

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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

ORDERS

Joint Orders

In Senate Chamber
Tuesday
March 18, 2025

Senate called to order by President Matthea E. Larsen Daughtry of Cumberland County.

Prayer by Reverend Jeffrey McIlwain, Cumberland County Sheriff's Office Chaplain.

REVEREND JEFFREY MCILWAIN: It's good to see everyone this morning. It is beautiful to be in this beautiful State House, in this dome. We are blessed to be here with all that's going on. We come from so many different places in Maine, and we gather together here in the peoples' house with the representatives that are here, and we lift up prayers from all aspects of our lives, from different -- we want different things for our communities and our families. And as we come today, we come to pray together as a people of Maine, from all religious backgrounds and from all stations. Because we want to see the best come out of ordinary people. We want to see ordinary people in this Senate do extraordinary things. And so, President Daughtry, let us pray. Almighty God, we ask your blessings as we pray together for the State of Maine. We pray for the Senate. We pray for miracles to continue to happen. We pray for blessings to flow from one end of this state to the other. We pray that your people would see amazing communication between these parties that are here. Because it's the people of Maine who have always been leaders. From Joshua Chamberlain to so many others that we could name. And those who are here in this house today making history. May your blessing of providence continue to guide the State of Maine. We seek justice, we seek greatness from this Chamber and from all those representing the people of this great state. May great things happen. We look to you to give thanks as we see progress, as we see things we never thought could be done, from people coming together in the State of Maine to make a difference for this world. We ask your blessings in the name of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen. God bless you.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Anne M. Carney of Cumberland County.

Reading of the Journal of Thursday, March 13, 2025.

Off Record Remarks

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

The Windham High School Boys Basketball Team, which won the Class AA North Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 270

Sponsored by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAGSHAW of Windham, COOPER of Windham.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **NANGLE:** Thank you, Madam President. Good morning, Members of the Senate. I just wanted to stand up and congratulate the Windham Boys' Basketball Team. They won the AA Championship and then went on to win the State Championship. The second in a year for both. Windham and Raymond is very proud of them, and I just want to know about the shared sneaker thing. You guys shared sneakers? One wore one sneaker and the other wore the other sneaker? We'll find out about that later. But anyway, congratulations to them.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber the Windham High School Boys' Basketball Team. They are the guests today of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Nangle. Will they please continue to stand and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate?

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, Madam President. Good morning, Senators and guests. I rise this morning to celebrate some impressive Maine athletes. We have the honor of being joined in the Chamber - they're actually upstairs - but the Maine medalists from the 2023 National Senior Games. Those games were held in Pittsburgh. As an athletic Mainer who has lots of enthusiasm but no ribbons or trophies, I am very excited to celebrate these winners during National Senior Games week. This event begins the countdown to the 2025 National Senior Games which will take place this summer. Over 100 Mainers will travel to Des Moines, Iowa, for two weeks of fierce competition and fun among over 11,000 other adults from across the country. The Maine Senior Games began almost 40 years ago and are open to adults age 45 and up. While you're not a senior at 45, their mission is to get Mainers moving and the earlier that pursuit

starts, the better. Competitive activities are a great way to motivate people to stay healthy, meet fellow athletes, and have fun. Maine Senior Games provides athletic events and wellness opportunities to improve health and fitness for all. For many, the thrill of competing in an athletic event never ends. The Maine Senior Games are held every year here in Maine, they're held in Bangor and Saco, and they include both individual and team events. There's everything from swimming - a personal favorite of mine - and basketball, to archery and candlepin bowling. Athletes who qualify for the National Senior Games can choose to participate at that level, as the Pittsburgh medalists here today have done. I'm excited to see how our athletes will represent Maine this summer.

I'd like to thank all of the medalists and their families who have traveled today from all over the state, and especially Karen Reardon, who is the coordinator for the Maine Senior Games. I want to recognize the medalists, who again are up in the balcony, and I am going to call their names and if you could just please stand and wave as I call your name and then once everybody's been -- once everybody's on their feet, we can as a Senate give them a round of applause.

So, first, Jackie Belanger of Lyman, gold medal for archery, compound release.

Mary Brandes of Falmouth, gold medal for golf.

Kim Coombs from Lyman, bronze medal for hammer throw in track and field.

Dana Cyr of Falmouth, gold medal for archery, compound release.

Members of the Maine 207 team, Christine Dulac of Portland, Michelle Lambert of Portland, Elizabeth Harrington of Woolwich, Cathy Iaconeta of Windham, Kelly LaFountain of Topsham, and Debbie Sullivan of Gray. They were the gold medalists for basketball.

