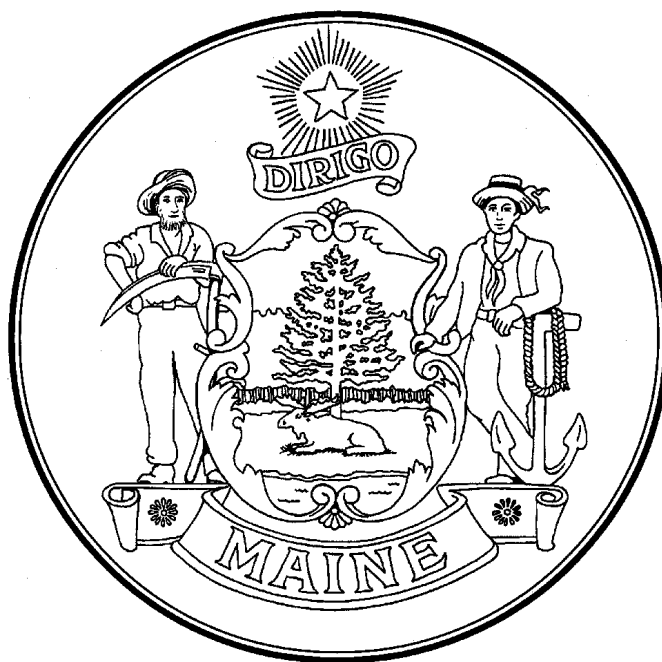


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
2nd Legislative Day
Tuesday, January 13, 2026

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

Prayer by Reverend Marty Pelham, First Universalist Church of Rockland.

National Anthem by Joyce Andersen, York.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER: Colleagues, I want to start this morning's session by recognizing the passing of one of our colleagues. Over the weekend, I was deeply saddened to learn that our colleague, Representative Javner from Chester, passed away following a long and courageous battle with cancer. Kathy was serving her final term in the Legislature and I feel blessed to have known her since she was first elected in 2018.

Kathy served on the Health and Human Services Committee during each of her terms and became the Ranking Member in the 130th. She cared deeply about the work of the Legislature and brought focus and dedication to her committee. She showed up and gave her all to represent the residents of District 29.

The grace, strength and resolve with which Kathy took on her diagnosis was remarkable and I think we all bore witness to that. Her loss will be deeply felt in this Body and her community and by her loving family. My heart goes out to her husband, Chris, her children, Christopher, Sahara and Katahdin and her grandchildren and all who knew and loved her. Rest easy, Kathy.

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

Representative **QUINT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm just going to start out to make this about me for a second and boost myself using Kathy's own words that life is meant to be lived, so, live it.

I would like to share just a small poem. Is this off the record, Mr. Speaker?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would inform the Member that the proceedings are archived and are recorded. The remarks are not on the record by having not taken the objection of the Body at this point.

Representative **QUINT**: Thank you. My apologies, Colleagues.

The SPEAKER: Yes. The remarks will not show up in the official printed Record unless the Member wishes to request unanimous consent.

Representative **QUINT**: Yes, I request unanimous consent.

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Hodgdon, Representative Quint, has requested unanimous consent that the comments be on the record. Hearing no objection, it is so ordered. The Representative may proceed.

Representative **QUINT**: Thank you.

I would rather have a little rose from the garden of a friend
than to have the choicest flowers

when my stay on Earth shall end.

I would rather have the kindest words and a smile that I can see
than flattery when my heart is still and this life has ceased to be.
I would rather have a loving smile from friends I know are true
than tears shed round my casket when this world I bid *adieu*.
Bring me all the flowers today, whether pink or white or red.

I would rather have one blossom now
than a million when I'm dead.

My Colleagues, I thank you from the bottom of my heart that you gave that flower and she was able to know, her family was able to know that you spoke of her with words while she was living, and that's a testament to the person that she was. It's always easier to share when someone has passed and you have time to think about it, but you made the effort and you wrote down beautiful words for her family that they will cherish forever and I thank you for that.

I'm not going to speak a lot right now, we will have an In Memoriam, but I wanted to share something else that Kathy shared with me and it exemplifies the woman that she is. We were just talking about, you know, cancer; she would not mind me sharing this, or I wouldn't, but we were talking about the treatments and, you know, they were difficult. And I said, it's not fair. And Kathy said, I never said that. She never once said that to me, she never said it's not fair. She did, however, say she was frustrated. But the reason she was frustrated is something that we all need to aspire to and I hope that we will. What she said next to me was, I'm fighting so hard to stay alive. She didn't end with that; she put in the word because. I'm fighting so hard to stay alive because I have so much more to give. That is a testament to the woman that she is, and I am a better person for knowing her, for loving her and for walking through the time with her. I thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Eliot, Representative Meyer.

Representative **MEYER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Women and Men of the House. For eight years, Representative Javner and I served on the Health and Human Services Committee, six of those years as House Chair and Lead. We've spent a great deal of time together. We've worked through some tough policy, we have listened to one another, talked through many difficult issues, laughed and cried, agreed to disagree, often found common ground and ways forward. I will miss our work together. I will miss Kathy.

In a political climate that far too often rewards the loudest voice or the sharpest jab, Kathy was a different kind of legislator. Thoughtful, inquisitive, kind, she took the work seriously, enthusiastically. She was bright and articulate. She was committed to her constituents and to working on their behalf. She showed up for them for four terms and through two courses of chemotherapy. Extraordinary public service.

We agreed years ago not to let the divisive noise outside of our committee room dictate the character of the work inside it. She didn't just work toward better policy, she advocated for a better way of being public servants. Our goal was a well-functioning committee where we were respectful of one another and all those who came before us. By her example, she challenges every one of us to be better, to listen longer and more intently to one another, to rise above the noise and to remember why we were sent here in the first place. The members of the HHS Committee, our nonpartisan staff and everyone who worked with the Representative from Chester, we are all having a very difficult time referring to this courageous woman of grace and dignity in the past tense. May her memory and the example she set guide our work on behalf of Maine people. I know that is what she would want from us.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Gardiner, Representative Montell.

