442 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 100
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0027**

January 29, 2025

Honorable Matthea Daughtry

President of the Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Ryan Fecteau

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Annual Report of the Workers' Compensation Board
Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A. §12023(2)

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., §12023, please consider this the
transmittal letter for the required report from the Workers'
Compensation Board due by February 1, 2025.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional
information.

Sincerely,

S/John C. Rohde

Executive Director

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 48)

**SUNRISE COUNTY ECONOMIC COUNCIL
7 AMES WAY
MACHIAS, ME 04654**

January 30, 2025

Honorable Matthea Daughtry

President of the Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Honorable Ryan Fecteau

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to MRSA Title 5, section 12023, the Sunrise County
Economic Council (SCEC) is pleased to submit the 2023-2024
Quasi-Independent State Entities Report to the Legislature on
behalf of the Washington County Development Authority
(WCDA). SCEC is a nonprofit organization that works to create
jobs and prosperity in Washington County; we are also the
economic development arm of the Washington County
government. We provide staff support for the WCDA and are
partnering with the Authority in its effort to redevelop the former
U.S. Navy base in Cutler.

The former U.S. Navy Base in Cutler is comprised of roughly 20
acres and five commercial buildings comprising 75,000 square
feet. The Authority is working to bring these facilities back into
productive use.

In 2023-2024, WCDA procured by competitive bid the services
of Machias Glass works to fit new doors on the Warehouse and
Chapel. The work was complete at a total cost of \$12,858.50.
The Authority also used competitive procurement to find
contractors for general repairs on the Recreation Building, and
the following work has been completed: roof repairs, replacing
broken windows and door, removing overgrown vegetation,
general debris removal inside the building and secured the
building from any leaking. The total cost of all bids related to the
Recreation Building was \$48,239.50.

SCEC's Brownfields Assessment program allocated \$124,000
to fund Phase I & II environment assessments of the former
Administration Building on the Cutler Base.

The Authority made no procurements over \$10,000 for which
competitive procurement was waived. WCDA did not make any
contributions greater than \$1,000 or changes to policies and
procedures in the past year.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns. Thank you.

Sincerely,

S/Charles J. Rudelitch, Esq.

Executive Director

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 49)

MAINE CONNECTIVITY AUTHORITY

January 30, 2025

Honorable Matthea Daughtry

President of the Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Ryan Fecteau

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the
letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine
Connectivity Authority due by February 1, 2025.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional
information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

S/Andrew Butcher

President

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 50)
MAINE TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE
16 MIDDLE STREET, SUITE 201
PORTLAND, ME 04101

January 31, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

The Honorable Ryan Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:
Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine Technology Institute (MTI) due by February 1, 2025. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
S/Brian Whitney
President

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 51)
MAINE'S PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM

January 31, 2025

Honorable Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Ryan Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:
Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the University of Maine System (UMS) due by February 1, 2025 documenting our qualifying solesource procurements and contributions in FY24. UMS is the state's largest driver of educational attainment and economic development. Beyond producing Maine's skilled workforce and research-driven innovation, the System positively impacts the state's economy as one of Maine's largest employers and by purchasing goods and services from Maine businesses or those that employ Mainers. In FY24 alone, UMS invested \$95.4 million directly in the Maine economy through the purchase of goods and services from vendors based in 436 communities from Fort Kent to Kittery.

As it conducts business, our System is committed to ensuring the greatest value for tuition and taxpayers, and transparency and fairness for our vendors. While competitive procurement is our standard, there are legitimate reasons allowed by State law and corresponding UMS policy that the competitive process was waived for the purchases detailed in this report.

If you need any additional information, please contact UMS Chief External & Governmental Affairs Officer Samantha Warren in my office at samantha.warren@maine.edu.

Thank you for your ongoing interest and support of Maine's public universities.

Sincerely,
S/Dannel P. Malloy, Chancellor
University of Maine System

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 52)
FINANCE AUTHORITY OF MAINE
94 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04332

February 1, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:
Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A. §12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Finance Authority of Maine due February 1, 2025.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
S/Carlos R. Mello
Chief Executive Officer

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 53)
MIDCOAST REGIONAL REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
26 EDISON DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330-6046

The Honorable Matthea Daughtry President
Maine Senate

3 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333

The Honorable Ryan Fecteau

Speaker of the House

Maine House of Representatives

2 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

Subject: Government Accountability Report (5 MRSA §12024)

Dear Ms. President and

Mr. Speaker:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority.

MRRA was created in 2006 by the Maine Legislature (5 MRSA §13083-G) as a municipal corporation charged with the responsibility to implement the reuse master plans for Naval Air Station Brunswick (NAS Brunswick) and the Topsham Annex, which closed as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information. Thank you.