Members of the Maine Fusion team, Cyndi Bona of Scarborough, Sue Dunn of Buxton and Deb Smith of Portland, bronze medal for basketball.

Then Jim Goodman of Penobscot, silver medals in the 50 and 100 breaststroke and the 100-meter freestyle.

Mike Hansen of Topsham, silver medal in the shotput in track and field.

Jerry Levasseur of Brunswick, bronze medal for the 10K road race, silver for the triple jump, and silver for the 400 meter relay.

Margaret Milner of Scarborough, gold medal for the 5K powerwalk and silver medal for the 1500 meter powerwalk.

Karen Reardon of Saco, bronze medal for the discus throw.

Mike Snyder of Portland, gold medal for the shot put.

And finally, Irena Stepan of Gray, bronze medal for singles and mixed doubles in table tennis.

And with that, could you please recognize all of the athletes who have joined us today?

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to announce that you'll be getting your steps and claps in today. I am pleased to recognize in the Gallery again Maine's National Senior Games medalists and guests. They are the guests today of the entire Senate. And once more so we're getting our stretches in, would you please rise and greet the members in the balcony?

delegates from Maine. The United States Senate Youth Program was developed to provide a unique educational experience for outstanding high school students interested in pursuing careers in public service. We extend our congratulations and best wishes; SLS 271

Sponsored by Senator INGWERSEN of York.

Cosponsored by Representatives: Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, GERE of Kennebunkport, MALON of Biddeford.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **INGWERSEN:** Thank you, Madam President. Madam President, I rise today to honor a distinguished young student from the Biddeford-Saco community, Sam Drummey.

Last month, we heard from the Senator from Lincoln about one student selected for the prestigious state's senate youth program, Emmett. I'm proud to welcome the other delegate from Maine of the Senate Youth Program today, Sam Drummey.

The United States Senate Youth Program is a week-long government and leadership program. Students generally rank in the top 1% academically in their state. In addition, students must show outstanding leadership abilities and a strong commitment to public service. Only two students are selected from each state in the nation and invited to Washington DC to listen to the government leaders and other public officials. Each student is also awarded a one-time \$10,000 scholarship for undergraduate studies.

I commend Sam for his hard work, his dedication, and his vision, and I extend my heartfelt congratulations on this well-deserved honor.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is honored to in the rear of the Chamber is pleased to acknowledge Sam Drummey of Biddeford. They are the guests today of the Senator from York, Senator Ingwersen. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Senate?

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Unfinished Business

The following matters in the consideration of which the Senate was engaged at the time of Adjournment had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by Senate Rule 516.

Sam Drummey, of Biddeford, who has been named a delegate to the 2025 United States Senate Youth Program, one of only two

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (2/11/25) matter:

JOINT ORDER - Expression of Legislative Sentiment
Recognizing Alexa Knox, of Saco
SLS 82

Tabled - February 11, 2025 by Senator **BAILEY** of York

Pending – **PASSAGE**

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (2/11/25) matter:

JOINT ORDER - Expression of Legislative Sentiment
Recognizing Sophia Farago-Dumsch, of Saco
SLS 83

Tabled - February 11, 2025 by Senator **BAILEY** of York

Pending - **PASSAGE**

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (2/11/25) matter:

JOINT ORDER - Expression of Legislative Sentiment
Recognizing Sam Drummey, of Saco
SLS 84

Tabled - February 11, 2025 by Senator **BAILEY** of York

Pending - **PASSAGE**

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (2/11/25) matter:

JOINT ORDER - Expression of Legislative Sentiment
Recognizing Abby Lizotte, of Saco
SLS 85

Tabled - February 11, 2025 by Senator **BAILEY** of York

Pending – **PASSAGE**

The Joint Orders were **READ**.

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

Senator **BAILEY:** Thank you, Madam President, Men and Women of the Senate. Today, I'm pleased to rise and recognize the Thornton Academy Speech and Debate Team in the Maine Senate.

Speech team members include Abby Lizotte, Sam Drummey, Sophia Farago-Dumsch, Adeline Burman, Olive Homer, and Toby Fidalgo. Lauren Sonneborn is their advisor. Debate team members include Benjamin Blue, Alexa Knox, and Lien Nguyen. Nathan McKenney and Susan Biggs are their advisors.

Earlier this year, these student orators and debaters competed in the Maine State Speech and Debate Tournament. At the tournament, several individuals placed first or second in their respective categories and events. Starting with the debate category, Alexa Knox was the first-place state champion in the Lincoln-Douglas novice debate. For those who are not familiar, a Lincoln-Douglas debate is a competitive speaking activity that involves two debaters arguing for and against a resolution and voted on by coaches. Somewhat like the old debates, the debate focused on the conflicting values of social and philosophical issues, for example, by examining questions of morality, justice, democracy, etcetera. Typically, the debaters concern themselves with deciding whether or not certain actions or state of affairs are good or bad, right or wrong, moral or immoral. Congratulations on being the best debater, Alexa.