Representative **MONTPELL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Honorable Members. I had the distinct opportunity and pleasure and privilege to work with the Representative from Chester, Representative Javner, on the Legislative Memorial Scholarship

Auction, and everything that has been said today is so true. I mean, her organization, her passion, her commitment, her hard work, never making excuses, always just showing up and knowing what the task needed to be and just carrying it out. Just the meetings that she conducted, it was just such a pleasure and the reception that she held for the scholarship recipients, just all the details and the energy that she put in while she was fighting this horrible disease.

And I'm grateful that at that time we had a little time off to the side that I got to know her, talk about her family and what she liked to do in her spare time, and I just really cherish that time and the image that I have of her right now is at the auction, she was speaking before everyone there and just she really smiled and I think she was really the backbone behind the auction. I was just the cheerleader, she was the organizer and the follow-through and to say okay, but this is what we need to do.

So, I just am so grateful for her work ethic and her friendship and all that she's done here and for the people of Maine. And the auction, I'm so appreciative. Thank you.

At this point, the Members of the House stood and joined in a moment of silence in honor of the Honorable Kathy Irene Javner, of Chester.

The Journal of Wednesday, January 7, 2026 was read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 303)

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0001**

January 7, 2026

The 132nd Legislature of the State of Maine

State House

Augusta, Maine

Dear Honorable Members of the 132nd Legislature:

By the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing L.D. 1228, *An Act to Clarify Certain Terms in the Automotive Right to Repair Laws*. This bill would put into law a set of unanimous recommendations from the Automotive Right to Repair Working Group to clarify and improve the effectiveness of the statute after its approval by voters as a ballot initiative in 2023. I appreciate the efforts of the Working Group and support its recommendations.

Unfortunately, L.D. 1228 as presented also includes a controversial provision that would allow automobile manufacturers to decide how vehicle telemetric data would be accessible to independent automotive repair shops. That access is essential to diagnosing and repairing modern automobiles. This provision – which was notably not included in the Working Group's unanimous recommendations – was included at the urging of automobile manufacturers. However, without timely access to vehicle data, independent auto shops are left at a significant competitive disadvantage, and consumers would have fewer choices for automotive service and repair.

With this provision included, L.D. 1228 would undermine the existing law overwhelmingly approved by Maine voters and harm independent repair shops across the state. I have heard

from hundreds of independent repair shop owners asking that I veto this bill, based on significant concerns about the bill's language that would restrict independent shops from performing even routine maintenance on modern vehicles. I am sympathetic to their concerns.

The Legislature has an opportunity to enact the Working Group's unanimous recommendations without this controversial provision through a pending bill, L.D. 292 which I encourage it to do without delay. As enacted, L.D. 1228 is a finger on the scale in favor of auto manufacturers and against local businesses and the will of Maine voters, and I cannot support it. For these reasons, I return L.D. 1228 unsigned and vetoed, and I urge the Legislature to sustain this veto.

Sincerely,
S/Janet T. Mills

Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The accompanying item An Act to Clarify Certain Terms in and to Make Other Changes to the Automotive Right to Repair Laws

(H.P. 803) (L.D. 1228)

(C. "A" H-764)

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Newport, Representative Fredette.

Representative **FREDETTE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Good morning. Happy New Year.

So, I have a son, he's 27 years old, he's a lot like any 27-year-old, he calls me up the other day and says, 'Dad, I got this strange noise in the back of my car.' And I said, 'well, what kind of noise is it?' And he says, 'well, it sounds like it's a grinding noise.' And I'm like, 'well, that's not good, right?' So, what am I going to do about that? So, I say to him, 'I'll come over, I'll take a look at it and we'll try to figure out what's going on with it.' So, of course, I drove over and the brakes and the rotors are definitely in bad shape and they need to be fixed. So, obviously, as a good Dad would do, you sort of try to figure out, well, how are we going to get this fixed? You know, do we go to VIP? Do we take it to the Chevy dealership? How are we going to fix the brakes, right? It's not a too-complicated problem. But I do sort of what I think a lot of people do in rural Maine. And I think about, you know, what's the most affordable way for him to fix this. Because as he lives in Gorham, his rent is a couple thousand dollars a month and his expenses and whatnot, it's not like he's got a lot of money. So, I say to him, 'Colby, you need to bring your car to Corinna.' And Corinna is the next town next to Newport in District 33. And, you know, the reason why we take it there is, is because in most towns in Maine, in rural Maine, we have a post office, we have a store where you can probably go buy some milk and bread and somewhere you've probably got somebody that's a garage, has a garage, that is the go-to person to fix the car when you need the car fixed.

And in rural Maine, much like urban Maine, but maybe a little bit more extreme, it is important to have access to a car. Because your drives oftentimes are not five minutes, they're oftentimes maybe an hour or two hours to go to your doctor's appointment or to go see your kids or your grandkids. So, it's really important that you have a reliable car. In addition to that, you usually know; and I'm going to make up a name, Bobby; that Bobby is going to be able to fix the car and it's going to be a reasonable price. You know, it's not going to be a thousand bucks, it's not going to be 1,500 bucks, you know, he's not going to do it for free, but Bobby's going to fix the car. And by the time we bought the rotors and we bought the brakes, had them

installed, it was a couple hundred bucks at the shop that Bobby owns in Corinna, Maine. And it's a two-bay garage, which I'm sure a lot of you have in your districts if you're, again, in a rural district.

Now, my understanding is last week that the other side of the aisle held a press conference and they talked about this issue of affordability. You know, it's a big talking term, big talking point, polling shows it's important, right? Affordability. Well, you know, I've lived in Maine all my life and I knew that probably, generally speaking, and this is just a general statement, that if we took the car into a shop in Gorham or in Portland, it was probably going to be a thousand bucks to get it fixed. But I knew if we took it to this small garage, this small shop in Corinna, Maine, we might be able to get out of it for a couple hundred bucks. And that's exactly what happened.

Now, this is a complicated bill and the Good Representative from Pittsfield has spent a lot of time on this bill, it's been around for a while. Much like many referendums, they're not perfect, they need fixes. I understand there's another bill out there that maybe could be used as a vehicle to fix it. But at the end of the day, as I look at this issue and I don't look at, you know, the Chief Executive vetoed this and we've got lobbyists here and we've got lobbyists there, we have that on every bill, but I do know common sense. And common sense tells me in rural Maine where we have the mom-and-pop garages, that they probably need access to information in order to be able to fix cars. I have a hard time turning the radio on in my car because I can't get to the source button that I just want FM and not Sirius. So, it's complicated, but whatever I can do to try to keep the mom-and-pop garage shop open and provide people in my district with affordable repairs, that's what I'm going to do. And I take nothing away from the people that have worked hard on this bill and believe passionately that they're correct, but I voted against this bill last time and I will be voting with the Chief Executive this time to sustain the bill.