Sincerely,
S/ Jeffrey K. Jordan
Deputy Director

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 54)

EFFICIENCY MAINE TRUST

January 29, 2025

Honorable Matthea E. L. Daughtry

President of the Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0002

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section §12023, I am pleased to deliver this the letter of transmittal for the required report from Efficiency Maine Trust due by February 1, 2025.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information. Thank you.

Sincerely,

S/Michael D. Stoddard

Executive Director

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 55)

CHILD DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

January 31, 2025

Honorable Matthea Daughtry

President of the Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Ryan Fecteau

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the CDS Annual Legislative Report due by February 1, 2025.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

S/Dan Hemdal

State Director of Child Development Services

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

The Following Communication: (S.C. 48)

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

January 28, 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 nomination:

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, the Honorable Heather Sanborn, Esq. of Portland for appointment as the Public Advocate.

Best Regards,

S/Darek M. Grant

Secretary of the Senate

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

**PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING
REFERENCE**

Bill "An Act to Move the Natural Areas Program from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and to Amend the Law Governing Administration of the Bureau of Resource Management Within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife"

(H.P. 256) (L.D. 402)

Sponsored by Representative DILL of Old Town.

Submitted by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act to Support Hunger Prevention in Maine"

(H.P. 269) (L.D. 415)

Sponsored by Representative GRAHAM of North Yarmouth.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, EATON of Deer Isle, LEE of Auburn, SHAGOURY of Hallowell, Senators: INGWERSEN of York, RENY of Lincoln.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Confidentiality of Certain Records Belonging to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Related to the Bureau of Forestry"

(H.P. 271) (L.D. 417)

Sponsored by Representative POIRIER of Skowhegan.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BOYER of Poland, CARUSO of Caratunk, DUCHARME of Madison, HENDERSON of Rumford, LEE of Auburn, OSHER of Orono, Senators: HAGGAN of Penobscot, TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland.

Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** suggested and ordered printed.

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Define 'Solitary Confinement' for the Laws Governing Jails and Correctional Facilities"

(H.P. 259) (L.D. 405)

Sponsored by Representative LOOKNER of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec and Representatives: BOYER of Poland, CHAPMAN of Auburn, JULIA of Waterville, LIBBY of Auburn, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, PLUECKER of Warren, SINCLAIR of Bath, Senator: TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Increase the Transparency and Accountability of the Maine Information and Analysis Center"
(H.P. 273) (L.D. 419)

Sponsored by Representative LOOKNER of Portland.
Cosponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland and Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, BOYER of Poland, CHAPMAN of Auburn, HASENFUS of Readfield, LEE of Auburn, LIBBY of Auburn, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, PLUECKER of Warren.

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Barriers to Reentry into the Community After Incarceration by Repealing Certain Driver's License Suspension Provisions"
(H.P. 275) (L.D. 421)

Sponsored by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill.
Cosponsored by Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, BOYER of Poland, CRAFTS of Newcastle, LEE of Auburn, LIBBY of Auburn, SINCLAIR of Bath.

Bill "An Act Regarding Technical Violations"
(H.P. 277) (L.D. 423)

Sponsored by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill.
Bill "An Act Regarding the State Forensic Service"
(H.P. 282) (L.D. 428)

Sponsored by Representative WARREN of Scarborough.
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 Prohibit the Sale or Provision of Self-administered Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Collection Kits"
(H.P. 266) (L.D. 412)

Sponsored by Representative SATO of Gorham.
Cosponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and Representatives: BABIN of Fort Fairfield, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, LAJOIE of Lewiston, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, STOVER of Boothbay, Senators: CYRWAY of Kennebec, DUSON of Cumberland, LAWRENCE of York.

Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** suggested.

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

Bill "An Act to Fund the Carleton Project to Provide Additional Access to a Nontraditional Secondary School"
(H.P. 274) (L.D. 420)

Sponsored by Representative SWALLOW of Houlton.
Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook and Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, DAIGLE of Fort Kent, QUINT of Hodgdon.

Bill "An Act Directing the Department of Education to Develop Pilot Programs to Place Child Care Facilities in Selected School Administrative Units"
(H.P. 291) (L.D. 437)

Sponsored by Representative GOLEK of Harpswell.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DHALAC of South Portland, GATTINE of Westbrook, Senator: RENEY of Lincoln.

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 Lower Energy Costs by Repealing the Law Setting Out the State's Goals for Consumption of Electricity from Renewable Resources"

(H.P. 298) (L.D. 444)
Sponsored by Representative LIBBY of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Representatives: MORRIS of Turner, WADSWORTH of Hiram.