Switching to the speech category, Sophia Farago-Dumsch placed second in the original works event. For this event, competitors performed a self-written piece in a creative format such as poetry, prose, or drama. The piece, typically eight to ten minutes long, showcase the competitors' writing and performance skills, emphasizing originality, storytelling, and emotional impact. Judges evaluated the effectiveness of the writing, delivery, and overall engagement of the performance.

Next up, Sam Drummey - yes, that Sam Drummey that we already heard about from Senator Ingwersen. Sam was the first-place state champion in the extemporaneous speaking event. For this event, competitors have 30 minutes to prepare a five- to seven-minute speech answering a current events question that they did not know in advance. They had to use and cite six or more credible sources, construct a clear argument, and deliver the speech without notes. Judges evaluated analysis, organization, delivery, and the ability to speak persuasively and knowledgeably under time constraints.

Last but not least, Abby Lizotte. Abby was the first-place state champion in the original oratory event. For this event, competitors delivered a self-written persuasive speech on a topic of their choice. The speech, typically eight to ten minutes long, had to be memorized, using logical arguments, emotional appeals, and valid evidence to inform or inspire the audience. Competitors were judged on content, delivery, and their ability to engage and persuade effectively.

As a State Senator, I'm always delighted to welcome constituents, especially students, to the Senate Chamber, where my colleagues and I can celebrate your accomplishments and contributions. I'm very proud of all of you. And for those of you who will go on to compete in the national tournament, I wish you the best of luck. Go, Trojans!

And I would also say that hearing the description of these competitions, I think that these students are well suited for a future in the Legislature should they so choose at any time. Thank you, Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize the recipients of said legislative sentiments. I will read each of your names, if you could please rise when I call your name out? Alexa Knox, Abby Lizotte, Sam Drummey, and Sophia Farago-Dumsch. Would they please rise? They are the guests today of the Senator from York, Senator Bailey, and would they please accept the greetings of the Maine Senate?

The Joint Orders were **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is now pleased to recognize the entire Thornton Academy Speech and Debate Team of Saco. They are the guests today, again, of the Senator from York, Senator Bailey. Would they all please rise, as well as the chaperones, and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate?

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (3/11/25) matter:

JOINT ORDER - Expression of Legislative Sentiment
Recognizing Dwight and Kay Gagnon, of Benton
SLS 199

Tabled - March 11, 2025 by Senator **FARRIN** of Somerset

Pending - **PASSAGE**

The Joint Order was **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would recognize the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Cyrway.

Senator **CYRWAY:** Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I rise to recognize two outstanding people from the town of Benton, Dwight and Kay Gagnon. Their work has benefited not only their town but the surrounding communities as well. Fortunately, I was classmates with Dwight Gagnon and both him and his wife have been lifelong friends. So, I'm so proud to let you know about their accomplishments. They volunteer at the voting booths over at the Town of Benton. They also volunteer for their church and they have been trying to raise funds for a Paul Revere bell historically that was brought to the Benton Falls Church and raised in the steeple and they're trying to refurbish it and get it back up there. It's a lot of money, and they're trying to do their best to get that done. They also -- Benton has a history back many, many years ago, I think early 1900s, where the -- when the dams were going and then they took down the Winslow dam and the Benton Falls dam still is in operation, but it allows the alewives to come up to the Benton Falls dam and we manage to bring back the history of what they did back in the early 1900s where there was allowing one-third of the profits would go towards paying the town's taxes. And so, they brought that back and I think there's been times when now they're raising almost \$90,000 a year just in profits from the alewives coming upstream. So, Dwight is now the warden for taking care of those alewives and he volunteers his time, which is very demanding.

Also, he was recognized by the artwork he did at Windsor Fair and it was one of the top -- well, it was chosen as the top art piece and used as their theme for Windsor Fair. And also, they're Grange members and they volunteer their time. Kay, she does piano for her church and she sings also with the - I'm trying to remember the name, I can't quite remember the name of the group - but they do a lot of like almost quartet type singing and they do it all over the state and it's very impressive.

So, I'm very proud to introduce these two outstanding individuals for the town and I want to join the Good Senator from Somerset in

recognizing Mr. and Mrs. Gagnon. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Dwight and Kay Gagnon of the town of Benton. They are the guests today of the Senator from Somerset, Senator Farrin, and the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Cyrway. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate?