And I will close with this. I started my legislative service in 2010, served up until 2018 and one of the things that I learned, Mr. Speaker, was a lot of times when you pass a bill, it's not final. You oftentimes will see amendments to laws that get passed in the future and whatnot. And I suspect that if this veto gets sustained, there will be a fix, it will come, it's just a matter of time. So, I will be voting to sustain the veto, Mr. Speaker. Thank you and have a great day.

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

Representative **QUINT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This was a complicated bill because I know that many people in my district, which one hundred percent of my district is rural, are affected by this. But I rise today in support of overriding the veto of LD 1228.

And I want to begin by saying something plainly. This is not a debate about whether people should be able to repair what they own. That question has already been answered and I agree with it one hundred percent. What we are deciding today is whether we are comfortable opening digital doors we do not yet know how to lock. Because the vehicles Mainers drive today are not just engines and axles, they are rolling networks, they are software platforms, they are connected systems that communicate wirelessly, they store data and, in some cases, can be accessed remotely. And when you open access to a connected system, especially one that controls braking, steering and acceleration, you had better be very sure that you know who is coming through that door, how they are authenticated and what happens when something goes wrong.

Judiciary spends a lot of time asking a simple question; what happens when the worst case is not hypothetical? Here, the worst case is not farfetched. Federal agencies have already warned that unsecured or poorly defined access to vehicle data creates cybersecurity risks, not just to privacy, but to physical safety. This is not about whether someone can see your mileage; it is about whether someone could interfere with the operation of your vehicle, and the current law assumes that once access is opened, everyone on the other side will behave responsibly. I hope they do, I truly do. I am not comfortable writing State law on the assumption that hackers will be polite.

The original Statute requires access to be provided before the framework that secures that access exists. That is backwards. We would not require open access to medical records before defining privacy standards. We would not require open access to voting systems before defining security protocols. And we should not require open access to connected vehicles before defining cybersecurity rules, authentication and accountability.

LD 1228 does not take access away from vehicle owners or independent repairers. What it does, very carefully, is insist that access be secure, owner-authorized and implemented in a way that does not expose Mainers to unnecessary risk. Because here is what happens if we do not fix this: manufacturers are placed in an impossible position; comply with State law and risk violating federal safety obligations or comply with federal law and face enforcement at the State level. That is not a win for consumers, this is not a win for small businesses and it is not a win for Maine.

Cybersecurity is nothing that you bolt on later, it is something that you first design. LD 1228 recognizes that reality. It aligns State law with federal safety and cybersecurity standards and gives everyone; vehicle owners, repairers, manufacturers and regulators; a clear, workable path forward.

Sometimes the most responsible thing we can do as lawmakers is pause, adjust and fix what we already know needs fixing. This is one of those moments. I urge the Body to override this veto. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Representative **RUDNICKI**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of overriding the veto.

I have been in the automobile industry for over 35 years. I've run my own dealership, I understand some of this, but this; all of this technology, that's way beyond me. I'm not going to dress this up. This bill is being opposed because a lot of people just don't understand it. Not because it's bad policy, not because it hurts consumers, but because it deals with technology that some folks are not comfortable with. And instead of admitting that, they're pretending it's about principle. It's not. These vehicles are computers. They run on software, they connect to networks and they send and receive data all the time. That's just reality. If you don't use the technology, you don't deal with it, you don't understand how it works, then this bill probably does feel confusing. And when things feel confusing, people have a tendency to vote no. But confusion is not a reason to block a fix.

LD 1228 exists because the original law has problems. Real problems. Cybersecurity problems. Legal problems. Problems that put Maine on a collision course with federal laws and federal regulators. That's not speculation, that is already happening. We're being told to ignore the warnings, to trust that everything will work itself out. That's not how technology works. That's not how security works. And it's; you don't open access first and figure out safety later. You don't assume everyone will

behave and you don't write laws based on hope. Hope's not a plan.

I've also heard a lot of deference to the Executive Branch on this issue, and I respect the office, but respect doesn't mean that we shut our brains off. If you're not driving these vehicles, you're not using these systems, not dealing with this technology day to day, then maybe this just isn't in your wheelhouse. But that's okay, nobody knows everything. But what's not okay is blocking a fix because you don't want to admit that this is complicated and needs adjustment.

Let's be honest about something else, a lot of people in this building want higher office. Some want statewide office, some want federal office. Voters are watching how we handle issues like this. They're asking, who understands modern systems and who doesn't? Who can handle complex problems and who waves them off? Who's ready for what government looks like now, not what it looks like 20 years ago? If we can't fix a cybersecurity problem in a State law we already passed, that sends a pretty clear message and it's not a good one.

LD 1228 doesn't undo Right to Repair, it doesn't take anything away from consumers, it doesn't pick winners; it fixes a flaw. A serious one. Refusing to fix it doesn't make us principled, it makes us stubborn, and stubborn isn't leadership. I'm voting to override the veto, and I urge others to do the same. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Biddeford, Representative Malon.

Representative **MALON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I find myself in the rare position of agreeing with my colleagues, the Representative from Hodgdon and the Representative from Newport, and find myself supporting the motion before us, which is to override the Chief Executive's veto.

This is an issue which will continue to stalk us through the night, I'm afraid. The Right to Repair issue has been a full employment program for the lobbying industry. On one side, you have the auto industry, which would love to just outright repeal the measure that the voters passed overwhelmingly and they would like to continue their anticompetitive practices, and on the other hand, you have the aftermarket parts industry, another multi-billion-dollar industry which sees this Right to Repair issue as a financial opportunity. I'm tired of both, Mr. Speaker.