Bill "An Act to Lower Electricity Costs by Repealing the Laws Governing Net Energy Billing"
(H.P. 304) (L.D. 450)

Sponsored by Representative LIBBY of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BISHOP of Bucksport, MORRIS of Turner, WADSWORTH of Hiram.

Bill "An Act to Require Testing of Solar and Wind Energy Developments for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination"
(H.P. 305) (L.D. 451)

Sponsored by Representative PAUL of Winterport.
Cosponsored by Representatives: FOSTER of Dexter, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, WADSWORTH of Hiram, Senator: HARRINGTON of York.

Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.

Resolve, Directing the Department of Public Safety, Office of the State Fire Marshal to Compile a Statewide Inventory of Aqueous Film-forming Foam Concentrate

(H.P. 254) (L.D. 400)
Sponsored by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick.

Cosponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, BELL of Yarmouth, BRIDGEO of Augusta, DOUDERA of Camden, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, OSHER of Orono, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, Senator: TEPLER of Sagadahoc.

Bill "An Act to Support Removal of Overboard Discharge Systems"
(H.P. 255) (L.D. 401)

Sponsored by Representative HEPLER of Woolwich.
Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Use of Aqueous Film-forming Foam at the Former Brunswick Naval Air Station"
(H.P. 261) (L.D. 407)

Sponsored by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick.
Cosponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, BELL of Yarmouth, GOLEK of Harpswell, HEPLER of Woolwich, MACIAS of Topsham, RIELLY of Westbrook, SINCLAIR of Bath, WEBB of Durham.

Bill "An Act to Impose Moratoria on Hydropower Dam Removal and on Water Release from Nonhydropower Dams and to Make Other Changes to the Laws Regulating Such Dams" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 284) (L.D. 430)

Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington.

Cosponsored by Representatives: RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SOBOLESKI of Phillips, STROUT of Harrington.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Track Certain Information Regarding and Seek Federal Reimbursement for Medical Care Provided to Asylum Seekers"

(H.P. 283) (L.D. 429)

Sponsored by Representative DRINKWATER of Milford.

Cosponsored by Senator BERNARD of Aroostook and Representatives: BOYER of Poland, FOLEY of Wells, HAGGAN of Hampden, HALL of Wilton, MASON of Lisbon, POIRIER of Skowhegan, QUINT of Hodgdon, THORNE of Carmel.

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

(H.P. 285) (L.D. 431)

Sponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor.

Cosponsored by Representative: STOVER of Boothbay.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit State Agencies from Promoting the COVID-19 Vaccination to Children"

(H.P. 290) (L.D. 436)

Sponsored by Representative EDER of Waterboro.

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 Enhance the Mobility of Licensed Massage Therapists Across State Lines"

(H.P. 263) (L.D. 409)

Sponsored by Representative EATON of Deer Isle.

Cosponsored by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock and Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, LEE of Auburn, TERRY of Gorham, Senator: RENY of Lincoln.

Bill "An Act to Enact the Dietitian Licensure Compact"

(H.P. 270) (L.D. 416)

Sponsored by Representative MATHIESON of Kittery.

Cosponsored by Representative: CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Establishment of Fees and Fee Caps for Dental Provider Licensing and Permits"

(H.P. 302) (L.D. 448)

Sponsored by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford.

Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect Holders of Distressed Mortgages from Fraud"

(H.P. 257) (L.D. 403)

Sponsored by Representative ANKELES of Brunswick.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, MATHIESON of Kittery.

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

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

Bill "An Act to Require Parental Consent to Withhold Life-sustaining Measures for a Minor or to Comply with a Do-not-resuscitate Order for a Minor"

(H.P. 264) (L.D. 410)

Sponsored by Representative PAUL of Winterport.

Cosponsored by Senator HAGGAN of Penobscot and Representatives: GRIFFIN of Levant, HAGGAN of Hampden, JAVNER of Chester, QUINT of Hodgdon.

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

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

Bill "An Act to Amend the Definition of 'Transient Occupancy' in the Laws Governing the Maine Land Use Planning Commission" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 252) (L.D. 398)

Sponsored by Representative GUERRETTE of Caribou.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ALBERT of Madawaska, BABIN of Fort Fairfield, COOPER of Windham, DAIGLE of Fort Kent, DRINKWATER of Milford, FREDERICKS of Sanford, HENDERSON of Rumford, THORNE of Carmel.