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

Senator **TALBOT ROSS:** Thank you, Madam President. So, earlier this year, Governor Mills announced that 2025 will be celebrated as Maine's Year of Youth in Agriculture, an initiative that was launched during the Maine Agriculture trade shows to recognize and support the next generation of agriculture leaders. For the first time ever, today is also Youth in Agriculture Policy Day at the State House, alongside Maine Agriculture Day, a key opportunity to integrate this important initiative is to connect Maine's students directly with policymakers, industry leaders, and hands-on experiences. So, this morning, I'm very proud to introduce you to ten students from across the State of Maine who are joining us in the Gallery. They have been selected as Policy Day participants from the Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, and the Department of Education, and will attend a committee meeting, Senator Black, they'll be in committee at the ACF this afternoon. They are learning about the legislative process, how to submit a bill, attend a work session, and testify at a public hearing.

There are also students throughout the day here from the Maine Academy of Natural Sciences and Easton schools. These are the next generation of students engaged in agriculture policy within our state. Maine agriculture contributes over \$3.2 billion annually to the state's economy and provides tens of thousands of jobs and it strengthens food security across the state. The students here today are interested in animal health, rural prosperity, the environment, food security, and farm viability, just to name a few. So, I hope that we'll give a very warm, warm welcome to some of our students here today in the State House as they begin their journey in agriculture. Thank you all for being here, and I want to just acknowledge and thank Commissioner Beal for her hard work in making this possible. Thank you all.

THE PRESIDENT: At this time, the Chair would ask the same group of students to please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate.

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

Joint Resolution

The following Joint Resolution:
H.P. 578

**JOINT RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE HOLODOMOR
AS AN ACT OF GENOCIDE AGAINST THE UKRAINIAN
PEOPLE**

WHEREAS, the Ukrainian famine-genocide of 1932-1933, known as the Holodomor, was a human-made famine that caused the deaths of at least 5,000,000 innocent men, women and children in Ukraine, resulting in the annihilation of an estimated 25% of the rural population of the country, an area that at the time was one of the most productive agricultural areas of the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS, the human-made famine also resulted in the deaths of an estimated 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 people in regions outside Ukraine, mostly in the largely ethnically Ukrainian North Caucasus territory; and

WHEREAS, these people were starved to death by forced agricultural collectivization and grain seizures by the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS, Western observers and scholars who accurately reported on the existence of the famine as it was occurring were subjected to disparagement and criticism; and

WHEREAS, the Soviet Union and many scholars in the West denied the existence of the famine until the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 made access to Soviet Union archives, and thereby the documentation of the premeditated nature of the famine and its harsh enforcement, possible; and

WHEREAS, the final report, delivered to Congress on April 12, 1998, of the United States Commission on the Ukraine Famine concluded that the victims "starved to death in a man-made famine" and that Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin "and those around him committed genocide against the Ukrainians in 1932-1933"; and

WHEREAS, although the famine resulted in one of the largest losses of human life in the 20th century, its occurrence remains insufficiently known in the United States and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, official recognition of the famine by the government of Ukraine, including by the country's parliament, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, represents a significant step in the reestablishment of Ukraine's national identity and the advancement of efforts to establish a democratic and free Ukraine that is fully integrated into the Western community of nations; and

WHEREAS, whether it was political oppression or religious persecution that caused Ukrainian immigrants to pursue better lives for themselves and their families, their desire to live in peace

and enjoy liberty was so strong that generations of Ukrainian immigrants came to the United States in an effort to rebuild their lives; and

WHEREAS, since 2006, Ukraine has marked an annual commemoration for the victims of the famine; and

WHEREAS, a memorial to the millions who perished in the Holodomor was erected in Washington, D.C. in 2015, and the dedication ceremony took place in November of that year; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to commemorate the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933, known as the Holodomor, to solemnly remember and honor its millions of victims and to recognize the Holodomor as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people.

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

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize the Senator from Hancock, Senator Grohoski.

Senator **GROHOSKI:** Thank you, Madam President, Colleagues of the Senate. Today, with the passage of this Joint Resolution, Maine will join 35 other states, the European Parliament, and 33 United Nations member states in recognizing the Holodomor as a genocide against the Ukrainian people.

Thank you to my constituent and Ukrainian refugee, Levko Fedorak, for helping to bring the Holodomor atrocity to light. The Holodomor was a manmade famine in Ukraine from 1932 to 1933, resulting in the deaths of an estimated five to seven million people. This tragedy was the result of deliberate policies by the Soviet regime aimed at suppressing and destroying Ukrainians as a people. The term Holodomor translates from Ukrainian as death by hunger or killing by starvation.