Maine consumers need a voice. Consumers are tired of anti-competitive practices from all kinds of industry and the auto industry is right up there. The tech industry's incursion into the auto world has only made it worse. How many of us have been frustrated by constant changes to our cars and how they work in the name of so-called innovation? And how many of us have been frustrated when the auto repair person of our choice has not been able to fix our car based on those changes? Mainers in 2023 spoke these frustrations clearly and they resoundingly said that they want to be able to get their cars repaired wherever they darn well please. But they didn't sign up for a money grab from another multi-billion-dollar industry, either.

So, we're faced with a question; how do we make this work, how do we make the voters' vision a reality? How do we implement it? LD 1228 is not perfect, no bill is, but it helps us carry out the voters' will. Without it, this will continue to be over-lobbied by all sides and consumers will be the ones to lose out.

I want Right to Repair to happen. It is an affordability issue. I support small repair shops. I support consumers, especially consumers in rural Maine, being able to get their cars repaired wherever they darn well please. Some others might be able to speak to the technical aspects of the bill better than I can, but I'm going to side with the vote I cast along with approximately, I

think, 130 other Members of this Chamber back in the previous session, and I'm going to vote to override the Chief Executive's veto and I hope others join me. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Berwick, Representative Roberts.

Representative **ROBERTS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Members of the House, I rise to support the override of the veto of LD 1228 as the bill's Sponsor.

Colleagues, I want to be clear at the outset, I'm not here to re-litigate the merits of this bill. That debate has already happened. This House voted overwhelmingly, well over two-thirds, to pass LD 1228, and the Other Body concurred. Those votes followed nearly three years of work, public testimony, stakeholder meetings and the deliberations of a legislatively-created Automotive Right to Repair Working Group. The Legislature understood this bill. The question before us today is whether the veto reflects that same understanding or rests on something else entirely.

For nearly three years, through the working group process, drafting, committee, floor debate, the Administration raised no formal objection to this bill. No alternative language, no legal concerns, no warning that the bill was unworkable or problematic. I met with the Chief Executive's legal counsel and there were no concerns arising at that time, either, aside from the opposition noise. In fact, after this bill passed in the spring, I received a phone call asking, is this the one that fixes it, and if yes, she will sign it on Monday. That statement matters, Mr. Speaker. It reflects, at least at that time, a shared understanding that this bill addressed the known issues in the existing law. The lack of follow-through with no communication is telling.

The night before we convened last week, I was asked to recall the bill. Not because of a newly identified legal defect, not because of the federal conflict. It was a request with no clear reason given and no specific language identified as a fix and why. First, the request was to only leave the working group recommendation language due to concerns. I will remind Members that the working group was only tasked with looking at the independent entity in the current Statute. The request then turned to Section 6 regarding telematics and to just remove it. The line cited as concerning, again, was "fair and reasonable terms." This language that is currently in the current law written by the opponents, there was no clear reasoning again of why it was problematic, just concerning. And frankly, for me, quite confusing. This is not how substantive legal objections arise.

Members, I ask you to consider what is absent from this veto letter. There is no citation to statutory language that is unenforceable, there is no identification of a federal law with which the bill conflicts. There is no explanation of how the bill fails as a matter of law. Those are the hallmarks of a legal veto, especially from an Administration led by a former Attorney General. Instead, the veto relies on predictions, characterizations and generalized fears about what the bill might do, without tethering those claims to the text of the bill itself. That's not a legal analysis.

The veto asserts that LD 1228 would allow automobile manufacturers to decide how vehicle data is accessed and then extrapolates from that premise that the independent repair shops will be unable to perform routine maintenance. Fellow Colleagues of the House, that argument rests on a straw man. This bill does not remove access, it does not eliminate owner authorization, it does not bar diagnostics or routine repair. Clarifying how access must be structured to ensure it is secure, standardized and consistent with federal safety and cybersecurity requirements is not the same as denying access. Arguing against a power that the bill does not grant is not a

substantive objection. The veto then suggests that clarification will inevitably harm independent shops and consumer choice. This is slippery-slope reasoning, asserting extreme outcomes without explaining the mechanism by which the Statute produces them. No such mechanism exists in this bill.

The veto also references hearing from hundreds of independent repair shop owners urging the rejection of this bill. Members should know that these communications are identical form letters circulated through organized advocacy efforts, sometimes bearing multiple signatures from the same business and submitted as separate objections. That's certainly not improper, but it's not an analysis. And I've read these letters. They contain no citation to the language, no explanation of how access is removed, no discussion of telematics versus diagnostics and no acknowledgement of federal safety or cybersecurity law. They are lobby scripts, not policy critiques.

The veto points to another bill on which I am a Co-sponsor as a preferable path forward. Let me be precise; that bill is a concept draft. It contains no operative statutory language, it does not resolve ambiguity, it does not cure litigation risk and it certainly does not replace a bill that has already passed both Chambers. Concept drafts are conversation starters, they're not fixes. We are well past the start of this conversation. If there is a clearer substantive objection, then my understanding is that the Chief Executive may submit a bill to the Legislature to better articulate and address these concerns.

This override vote is not about manufacturers versus repair shops, it's not about revisiting the will of the voters. That question has already been answered. This vote is about whether the Legislature governs by law and record or whether we allow a late-stage advocacy framing raised after passage without specificity to override three years of work and clear votes in both Chambers.

Mr. Speaker, fear is not a substitute for analysis. Advocacy talking points are not a substitute for statutory review. Concept drafts are not substitutes for enacted law. The Legislature did its job, the process was thorough, the record is clear. For those reasons, Mr. Speaker, I urge the Members of the House to vote to override the veto. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Pittsfield, Representative Collamore.

Representative **COLLAMORE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of overriding the veto letter. As the Co-sponsor of this bill and the Sponsor of the bill that was invoked in the veto letter, it is my hope that we continue to support the good work that the Representatives from South Berwick and I have done over the last three years.

What's interesting when you run for State Representative, you don't realize you're going to become a content expert in things like telematics. When I ran, I just wanted to make sure the people that I represent have a voice in this Body. I liked the person before me was very involved and I was like, that's what I'm going to do and I'm going to listen to everybody. And the first time around, because we have been speaking about this for three years, my district was geofenced as a way of trying to turn my constituents against me, which was really, really great free on my part constituent work, because I talked to over 1,500 of my constituents as a result of that and all but two of them wanted me to fix the bill.