Bill "An Act Regarding Disclosure by Sellers of Residential Real Property of Notices of Shoreland Zoning Ordinance Violations"

(H.P. 267) (L.D. 413)

Sponsored by Representative DUCHARME of Madison.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, BLIER of Buxton, CRAY of Palmyra, POIRIER of Skowhegan, Senator: BERNARD of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Deceptive Pricing"

(H.P. 268) (L.D. 414)

Sponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Mandatory Parking Space Minimums in State and Municipal Building Codes"

(H.P. 281) (L.D. 427)

Sponsored by Representative ROEDER of Bangor.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Automotive Repair Statute"

(H.P. 296) (L.D. 442)

Sponsored by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick.

Cosponsored by Representative: COLLAMORE of Pittsfield.

Bill "An Act to Stimulate Housing Production by Increasing the Threshold Before Participation in the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code Is Mandatory"

(H.P. 299) (L.D. 445)

Sponsored by Representative DUCHARME of Madison.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ARATA of New Gloucester, BLIER of Buxton, COOPER of Windham, CRAY of Palmyra, POIRIER of Skowhegan, Senator: BERNARD of Aroostook.

Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** suggested and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.

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

(H.P. 293) (L.D. 439)

Sponsored by Representative ARDELL of Monticello.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Fish and Wildlife"

(H.P. 295) (L.D. 441)

Sponsored by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick.

Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Law Governing the Disposition of Forfeited Firearms"

(H.P. 265) (L.D. 411)

Sponsored by Representative SACHS of Freeport.

Cosponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland and Representatives: ARFORD of Brunswick, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DOUDERA of Camden, KUHN of Falmouth, LEE of Auburn, MOONEN of Portland, SAYRE of Kennebunk, ZAGER of Portland.

Bill "An Act to Remand Individuals with Pending State Probation Violations to the Department of Corrections Following Initial Proceedings"

(H.P. 272) (L.D. 418)

Sponsored by Representative MCINTYRE of Lowell.

Cosponsored by Senator CYRWAY of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act Concerning the Concealed Carrying of a Handgun by an Individual Who Is 18 Years of Age but Under 21 Years of Age"

(H.P. 278) (L.D. 424)

Sponsored by Representative COLLINS of Sidney.

Cosponsored by Representative POIRIER of Skowhegan and Representatives: FLYNN of Albion, GRIFFIN of Levant, GUERRETTE of Caribou, HAGGAN of Hampden, MCINTYRE of Lowell, SMITH of Palermo, THORNE of Carmel, Senator: HAGGAN of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Conviction Integrity Unit in the Attorney General's Office"

(H.P. 279) (L.D. 425)

Sponsored by Representative MILLIKEN of Blue Hill.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BOYER of Poland, SINCLAIR of Bath, Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, CARNEY of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Protect the Human Rights of Individuals in the State"

(H.P. 280) (L.D. 426)

Sponsored by Representative KUHN of Falmouth.

Bill "An Act to Authorize a Court to Conditionally Discharge Certain Criminal Defendants"

(H.P. 303) (L.D. 449)

Sponsored by Representative SINCLAIR of Bath.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.
Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Allow Unaccompanied and Emancipated Minors to Access Their Vital Records At No Cost"

(H.P. 262) (L.D. 408)

Sponsored by Representative BRENNAN of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CLOUTIER of Lewiston, DODGE of Belfast, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, LOOKNER of Portland, MOONEN of Portland, SACHS of Freeport, YUSUF of Portland.

Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested.

On motion of Representative KUHN of Falmouth, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Repeal the Laws Providing for Paid Family and Medical Leave and to Reimburse Taxpayers" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 260) (L.D. 406)

Sponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner.

Cosponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin and Representatives: CARLOW of Buxton, LANCE of Paris, LIBBY of Auburn, PAUL of Winterport, SMITH of Palermo, WADSWORTH of Hiram, Senators: GUERIN of Penobscot, HAGGAN of Penobscot.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Require the State to Obtain Municipal Approval Before Placing Noncitizens in the Municipality"

(H.P. 276) (L.D. 422)

Sponsored by Representative SWALLOW of Houlton.

Cosponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook and Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, CHAPMAN of Auburn, GREENWOOD of Wales, LANCE of Paris, MORRIS of Turner, QUINT of Hodgdon, SIMMONS of Waldoboro.

Bill "An Act to Authorize the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority to Issue Additional Securities for the Replacement of the Legislative Management System for the Senate and the House of Representatives"

(H.P. 288) (L.D. 434)

Sponsored by Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford.

Cosponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland and Representative: FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, Senator: STEWART of Aroostook.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding the Retention of Proceeds from Municipal Foreclosures"

(H.P. 253) (L.D. 399)

Sponsored by Representative MCINTYRE of Lowell.