This atrocity meets the criteria outlined in the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide as follows. In the present Convention, genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group as such: (1) Killing members of the group; (2) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (3) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; (4) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; and (5) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

The Soviet Government's actions, including extreme grain requisition quotas, confiscation of food and restrictions on movement were calculated measures that led to mass starvation and suffering. The regime made no effort to help those affected and, in fact, actively prevented them from escaping to seek food elsewhere.

Today, the Russian Federation, as the successor state to the Soviet Union, continues to deny the Holodomor as genocide and tragically continues aggression against the Ukrainian people.

While history cannot be changed, our recognition of these crimes is a powerful act of truth telling. By passing this resolution, Maine

acknowledges this dark chapter in history and honors the millions who perished. We also affirm our support for the many Mainers of Ukrainian heritage and stand with those working to preserve human rights and dignity in the face of oppression both past and present.

Thank you, Madam President.

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

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber, Levko Fedorak of the town of Blue Hill. They are the guests today of the Senator from Hancock, Senator Grohoski. Will they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate?

ORDERS

Joint Resolutions

On motion by Senator **GUERIN** of Penobscot, the following Joint Resolution:
S.P. 448

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2025 AS BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, bleeding disorders, which are distinguished by the inability to form a proper blood clot, are characterized by extended bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma or menstruation and can lead to significant morbidity and can be fatal if not treated effectively; and

WHEREAS, many individuals with hemophilia became infected with HIV and hepatitis C in the 1980s due to the contamination of the blood supply and blood products; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will generate greater awareness and understanding of not only hemophilia but all inheritable bleeding disorders, including von Willebrand disease, which alone affects an estimated one percent of the U.S. population, or more than 3.2 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will foster a greater sense of community and shared purpose among all individuals with inheritable bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will elevate awareness of and engagement in the inheritable bleeding disorders journey for the general public, enabling the prevention of illness, unnecessary procedures and disability; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize March 2025 as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **GUERIN:** Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. In 1941, a boy named Lee Henry was born. Just 14 months later, he was diagnosed with hemophilia, a condition where the ability for blood to clot is greatly reduced and even just a small cut can lead to significant bleeding. Eight years later, his father, Robert Lee Henry, began the Hemophilia Foundation in New York State. In 1975, Senator Edward Kennedy introduced the creation of hemophilia treatment centers through legislation.

While many years of research have been conducted, legislation passed, and vaccinations for bleeding disorders introduced, in 1986, President Ronald Reagan designated the month of March as Hemophilia Awareness Month. According to the U.S. CDC, there are approximately three million people nationwide affected by bleeding disorders. Through ongoing research, medical advancements, and greater public awareness, Hemophilia Awareness Month has been expanded and recognized since 2016 as Bleeding Disorder Awareness Month. In doing so, it promotes greater education and awareness amongst the public and policymakers of hemophilia, von Willebrand disease, rare factor disorders, and more.

While it's fresh on our minds, I encourage everyone to take this opportunity to do a little more research on the topic that impacts the lives of so many of our constituents.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this important issue, Madam President.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the balcony Tracey Gideon and guests of the New England Hemophilia Association. They are the guests of the Senator from Piscataquis, Senator Guerin. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Senate?

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

On motion by Senator **MOORE** of Washington (Cosponsored by Senator: **NANGLE** of Cumberland), the following Joint Resolution:
S.P. 476

JOINT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MAY 4, 2025 TO MAY 10, 2025 AS TARDIVE DYSKINESIA AWARENESS WEEK

WHEREAS, serious mental illnesses like bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder and schizophrenia often require treatment with antipsychotic medications for effective management, and antipsychotic prescribing rates continue to rise; and

WHEREAS, while prolonged antipsychotic use may be essential for the treatment of certain conditions, it is associated with tardive dyskinesia, or "TD," a condition marked by uncontrollable, abnormal and repetitive movements of the face, torso, limbs or extremities; and

WHEREAS, people at higher risk of TD include those older than 55 years, Black individuals, women, individuals with mood or substance use disorders, intellectual disabilities or central nervous system injuries and those with high cumulative antipsychotic exposure; and

WHEREAS, approximately 60% of the estimated 800,000 adults in the United States living with TD remain undiagnosed, and even mild TD symptoms can be stigmatizing and impair physical, social and emotional well-being, underscoring the urgency of early screening, detection and intervention; and

WHEREAS, the American Psychiatric Association recommends routine TD screening in their clinical guidelines for antipsychotic treatment, and individuals treated with antipsychotics or experiencing abnormal movements should consult their healthcare providers to assess TD risk, receive TD screenings and determine appropriate treatment together; and

WHEREAS, United States Food and Drug Administration-approved treatments for TD can provide options for symptom management and improved quality of life for many individuals living with TD; and

WHEREAS, the Maine Legislature can encourage TD screening education and awareness for health care providers, patients and care partners to help ensure patients prescribed antipsychotics receive care and support that aligns with clinical best practice, including regular TD screenings; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to designate May 4, 2025 to May 10, 2025 as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week; acknowledge the importance of early detection and intervention to improve outcomes for people living with mental health conditions and prescribed antipsychotics; and express our support for efforts to raise awareness about the causes and symptoms of TD and the importance of routine TD screening.