What's also interesting, Mr. Speaker, is that after this legislation passed through citizens' initiative in 2023, I had a meeting with the Chief Executive and she basically, I'm not going to swear on the floor but she said, fix the bleeping bill. And we were like, okay. And so, we had a working group to fix a specific point in the law, which was the independent entity, which

should've never been included in the citizens' initiative, but was, I'm not here to relitigate that, but also the fact that there were no definitions in the citizens' initiative. So, we took the working group language, we added in some definitions and out came this bill. This is a lot of hard work.

The other thing I'd like to mention, because my other bill was invoked in this veto letter, is that I have asked for the last three weeks what language could be used to fix this concerning area, with zero reply, Mr. Speaker. I'm like, what exactly in this is a concern? How can we fix that? Is there a way for us to fix it? How are we going to do this? And the answer has been, well, it's just concerning, with no actual fix for that language. And that, for me, is concerning, Mr. Speaker, because how do I fix something that I don't know what the actual problem is in a bill that's got my name on it? I do not support having some ambiguous language out there in a bill that we carried over only if there were legal ramifications. We wanted a vehicle to fix maybe a missing comma that changed the meaning of a sentence or anything like that. It's the only reason the Committee wanted to keep the bill over. Had I known that it was going to be used in this way, I would've asked the Committee to kill it when we killed all of the other ones.

So, Mr. Speaker, with all of that in mind, and since that bill was one that was referenced as the fix language, I respectfully ask that we override this veto and ensure that the good, hard work of this Committee and the previous rendition of this Committee has done is kept in law. Thank you.

After reconsideration, the House proceeded to vote on the question, 'Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?' A roll call was taken.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is 'Shall this Bill become a law notwithstanding the objections of the Governor?' All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 605V

YEA - Abdi, Adams, Ankeles, Arata, Ardell, Babin, Bagshaw, Beck, Bishop, Blier, Boyer D, Brennan, Campbell, Carlow, Chapman, Cimino, Collamore, Collins, Cooper, Crockett, Daigle, DeBrito, Dhalac, Dill, Dodge, Doudera, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Eaton, Faircloth, Farrin, Faulkingham, Flynn, Foley, Foster, Fredericks, Friedmann, Gattine, Geiger, Gere, Gifford, Golek, Greenwood, Guerrette, Hall, Hasenfus, Henderson, Hymes, Jackson, Kessler, Lance, Lanigan, Lavigne, Lemelin, Macias, Malon, Mason, Mathieson, McCabe, McIntyre, Mingo, Mitchell, Montell, Nutting, Olsen, Osher, Paul, Perkins, Poirier, Pomerleau, Pugh, Quint, Rana, Ray, Roberts, Rudnicki, Sachs, Sato, Sayre, Schmiersal-Burgess, Shagoury, Simmons, Skold, Smith, Soboleski, Strout, Supica, Swallow, Thorne, Tuell, Underwood, White J, White R, Wood P, Woodsome, Yusuf.

NAY - Archer, Arford, Bell, Boyer M, Bridgeo, Bunker, Caruso, Cluchey, Copeland, Crafts, Cray, Eder, Fredette, Frost, Graham, Gramlich, Haggan, Hepler, Julia, Kuhn, Lajoie, Lee, Lookner, Lyman, Mastraccio, Matlack, Meyer, Milliken, Moonen, Morris, Murphy, O'Halloran, Pluecker, Roeder, Rollins, Salisbury, Sargent, Sinclair, Stover, Terry, Warren, Webb, Zager, Mr. Speaker.

ABSENT - Albert, Libby, Parry, Rielly, Runte, Wadsworth, Walker, Wood S.

Yes, 96; No, 44; Absent, 8; Vacant, 2; Excused, 1.

96 having voted in the affirmative and 44 voted in the negative, 2 vacancy with 8 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly the Veto was **NOT SUSTAINED**. 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:

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act to Modify Certain Statutes Governing Revocation of Probation, Victim Confidentiality and the Commissioner of Corrections"

(H.P. 1450) (L.D. 2161)

Sponsored by Representative SALISBURY of Westbrook.

Submitted by the Department of Corrections pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Bill "An Act to Change Supervisory Authority over the Capitol Police"

(H.P. 1454) (L.D. 2165)

Sponsored by Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Cosponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

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 Assist Communities with Converting Vacant School Buildings into Housing"

(H.P. 1453) (L.D. 2164)

Sponsored by Representative GERE of Kennebunkport.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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 Improve the Response to Complaints by Victims of Crime and Enhance Victims' Rights"

(H.P. 1452) (L.D. 2163)

Sponsored by Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach.

Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and Representatives: Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, LEE of Auburn, STOVER of Boothbay, Senators: DUSON of Cumberland, MOORE of Washington, TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Regulate and Prevent Children's Access to Artificial Intelligence Chatbots with Human-like Features and Social Artificial Intelligence Companions"

(H.P. 1451) (L.D. 2162)

Sponsored by Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach.

Cosponsored by Senator BAILEY of York and Representatives: BRENNAN of Portland, Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, FOLEY of Wells, MATHIESON of Kittery, MOONEN of Portland, SACHS of Freeport, Senator: PIERCE of Cumberland.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested.

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

Bill "An Act to Address Vacancies on the Knox County Budget Committee" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1447) (L.D. 2158)

Sponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren.

Cosponsored by Representatives: DOUDERA of Camden, GEIGER of Rockland, MATLACK of St. George, RAY of Lincolnville, Senator: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox.

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

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 Require School Buses to Be Equipped with and to Use School Bus Crossing Arms" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1448) (L.D. 2159)

Sponsored by Representative GEIGER of Rockland.

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

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Modify Provisions of Law Affecting Small Distilleries" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1449) (L.D. 2160)

Sponsored by Representative GEIGER of Rockland.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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**.

At this point, the Chair recognized the Representative from Berwick, Representative LAVIGNE, and the Representative from Skowhegan, Representative POIRIER, and they were added to the roll call of the Second Regular Session of the 132nd Legislature.

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

Representative **SALISBURY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House, it is my honor today to speak in remembrance today of Deputy Chief John Kooistra of the Windham Fire Department and to welcome his wife, Angela, and his son, Ethan, who are here in the Gallery.