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Allow Municipalities to Apportion Real and Personal Property Taxes on the Basis of Property Classification

(H.P. 286) (L.D. 432)

Sponsored by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CARUSO of Caratunk, CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham, FOLEY of Wells, GERE of Kennebunkport, LEE of Auburn, MURPHY of Scarborough, RIELLY of Westbrook, SACHS of Freeport.

Bill "An Act to Expand the Historic Property Rehabilitation Tax Credit"

(H.P. 289) (L.D. 435)

Sponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield.

Cosponsored by Representative: MALON of Biddeford.

Bill "An Act to Allow Municipalities to Limit Nonprofit Property Tax Exemptions"

(H.P. 292) (L.D. 438)

Sponsored by Representative HYMES of Waldo.

Cosponsored by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot and Representatives: CHAPMAN of Auburn, LANCE of Paris, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, Senator: BERNARD of Aroostook.

Resolve, to Study the Economic Effects of Instituting a Seasonal Sales Tax

(H.P. 294) (L.D. 440)

Sponsored by Representative RANA of Bangor.

Cosponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Exempt Gold and Silver Coins and Bullion from the State Sales and Use Tax"

(H.P. 297) (L.D. 443)

Sponsored by Representative LIBBY of Auburn.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BOYER of Poland, MILLIKEN of Blue Hill, QUINT of Hodgdon.

Committee on **TAXATION** suggested and ordered printed.
REFERRED to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Relating to Requirements for School Bus Drivers"

(H.P. 287) (L.D. 433)

Sponsored by Representative DRINKWATER of Milford.

Cosponsored by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot and Representatives: DILL of Old Town, EDER of Waterboro, GRIFFIN of Levant, GUERRETTE of Caribou, HALL of Wilton, HEPLER of Woolwich, LIBBY of Auburn, MASON of Lisbon.

Bill "An Act Regarding Driver Education"

(H.P. 300) (L.D. 446)

Sponsored by Representative ROBERTS of South Berwick.

Bill "An Act to Expand Ferry Service to Matinicus Isle"

(H.P. 301) (L.D. 447)

Sponsored by Representative GEIGER of Rockland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: EATON of Deer Isle, MATLACK of St. George, Senator: GROHOSKI of Hancock.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Require a Voter to Show Photographic Identification"

(H.P. 251) (L.D. 397)

Sponsored by Representative PAUL of Winterport.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, BISHOP of Bucksport, MINGO of Calais, SMITH of Palermo, WHITE of Guilford, WHITE of Ellsworth, Senator: HARRINGTON of York.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Confidentiality of Certain Lottery Winner Identities"

(H.P. 258) (L.D. 404)

Sponsored by Representative DILL of Old Town.

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**.

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

ORDERS

On motion of Representative LAJOIE of Lewiston, the following House Order: (H.O. 12)

ORDERED, that Representative Wayne R. Parry of Arundel be excused Jan 14 and 21 for personal reasons.

READ and **PASSED**.

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

Recognizing:

Diana Allen, of Ogunquit, a seventh-grade science teacher at Sanford Middle School, who is a recipient of a Presidential Medal for Excellence in Mathematics and Science, the Nation's highest honor for mathematics and science teachers. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 28)

Presented by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford.

Cosponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York, Senator LAWRENCE of York, Representative RUNTE of York.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

On motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending **PASSAGE** and later today assigned.

Recognizing:

Meredith McGonigle, of Kittery, who is a recipient of a 2024 Scholastic Art and Writing Award National Medalist Gold Medal from the Alliance for Young Artists and Writers for her artwork "The 100s Museum." We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 31)

Presented by Representative MATHIESON of Kittery.

Cosponsored by Senator LAWRENCE of York, Representative MEYER of Eliot.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative MATHIESON of Kittery, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.
READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Kittery, Representative Mathieson.

Representative **MATHIESON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I'm thrilled today to honor Meredith McGonigle and her family, Sarah and Michael, at the State House.

I've known Meredith since she was born. She has an older sister that's a very dear friend of my daughter's and the family is well loved and an integral part of our vibrant community in Kittery. Meredith is an impressive young woman. She's a dedicated three-season varsity athlete, team captain for her soccer and ski teams and an all-conference winner for lacrosse. She's a member of the National Honor Society, and in her spare time was a participant in a boat building class for the Wood Island Saving Station to help preserve this important local historical site.