READ and ADOPTED.

Sent down for concurrence.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook (Cosponsored by Representative MURPHY of Scarborough and Senator: President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland), the following Joint Resolution: S.P. 478

**JOINT RESOLUTION
HONORING THE ROLE OF IRISH IMMIGRANTS AND IRISH-AMERICANS
IN THE AMERICAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE**

WHEREAS, in April 1775 at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts, the American War of Independence began with "the shot heard round the world," which continues to echo to this day. That war 250 years ago inspired Ireland and others in many nations to continue to struggle to be free and to choose their own destinies; and

WHEREAS, just a month later in May 1775, Maurice O'Brien of Cork in Ireland and his 5 sons struck the first blow against the British at sea. The O'Briens and a group of local fishermen in Machias Bay, Maine captured the HMS Margarett in a bold boarding action. When 2 more British warships were sent to reclaim the prize, the O'Briens and their neighbors captured them as well; and

WHEREAS, if the fights at Lexington and Concord were where the American nation was born, it was on June 17, 1775 at the Battle of Bunker Hill that the young American nation came of age; and

WHEREAS, at the heart of this fierce clash were the Fighting Irish and the names of Casey, Collins, Flynn and McGrath were among the names of the fallen. Among the New England militia who rushed to defend Boston Harbor were 176 Irish-born patriots and hundreds more who were children of Irish immigrants, many of whom had arrived as indentured servants; and

WHEREAS, seven Irish officers and dozens of Irish-American officers at Bunker Hill, including Colonel John Stark of New Hampshire, were among the heroes of the day, and among those who paid the ultimate price was Major Andrew McClary, born in County Tyrone, Ireland, who fought valiantly until his tragic death at the very end of the battle. McClary, the highest-ranking American officer killed that day, was the last to leave the battlefield; and

WHEREAS, another figure of Irish descent who played a key role in the revolution was Captain Ebenezer Sullivan. His brothers James and John went on to leave their mark on American history as well: James became governor of Massachusetts and John was a general who forced British troops to evacuate Boston, Massachusetts on St. Patrick's Day in 1776; and

WHEREAS, in December 1775, John Barry from County Wexford, Ireland, later known as the Father of the American Navy, was given command of the USS Lexington, the first commission issued by the Continental Congress. He would go on to receive Commodore Commission Number One from President George Washington; and

WHEREAS, the Battle of Bunker Hill and the shots fired at Lexington and Concord inspired Ireland to continue its struggle for independence, and its freedom and its peace were secured with the steadfast support of the United States of America; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, pause in our deliberations to honor the role of Irish immigrants and Irish-Americans in the American War of Independence.

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you very much, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I would like to wish you all a happy belated St. Patrick's Day. The timing didn't line up quite so well this year with our session days, but we'll send regards either way. And that comes, too, from a friend of this Chamber who has spoken previously in this Chamber, Mark Daly, who is the Senate President in Ireland, who was here I think it was last year or the year before, to commemorate St. Patrick's Day as well as to help foster along the American Irish State Legislators caucus, which some of you are members of already. And he has sent a care package over from the Emerald Isle which I am happy to share with all of you here later today. It does include a flag here for my colleague, Senator Harrington, as well as certificates of initiation into the caucus, and these pins as well that commemorate the caucus and membership thereof. And you don't have to be Irish to be a member of the caucus, you just have to be a friend of Ireland, so it's a rather loose interpretation there. But certainly, we look forward to seeing those ranks grow and I would invite my colleagues after the session is done to join at the well for a photo with the flag and the pins and the certificates.

And I just want to note the significance of this relationship between Ireland and Maine, in particular. I think, you know, I grew up in Aroostook County and the stories that I heard of my ancestors as immigrants was that they fled from Ireland because they were literally starving and that gave roots to the potato farming heritage of northern Maine, of which my family was a part of, and, you know, certainly the military history, both sides in my family have deep roots there in that regard. And so, all of it, there's just so many parallels between both literal relationships with folks in Ireland and the long family lineage that's there as well as the important values and traditions that they brought forward that helped to make not just Maine what it is today but also our country.