This weekend, the public safety community were part of a wonderful ceremony honoring the life and the legacy of Deputy Chief Kooistra that was held in Windham. I was very fortunate to know John from the early '90s, when we were both starting out in our EMS careers and we worked together at a few different services, as a lot of EMS and fire personnel do. I consider myself very lucky to have known him. And the thing that I will carry with me is his smile. And so, I'm so thankful to be able to see all the pictures this weekend and to be around people that had that same connection with John.

With the permission of his fire chief and his department, I am going to read; I'm going to try to read the last call for Deputy Chief Kooistra.

"Windham Fire Alarm to Chief 203. Windham Fire Alarm to Chief 203. Windham Fire Alarm to Deputy Chief Kooistra. Windham Fire to all units, all stations. Stand by for a special announcement.

"Today, we gather to honor a man whose life was defined by duty, compassion and unwavering commitment to others. Deputy Chief Kooistra served the City of Portland Fire Department through MedQ for 29 years, retiring in 2019 at the rank of Lieutenant and honored member of the Portland Police Special Response Team. Since 2019, Deputy Chief Kooistra has served the Town of Windham Fire Department as the Deputy Chief of EMS and training. He dedicated himself to educating others, sharing his deep knowledge of trauma care and operational K-9 care. Whether he was teaching medics, K-9 handlers or new responders, he made sure that every lesson carried forward the standard of excellence he lived by.

"But beyond his skills and accomplishments, it was the person he was that we will remember the most. Deputy Chief Kooistra carried a positive outlook that lifted spirits even on the hardest days. His infectious smile could break tension, ease fear or remind us that even in the darkest moments, we were never alone. He had a genuine care and compassion for others, quick-witted humor and an ability to make everyone he encountered felt seen, valued and respected. Whether you were a new recruit, a seasoned responder or someone passing through the station, he made you feel like you mattered. A friend to all.

"With more than 35 years of selfless dedication to others, we lay him to rest knowing he has earned his peace. His duty is done, his watch has ended. His brothers and sisters will carry on the work he began, holding close the lessons he taught and the legacy he leaves behind. Deputy, rest knowing that when our own final alarm sounds, we too will hope to be remembered as he is today; with respect, with love and with gratitude. May you always have Land Rover parts available and all of your rusted bolts come free with ease. You've earned it.

"Windham Fire Units, all stations, Windham Deputy Chief 203, John Kooistra, is now 10-7."

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

Recognizing:

the Thornton Academy Football Team, of Saco, which won the Class A State Championship, Coach Kevin Kezal's 200th career victory. We extend our congratulations and best wishes; (SLS 1486)

On **OBJECTION** of Representative COPELAND of Saco, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

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

Recognizing:

Stella Foy, of Saco, a senior at Thornton Academy, who won the 2025 Class A Individual Girls Golf State Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

(SLS 1487)

On **OBJECTION** of Representative COPELAND of Saco, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

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

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

First Day

In accordance with House Rule 519, the following item appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(H.P. 620) (L.D. 961) Bill "An Act to Address Maine's Health Care Workforce Shortage and Improve Access to Care" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-785)**

Under suspension of the rules, Second Day Consent Calendar notification was given.

There being no objection, the House Paper was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** and sent for concurrence.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 304)
MAINE GOVERNMENTAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY
127 COMMUNITY DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330

January 5, 2026
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, 2026. 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. 305)
**MAINE HEALTH AND HIGHER
EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES AUTHORITY**
127 COMMUNITY DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330

January 5, 2026
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, 2026. 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. 306)
MAINE MUNICIPAL BOND BANK
127 COMMUNITY DRIVE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330

January 5, 2026
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, 2026. 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. 307)
STATE OF MAINE
MAINE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
51 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0051

January 9, 2026
Honorable Ryan Fecteau
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear 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 Human Rights Commission due by February 1, 2026. Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.
Thank you.
Sincerely,
S/Kit Thomson Crossman
Executive Director
**READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED
PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 308)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMISSION TO EVALUATE THE SCOPE OF
REGULATORY REVIEW AND OVERSIGHT OVER HEALTH
CARE TRANSACTIONS THAT IMPACT THE DELIVERY OF
HEALTH CARE SERVICES IN THE STATE**

January 9, 2026

The Honorable Matthea E.L. Daughtry, President
Maine State Senate

The Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker
Maine House of Representatives

Dear President Daughtry and Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to Resolve 2025, chapter 106, the Commission to Evaluate the Scope of Regulatory Review and Oversight over Health Care Transactions that Impact the Delivery of Health Care Services in the State is pleased to submit its final report. Copies of the full report have been distributed to committees or individuals as directed by law and copies have been placed on file with the Law and Legislative Reference Library. Others may access the full report on-line through the website of the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis at <http://legislature.maine.gov/opla>.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Mike Tipping

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Michelle Boyer

House Chair

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 309)

**MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF PROGRAM EVALUATION AND GOVERNMENT
ACCOUNTABILITY**

January 9, 2026

The Honorable Craig V. Hickman, Senate Chair
The Honorable Anne-Marie Mastraccio, House Chair
Members of the Government Oversight Committee
82 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

The Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President
of the Senate

Members of the 132nd Maine Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

The Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House

Members of the 132nd Maine House of Representatives

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Government Oversight Committee Members, Senators
and Representatives:

In accordance with 3 MRSA §995(4), I respectfully submit the Office of Program Evaluation and Government Accountability (OPEGA) Annual Report for 2025. OPEGA's service to the Legislature as an independent, non-partisan resource is meant to support the important role of legislative oversight and to help improve the performance of State government. We remain committed to serving Maine's legislators and citizens as a trusted source of objective, credible information.

Sincerely,

S/Peter Schleck

Director

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 310)

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

January 13, 2026

Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Fecteau:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety has approved the request by the sponsor, Senator Bennett of Oxford, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

L.D. 755 An Act to Prevent Opioid Overdose Deaths by
Allowing Municipalities to Approve the Establishment
of Overdose Prevention Centers

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs has approved the request by the sponsor, Senator Ingwersen of York, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw:"

L.D. 1983 An Act to Protect Minors from Intoxicating Hemp-derived Products by Regulating Those Products
Under the Adult Use Cannabis Laws

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 311)

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

January 13, 2026

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Please be advised that pursuant to her authority, Governor Janet T. Mills has nominated the following:

on January 8, 2026

James B. Arseneault, Sr. of Dresden and John Bigelow Marsh III of Bremen for reappointment, and Jeffrey Auger of Phippsburg, Travis Fifield of Stonington, Lewis Pinkham of Millbridge and Timothy J. LaRochelle of Woolwich for appointment to the Marine Resources Advisory Council.