Over the years, what really stands out even more are her countless hours with a brush, a pencil or a clay stencil in her hand. Meredith earned regional and national recognition through the Scholastic Art Awards with seven Gold, six Silver Key Awards, an Excellence of Art Award, second place for the Maine Congressional Award, a nomination for the American Visions Board and a National Gold Medal Award for her piece, *A Hundred Frames*. Imagine a huge room, empty except for a young woman, looking up at the walls completely filled with frames of all different colors, sizes and shapes. In the author's own words, this is the description of the piece of artwork that she brought to the State House today, *A Hundred Frames*. At times, I like to step back and take in my surroundings, like how you would view an art gallery. Within the array of the hundred frames, 20 of them have been designed to symbolize important people in my life. These frames are based off of things that remind me of that individual. As a whole, the other 80 frames depict the vastness and quality of people who have affected my life. Out of the 80 frames, the few that are left unfinished are the connections I will build in the future. The girl in the room is a representation of me admiring the small things that set people apart. This drawing encourages viewers to reflect and appreciate the significance of everyday experiences and meaningful relationships.

Without a doubt, Meredith is a rare soul; kind, strong and full of promise. Some people leave a mark just by being themselves. She is one of them. I'm grateful to know her and I can't wait to see where her heart and passion takes her. Congratulations, Meredith.

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

Recognizing:

Jose Gomez, of Waterville, an officer with the Topsham Police Department, in recognition of his bravery. Officer Gomez displayed remarkable courage and empathy during a life-threatening incident on December 31, 2024. Responding to a crisis involving a distraught individual, Officer Gomez encountered the driver of an 18-wheeler parked on a busy bridge, overwhelmed by personal loss and despair. As the individual attempted to leap over a bridge railing in an effort to take his own life, Officer Gomez acted decisively and without hesitation. Placing himself in harm's way, he seized the larger man's leg and, despite a struggle, succeeded in pulling him back to safety. Demonstrating exceptional strength and calm, Officer Gomez subdued the individual with compassion, keeping a steady and reassuring hand on his back until additional help arrived. Through his actions, Officer Gomez embodied the highest standards of law enforcement, showcasing a deep commitment to the preservation of life, unwavering bravery in the face of danger and extraordinary empathy in a moment of crisis. His intervention not only saved a life but also exemplified the power of human connection and kindness in moments of profound need. We commend Officer Gomez for his selfless dedication and heroic actions and offer him our best wishes;

(HLS 35)

Presented by Representative MACIAS of Topsham.

Cosponsored by Senator CYRWAY of Kennebec, Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc, Representative DEBRITO of Waterville, Representative JULIA of Waterville.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative MACIAS of Topsham, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Macias.

Representative **MACIAS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. You know, I imagined my first words spoken before this Chamber would be words of courage and commitment; courage for and commitment to the people living and working in Maine. My thoughts came true. That's why I'm so honored to introduce to you and recognize Topsham Police Officer Jose Gomez and his spouse, Ashley, as well as Topsham Chief of Police Marc Hagan. Jose embodies honor, courage and commitment. Thank you for your service, Jose.

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

In Memory of:

Stanley John McGray, of Skowhegan, owner and operator of Stan's Fries since 1987. Mr. McGray, whose fries were the official fries of the Skowhegan State Fair, left a lasting legacy in the Skowhegan community and the Maine Agricultural Fair Association. Mr. McGray will be long remembered and sadly missed by his family, friends and community;

(HLS 33)

Presented by Representative POIRIER of Skowhegan.

Cosponsored by Senator FARRIN of Somerset.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative POIRIER of Skowhegan, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Skowhegan, Representative Poirier.

Representative **POIRIER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, it's a privilege to stand before you today to honor the life of my dear friend, Stan McGray.

Stan was born in Skowhegan on November 25th of 1944. He attended Skowhegan schools and owned several successful businesses throughout the years, one of which would become his legacy. If you've visited Skowhegan or attended any fairs throughout our State, there's a good chance you have tasted the best fries ever; Stan's French Fries. And if you haven't tried them yet, don't worry, you'll still be able to find them at the fairs this season.

Stan was a very giving man, who was always willing to help his friends and his neighbors. He truly supported his community in any way that he could. He would greet you with a smile and he was always ready for good conversation. He was a humble man and he never gave himself enough credit, and the credit that he rightfully deserved. I met Stan many, many years ago. We'd talk about anything from family to politics, and he was a constant source of support and encouragement and I'm so very thankful for those moments.