And so, I appreciate the opportunity to put forward this resolution to recognize those folks and that history and I appreciate all of your willingness to help recognize that and support that through membership of the American Irish State Legislators caucus here in Maine. So, with that, we'll see you after session and hopefully you got to drink some green beer yesterday. Thank you.

The Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Increase the Procurement of Maine Foods by State-funded Institutions" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 472 L.D. 1141

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative SALISBURY of Westbrook and Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, BLACK of Franklin, GUERIN of Penobscot, INGWERSEN of York, TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, Representatives: PLUECKER of Warren, QUINT of Hodgdon.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Strengthen the Resilience and Growth of Maine's Agricultural Economy"
S.P. 471 L.D. 1140

Presented by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative PLUECKER of Warren and Senators: BLACK of Franklin, BRENNER of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec, Representatives: Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, HEPLER of Woolwich.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Permit the Use of Oral Fluid Testing in Determining the Intoxication of Drivers, Aircraft Operators and Hunters"
S.P. 463 L.D. 1135

Presented by Senator CYRWAY of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative NUTTING of Oakland and Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello, BUNKER of Farmington, HASENFUS of Readfield, LAJOIE of Lewiston, MCINTYRE of Lowell, PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Reduction and Recycling of Food Waste"
S.P. 438 L.D. 1065

Presented by Senator **BRENNER** of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: **BENNETT** of Oxford, **BLACK** of Franklin, **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc, Representatives: **OSHER** of Orono, **PLUECKER** of Warren, **RANA** of Bangor.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for Essential Services for Victims of Crimes" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 470 L.D. 1139

Presented by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative **HENDERSON** of Rumford and Senators: **BENNETT** of Oxford, President **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland, **DUSON** of Cumberland, Representatives: **CARLOW** of Buxton, **CLOUTIER** of Lewiston, **GATTINE** of Westbrook, **STOVER** of Boothbay.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Reimbursement for Volunteers of the So-called Hooked on Fishing - Not on Drugs Program"
S.P. 473 L.D. 1142

Presented by Senator **LAWRENCE** of York.

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

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Update Language on Setback Variances for Single-family Dwellings and Variances from Dimensional Standards"
S.P. 474 L.D. 1143

Presented by Senator **LIBBY** of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative **WADSWORTH** of Hiram.

Bill "An Act to Protect Residents Living in Mobile Home Parks"
S.P. 477 L.D. 1145

Presented by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **RENY** of Lincoln, **TIPPING** of Penobscot, Representative: **SATO** of Gorham.

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Further Protect Low-impact Landscaping"
S.P. 453 L.D. 1132

Presented by President **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative **HENDERSON** of Rumford and Senators: **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, **INGWERSEN** of York, Representatives: **ANKELES** of Brunswick, **DODGE** of Belfast, **DOUDERA** of Camden, **SATO** of Gorham.

Bill "An Act to Allow Electric Vehicle Charging Stations by Condominium and Residential Associations"
S.P. 457 L.D. 1133

Presented by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative **OSHER** of Orono and Senators: **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, **NANGLE** of Cumberland, **RENY** of Lincoln, **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc, Representatives: **BOYER** of Poland, **CROCKETT** of Portland, **FAIRCLOTH** of Bangor.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Males from Participating in Female Sports or Using Female Facilities"
S.P. 461 L.D. 1134

Presented by Senator **BERNARD** of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative **SMITH** of Palermo and Senators: **GUERIN** of Penobscot, **HAGGAN** of Penobscot, Representatives: **BAGSHAW** of Windham, **LYMAN** of Livermore Falls.

Bill "An Act to Defend the Rights of LGBTQ+ Persons in the State"
S.P. 464 L.D. 1136

Presented by President **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative **SATO** of Gorham and Senators: **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, **RENY** of Lincoln, Representatives: Speaker **FECTEAU** of Biddeford, **KUHN** of Falmouth, **MOONEN** of Portland, **OSHER** of Orono, **RANA** of Bangor.