Pursuant to Title 12 MRSA §6024, these nominations are contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources. William J. Randall of Palmyra for appointment and Timothy D. Drake of China for reappointment to the Maine Milk Commission.

Pursuant to Title 7, MRSA §2952, these nominations are contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Erin E. Merrill of Cornville for reappointment and Eileen Bader Hall of Veazie for appointment to the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund Board.

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

Eric Ward of Greenville Junction to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

Pursuant to Title 12 MRSA §10151, this nomination is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Brooke E. Barnes of Harpswell to the Board of Environmental Protection.

Pursuant to Title 38 MRSA, §341-C, this nomination is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

S/Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

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

The Following Communication: (S.P. 829)

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

December 3, 2025

Hon. Matthea Daughtry

President of the Senate

132nd Legislature

Hon. Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

132nd Legislature

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker:

On December 3, 2025, 21 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 December 3, 2025, as follows:

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Bill "An Act to Enhance Support of Local Nutrition Incentive Programs by Modifying the Eligibility Requirements of the Fund to Address Food Insecurity and Provide Nutrition Incentives" (S.P. 820) (L.D. 2004) (Sponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York) (Cosponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren and Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, BLACK of Franklin, President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland, TIPPING of Penobscot, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, Representatives: SALISBURY of Westbrook, GRAHAM of North Yarmouth) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Resolve, Authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands to Make Certain Land Transactions in Aroostook and Somerset Counties (S.P. 822) (L.D. 2006) (Sponsored by Senator BERNARD of Aroostook) (Submitted by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act to Create a Process for the Residents of a Municipality to Withdraw from a School Union" (S.P. 805) (L.D. 1992) (Sponsored by Senator RAFFERTY of York) (Submitted by the Department of Education pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Improve Localization of Emergency Broadcast Messaging" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 819) (L.D. 2003) (Sponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Provide Funding to the Maine School of Science and Mathematics and Clarify Sending School Administrative Unit Obligations" (S.P. 827) (L.D. 2008) (Sponsored by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative MURPHY of Scarborough and Senators: STEWART of Aroostook, RAFFERTY of York, BERNARD of Aroostook, LIBBY of Cumberland, Representatives: GERE of Kennebunkport, BABIN of Fort Fairfield, FROST of Belgrade) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Health and Human Services

Bill "An Act to Increase Access to the Progressive Treatment Program Fund" (S.P. 801) (L.D. 1989) (Sponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington) (Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Clarify Responsibilities of the State in the Laws Governing General Assistance" (S.P. 809) (L.D. 1996) (Sponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York) (Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Laws Governing Facilities for Children and Adults Under the Health and Human Services Laws" (S.P. 815) (L.D. 2001) (Sponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York) (Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Bill "An Act to Update the Requirements for Psychology Licensure" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 802) (L.D. 1990) (Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York) (Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Authorize Registration of Certain Cash-dispensing Machines Through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry and to Limit the Use of Certain Cash-dispensing Machines as Virtual Currency Kiosks" (S.P. 811) (L.D. 1998) (Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York) (Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act Regarding Mail Order Delivery of Prescription Drugs" (S.P. 821) (L.D. 2005) (Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York) (Cosponsored by Representative MATHIESON of Kittery and Senators: HICKMAN of Kennebec, GROHOSKI of Hancock, CURRY of Waldo, RENY of Lincoln, NANGLE of Cumberland, TIPPING of Penobscot, Representative: CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Housing and Economic Development

Bill "An Act to Require the Maine Office of Community Affairs to Establish a Technical Assistance Materials Hub" (S.P. 808) (L.D. 1995) (Sponsored by Senator CURRY of Waldo) (Submitted by the Maine Office of Community Affairs pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Exclude Agricultural Leases from the Definition of 'Subdivision' Under the Planning and Land Use Regulation Laws" (S.P. 812) (L.D. 1999) (Sponsored by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, BLACK of Franklin, HICKMAN of Kennebec, TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland, CURRY of Waldo, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Provide Immunity from Civil Liability for Justices of the Peace" (S.P. 807) (L.D. 1994) (Sponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland) (Submitted by the Judicial Department pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Authorize Issuance of Securities to Modernize and Consolidate Certain Court Facilities" (S.P. 810) (L.D. 1997) (Sponsored by Senator HAGGAN of Penobscot) (Submitted by the Judicial Department pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Labor

Bill "An Act to Increase the Annual Cap on Funds Assessed for the Safety Education and Training Fund" (S.P. 806) (L.D. 1993) (Sponsored by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot) (Submitted by the Department of Labor pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Marine Resources

Bill "An Act to Authorize an Educational Requirement for Seaweed Permit Holders" (S.P. 803) (L.D. 1991) (Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc) (Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Extend the Maine Lobster Marketing Collaborative to December 31, 2031" (S.P. 816) (L.D. 2002) (Sponsored by Senator RENY of Lincoln) (Submitted by the Department of Marine Resources pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

State and Local Government

Bill "An Act to Allow a Political Subdivision to Enter into Federal Bankruptcy Proceedings" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 828) (L.D. 2009) (Sponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington) (Cosponsored by Representatives: TUELL of East Machias, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle, MCINTYRE of Lowell) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Veterans and Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act to Update the Campaign Finance Laws" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 814) (L.D. 2000) (Sponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec) (Submitted by the Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act Regarding the Prohibition of Online Sweepstakes Games" (S.P. 825) (L.D. 2007) (Sponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec) (Submitted by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

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.