Stan's friends and family meant the world to him. He loved deeply and protected fiercely. Joining us today is his partner of 34 years, Toni, and many members of his family. My heart goes out to each of them and I thank them for sharing Stan with not just me, but my community, Skowhegan, and so many communities throughout Maine and beyond. Stan will surely be missed, and I ask you to join me not to mourn a loss, but to celebrate the life, the life of a truly good man that meant so much to me and Skowhegan. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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, Honorable Members of the House. It's my pleasure to welcome to the Chamber today Maine's first professional soccer club, the Portland Hearts of Pine. As the latest addition to Maine's professional sports family, the Hearts will kick off this spring in the USL League One at Portland's Fitzpatrick Stadium. They do so with a simple goal; to create an elite soccer club that reflects the character of Maine and drives economic, community and cultural value to the city and the State.

After many years of work, the first roster of the Hearts players is here with us today. It includes players from six countries; Australia, Finland, Japan, Sierra Leone, Trinidad and Tobago and the UK; as well as 10 states, including two Mainers; one from Biddeford and one from Lewiston. In particular, I'd like to recognize the team's founder, Gabe Hoffman-Johnson, who I've known for many years. Gabe is still a soccer legend at Falmouth High School and across the State, who went on to play in college at Dartmouth and then professionally. I think all of us here can appreciate how special it is when a really talented young person in our community graduates, goes out in the world and then returns with their energy, their passion and their commitment to pay it forward here in Maine.

Maine's Office of Tourism has already recognized the impact that the Hearts are expected to have on our State, noting that sports tourism is a national trend that supports communities and has a significant economic impact for destinations. Already,

the Hearts have heavily invested in improvements at Fitzpatrick, which will benefit all who use it. And this economic support, of course, is in addition to the myriad other benefits of building Maine's emerging soccer community on and off the field. Soccer is Maine's most participated-in youth sport, and the Hearts are excited to inspire and uplift countless youth for many years to come.

So, in conclusion, whether you are a long-time fan of the beautiful game, or if you came by it more recently by way of *Ted Lasso*, the arrival of the Hearts is something to celebrate. I hope to see you at the opener in May, and in the meantime, welcome to the Hearts of Pine and best of luck for a great season.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from North Yarmouth, Representative Graham, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **GRAHAM**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I join my colleague from Falmouth, welcoming the Hearts of Pine. I am a consummate soccer mom and soccer spouse. My entire year is all about being here and working for my constituents, and my husband, except for two weeks in a year, is coaching soccer. Gabe Hoffman-Johnson, again, what a leader. So, really, thank you so much. Soccer is our life; believe me; and it's wonderful. And thank you, guys, we're so happy you're here.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from East Machias, Representative Tuell, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I would like to welcome Coach Corey Schwinn and the top-ranked, undisputed, uncontested Class B State Volleyball Champions, the Washington Academy Lady Raiders, to our Chamber today after their beginning the day at the other end of the hall.

Coach Schwinn joined the Washington Academy volleyball team a decade ago, and has built it into a perennial powerhouse, winning several Class C Championships before petitioning the Maine Principals Association to level his squad up to Class B. In 2023, the girls were undefeated going into the State Championship game, losing only three sets against much bigger and vastly stronger teams. That 2023 Championship against Yarmouth was their first loss of the season, and a heartbreaker it was for the girls from Downeast Maine to come to grips with. Yet, in an interview prior to the start of the 2024 season, Coach Schwinn said that his team was not focused on last year and was going to take each set in each game as it comes this year. They started practicing in the heat of August and once again played through a tough schedule, even some Class A teams, the biggest schools in the State. The girls took on their coach's personality and believed that to be the best, you had to play against the best. By season's end, WA was rated the top volleyball team in the State, regardless of ZIP Code. They went to the States once again and this time, this year, prevailed.

I want to congratulate the entire team, especially those seniors who dug in and showed perseverance this year, and who were rewarded with the school's first-ever Class B Gold Ball. I also want to congratulate Coach Schwinn for leading, pushing and getting the absolute most out of these girls, who not only learned and excelled at the game of volleyball, but who displayed teamwork, selflessness, true grit and character in the face of adversity. Coach Schwinn, girls, congratulations on all you have achieved. Our county and our delegation are proud of you, and we extend to you our deepest and most heartfelt congratulations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Report of the Chair-Pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2

Representative SACHS from the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on 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)

Reports a recommendation for a **CHANGE OF COMMITTEE**.

The report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Subsequently, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and sent for concurrence.

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

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

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 175)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, February 11, 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.