The Following Communication: (S.P. 842)

MAINE SENATE 132ND LEGISLATURE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

December 9, 2025

Hon. Matthea Daughtry

President of the Senate

132nd Legislature

Hon. Ryan D. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

132nd Legislature

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker:

On December 9, 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 December 9, 2025, as follows:

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act to Amend the Education Laws Regarding the State Board of Education's Authority Concerning Degree-granting Institutions" (S.P. 838) (L.D. 2045) (Sponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Update Certain Duties Regarding Student Health Related to Communicable and Infectious Disease" (S.P. 839) (L.D. 2046) (Sponsored by Senator RAFFERTY of York) (Submitted by the Department of Education pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Energy, Utilities and Technology

Bill "An Act to Raise the Ogunquit Sewer District Debt Limit" (S.P. 833) (L.D. 2043) (Sponsored by Senator LAWRENCE of York) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

State and Local Government

Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Requirement for Municipalities to Provide Public Notice in a Newspaper" (S.P. 831) (L.D. 2042) (Sponsored by Senator BLACK of Franklin) (BY REQUEST) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Allow for the Transferability of the Biofuel Production and Renewable Chemicals Tax Credits" (S.P. 837) (L.D. 2044) (Sponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Transportation

Resolve, Regarding Online Driver Education (S.P. 840) (L.D. 2047) (Sponsored by Senator STEWART of Aroostook) (BY REQUEST) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Veterans and Legal Affairs

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Fantasy Contest Licensing" (S.P. 841) (L.D. 2048) (Sponsored by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin) (Submitted by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

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.

The Following Communication: (S.P. 857)

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

December 15, 2025
Hon. Matthea Daughtry
President of the Senate
132nd Legislature
Hon. Ryan D. Fecteau
Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature

Dear Madam President and Mr. Speaker:

On December 15, 2025, 12 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 December 15, 2025, as follows:

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Bill "An Act to Require Municipal and County Jails to Be Available at All Times for Detention of Persons Arrested on Criminal Charges by Maine Law Enforcement Officers" (S.P. 845) (L.D. 2058) (Sponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative HASENFUS of Readfield and Senators: BEEBE-CENTER of Knox, CURRY of Waldo) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act to Expand Access to Early Childhood Nutrition by Establishing a Grant Program for Public Preschools" (S.P. 853) (L.D. 2064) (Sponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Senators: PIERCE of Cumberland, INGWERSEN of York, RAFFERTY of York, Representatives: SALISBURY of Westbrook, EATON of Deer Isle, MURPHY of Scarborough) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Environment and Natural Resources

Bill "An Act to Clarify Activities Allowed Under the Natural Resources Protection Act" (S.P. 851) (L.D. 2063) (Sponsored by Senator TEPLER of Sagadahoc) (Submitted by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Health and Human Services

Bill "An Act to Provide One-time Funds to Support the Construction of a Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility for At-risk Youth" (S.P. 854) (L.D. 2065) (Sponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York) (Cosponsored by Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach and Senators: BAILEY of York, MOORE of Washington, Representatives: GATTINE of Westbrook, MEYER of Eliot, STOVER of Boothbay, DAIGLE of Fort Kent) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Establish the Child Care Employment Award" (S.P. 855) (L.D. 2066) (Sponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York) (Cosponsored by Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, MOORE of Washington, NANGLE of Cumberland, ROTUNDO of Androscoggin, Representative: Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Bill "An Act to Provide Additional Financing Options to Consumers in the State" (S.P. 843) (L.D. 2056) (Sponsored by Senator CURRY of Waldo) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Make Technical Changes to the Maine Uniform Securities Act and to Clarify the Securities Administrator's Authority to Grant Licensing Exemptions for Broker-Dealers" (S.P. 846) (L.D. 2060) (Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York) (Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Prohibition on Paper Billing Statement Fees" (S.P. 847) (L.D. 2061) (Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York) (Cosponsored by Representative FOLEY of Wells and Representatives: MORRIS of Turner, MATHIESON of Kittery, ARFORD of Brunswick, FLYNN of Albion, BOYER of Cape Elizabeth) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Housing and Economic Development

Bill "An Act to Support Rehabilitation and Development of Affordable Manufactured Housing Communities" (S.P. 844) (L.D. 2057) (Sponsored by Senator CURRY of Waldo) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Provide Required Funding for the Reimbursement of Assigned Counsel and to Develop the Public Defender Office for Cumberland County" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 852) (L.D. 2059) (Sponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative MOONEN of Portland and Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, DUSON of Cumberland, Representative: SINCLAIR of Bath) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Labor

Bill "An Act to Include Certain Community Mental Health Workers Under the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement" (S.P. 856) (L.D. 2067) (Sponsored by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Senators: President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec, Representatives: Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, ROEDER of Bangor, DHALAC of South Portland, RANA of Bangor) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

Transportation

Bill "An Act to Enhance the Safety of Public Transit Bus Operators Through the Installation of Vehicle Security Barriers" (S.P. 849) (L.D. 2062) (Sponsored by Senator PIERCE of Cumberland) (Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.)

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 Order: (S.P. 877)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 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.

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

BILLS RECALLED FROM GOVERNOR

(Pursuant to Joint Order - House Paper 1391)

An Act to Increase the Size and Balance of Jury Pools

(H.P. 238) (L.D. 338)

(C. "A" H-159)

- In House, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** on May 27, 2025.

- In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** on June 25, 2025.

On motion of Representative MOONEN of Portland, **TABLED** pending **FURTHER CONSIDERATION** and later today assigned.

(Pursuant to Joint Order - House Paper 1444)

An Act to Include Certain Mental Health Data in Firearm Fatalities and Hospitalizations Reports

(H.P. 792) (L.D. 1187)

(S. "A" S-470 to C. "A" H-632)

- In House, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** on June 25, 2025.

- In Senate, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED** on June 25, 2025.

On motion of Representative MOONEN of Portland, **TABLED** pending **FURTHER CONSIDERATION** and later today assigned.

(Pursuant to Joint Order - House Paper 1445)

Resolve, Directing the Permanent Commission on the Status of Women to Study the Extent of Workforce Gender Segregation in the State

(H.P. 341) (L.D. 522)

(C. "A" H-49)

- In House, **FINALLY PASSED** on April 22, 2025.

- In Senate, **FINALLY PASSED** on June 25, 2025.

On motion of Representative MOONEN of Portland, **TABLED** pending **FURTHER CONSIDERATION** and later today assigned.

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

On motion of Representative QUINT of Hodgdon, the House adjourned at 11:43 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 20, 2026, or until the call of the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate, respectively, pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 877) and in honor and lasting tribute to the Honorable Kathy Irene Javner of Chester.