Bill "An Act to Establish a University of Maine Medical School and to Dedicate Funds from Raising the Cigarette Tax to the School"

(S.P. 133) (L.D. 377)

Bill "An Act to Prevent Student Homelessness"

(S.P. 150) (L.D. 384)

Bill "An Act to Provide for a Later Starting Time for High Schools"

(S.P. 182) (L.D. 396)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Provide Access to Quality Family Child Care for Military Personnel by Exempting Certain Military Child Care Providers from State Licensing Requirements"

(S.P. 169) (L.D. 388)

Resolve, to Increase Transparency and Evaluate Emergency Response Through a COVID-19 Review Commission (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 171) (L.D. 389)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Strengthen the Health Care System in Maine"

(S.P. 135) (L.D. 378)

Bill "An Act to Amend Certain Laws Regarding Gender-affirming Health Care Services"

(S.P. 145) (L.D. 380)

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 Enable Mortgage Portability and Promote Housing Affordability in the State"

(S.P. 147) (L.D. 381)

Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** suggested and ordered printed.

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 Facilitate the Consolidation of the Department of Environmental Protection and the Maine Land Use Planning Commission into a Single Combined Entity"

(S.P. 149) (L.D. 383)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

On motion of Speaker FECTION of Biddeford, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** in **NON-CONCURRENCE** and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Confidential Information Gathered for Forest Fire Emergency Response and Planning"

(S.P. 138) (L.D. 379)

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

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect Communications by Alleged Victims Regarding Sexual Assault, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct, Cyberbullying or Discrimination from Litigation"

(S.P. 154) (L.D. 385)

Bill "An Act Regarding Information That May Be Shared by Law Enforcement Entities with a School Superintendent or a Principal"

(S.P. 167) (L.D. 386)

Bill "An Act to Advance Recognition of the Inherent Rights of the Wabanaki Nations"

(S.P. 177) (L.D. 391)

Bill "An Act to Restore Access to Federal Laws Beneficial to the Wabanaki Nations"

(S.P. 181) (L.D. 395)

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 Prohibit the Governor from Relocating Illegal Immigrants to This State"

(S.P. 168) (L.D. 387)

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 Establish a System of Revenue Sharing for the Use and Management of Coastal Resources"

(S.P. 148) (L.D. 382)

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

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

Bill "An Act to Designate Certain Bridges as Veterans Memorial Bridges"

(S.P. 179) (L.D. 393)

Bill "An Act to Improve Transportation Infrastructure in Maine"

(S.P. 180) (L.D. 394)

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

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

Bill "An Act to Raise the Contribution Cap for Unenrolled Candidates"

(S.P. 176) (L.D. 390)

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Cannabis"

(S.P. 178) (L.D. 392)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Fairfield, Representative Rudnicki.

Representative **RUDNICKI**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I request permission to speak on the record, please.

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

Representative **RUDNICKI**: Mr. Speaker, I'm really concerned about the lack of transparency that we're already showing. With less than a week's notice, Taxation needed to go in front of AFA yesterday. We are talking about no notice to the public. The only people that showed up are the interested parties, not the public, for something like this.

We have rules in this House that says it's two weekends prior, and we are so early in the session, I find it unacceptable for the Speaker and the Senate President to already bypass those rules to allow less than six days' notice. And the reason I say less than six; and that's not just for the public, but that's even Committee members. Many of us from the Taxation were actually on the bus tour last week, and we didn't even know about the hearing that was taking place yesterday until Thursday. That's less than a week's notice. They said they sent an email on Tuesday; again, that's less than a week's notice. And I'm finding that I'm hearing that other Committees are finding the same thing, that they are being called in front of AFA without the notice, the proper notice that we, as a Body, had rules set for. I get it if we're into June, if we're into even May, to expedite these things, but to do this now, this early in the session just shows our lack of transparency to the public.

So, I would kindly request that you, Mr. Speaker, do not authorize these this early in the session anymore, because it is causing problems for all Committee members. Our Senate Chair wasn't even able to be there yesterday because of the lack of notice; because she had to work. We have lives outside the Legislature that we cannot just drop because somebody decides they want to push things a little faster.

It strikes me, and I'm going to speak just for myself on this, but it strikes me as that it's getting pushed through because you're going to do a majority budget again, so, why do we even bother? Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would advise the Member from Fairfield that the Presiding Officers set a schedule for the month of February that provided the week of February break off, which I think was a request that most Members of this Body were hoping to see in order to give folks the time they need with families, especially those who are parents. In order to get the work that's done before the Appropriations Committee, they requested that they are able to start their work, and that required a waiving of the two-week notice to a one-week notice for the Taxation Committee. I felt like that was not a significant request, given the timeline of the work ahead of us and the importance of providing February break off for the Members of this Body. If the Member does not want February break off in the future, I have duly noted your request.

On motion of Representative POIRIER of Skowhegan, the House adjourned at 11:29 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 11, 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. 175) and in honor and lasting tribute to Joe Lewis of Portland and Stanley John McGray of Skowhegan.