Bill "An Act to Expand Landowner Liability Protections to Include Sport Shooting Ranges"
S.P. 467 L.D. 1137

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft and
Senators: BRADSTREET of Kennebec, TIMBERLAKE of
Androscoggin, Representatives: ARDELL of Monticello,
DRINKWATER of Milford.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Reinstate the Property Tax Stabilization Program"
S.P. 475 L.D. 1144

Presented by Senator LIBBY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: BICKFORD of Androscoggin,
STEWART of Aroostook.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Reduce Pollution Associated with Transportation in
Alignment with the State's Climate Action Plan"
S.P. 469 L.D. 1138

Presented by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative CRAFTS of Newcastle and
Senators: President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, TEPLER of
Sagadahoc, Representatives: ANKELES of Brunswick, DODGE
of Belfast, DOUDERA of Camden, MURPHY of Scarborough,
SACHS of Freeport, STOVER of Boothbay.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Non-Concurrent Matter

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

In Senate, March 4, 2025, **REFERRED** to the Committee on
AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY and
ordered printed in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

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

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, the Senate
RECEDED and **CONCURRED**.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act to Ensure Determinations Made by the State Are Free
from Unethical, Unsafe or Illegal Interference by Artificial
Intelligence"
H.P. 558 L.D. 872

In Senate, March 4, 2025, **REFERRED** to the Committee on
ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY in **NON-
CONCURRENCE**.

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

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, the Senate
RECEDED and **CONCURRED**.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication:
S.P. 459

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

March 14, 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 March 14, 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 March 14, 2025, as follows:

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Land for Maine's Future Program and to Authorize the Use of Options to Purchase at Agricultural Value" (S.P. 458) (L.D. 1072) (Sponsored by Senator BRENNER of Cumberland) (Submitted by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act to Require Personal Finance to Be Taught as a Separate Course in Order for a Student to Obtain a High School Diploma" (S.P. 454) (L.D. 1069) (Sponsored by President DAUGHTRY of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative CROCKETT of Portland and Senators: RAFFERTY of York, BERNARD of Aroostook, NANGLE of Cumberland, Representatives: WOODSOME of Waterboro, CARLOW of Buxton, MURPHY of Scarborough)

Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Conduct a Review of the Implementation of Public Law 2021, Chapter 295 and Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Consult with School Administrators Regarding Developing a Plan for Community-based Crisis Receiving Centers (S.P. 456) (L.D. 1071) (Sponsored by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Senators: TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland, RENY of Lincoln, Representative: BOYER of Poland)

Health and Human Services

Bill "An Act Regarding Limits on Municipal General Assistance Programs" (S.P. 450) (L.D. 1066) (Sponsored by Senator BERNARD of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Representative SMITH of Palermo and Representatives: DUCHARME of Madison, QUINT of Hodgdon)

Resolve, to Study a Medicaid Forward Plan for Maine (S.P. 455) (L.D. 1070) (Sponsored by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Representative ARFORD of Brunswick and Senators: TEPLER of Sagadahoc, TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland, CARNEY of Cumberland, RENY of Lincoln, Representative: FAIRCLOTH of Bangor)

Housing and Economic Development

Bill "An Act to Improve the Process for Mobile Home Owners to Purchase Their Mobile Home Park" (S.P. 451) (L.D. 1067) (Sponsored by Senator BRADSTREET of Kennebec) (Cosponsored by Senators: CYRWAY of Kennebec, MARTIN of Oxford, Representatives: DRINKWATER of Milford, COLLINS of Sidney)

State and Local Government

Bill "An Act to Allow the People to Elect the State Auditor" (S.P. 452) (L.D. 1068) (Sponsored by Senator BRADSTREET of Kennebec) (Cosponsored by Senator: HICKMAN of Kennebec,

Representatives: BOYER of Poland, HENDERSON of Rumford, CARUSO of Caratunk)

Sincerely,

S/Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Following Communication:
S.P. 468

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

March 14, 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 March 14, 2025, 4 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 March 14, 2025, as follows:

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill "An Act Regarding Unallocated Balances in a School Administrative Unit School Budget" (S.P. 466) (L.D. 1103) (Sponsored by Senator RAFFERTY of York) (Cosponsored by Representative MITCHELL of Cumberland and Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, SARGENT of York, HAGGAN of Hampden)

Health and Human Services

Resolve, to Raise Awareness of the Importance of Brain Health and Reducing the Risk of Dementia (S.P. 465) (L.D. 1102) (Sponsored by Senator GUERIN of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Senator: BENNETT of Oxford)

Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Requirements for Accessing Nonformulary Drugs and Drugs Used to Treat Serious Mental Illness" (S.P. 460) (L.D. 1100) (Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York) (Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.)

Judiciary

Bill "An Act to Address the Limited Availability of Counsel in Courts to Represent Indigent Parties in Matters Affecting Their Fundamental Rights" (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 462) (L.D. 1101) (Sponsored by Senator CARNEY of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative KUHN of Falmouth)

Sincerely,

S/Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sent down for concurrence.

The Following Communication:
S.C. 137

**THE STATE OF MAINE
132nd LEGISLATURE
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

March 13, 2025

Honorable Darek M. Grant
Secretary of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Dear Secretary Grant:

Pursuant to our authority under Title 12, Chapter 619, Subchapter 2, §6447 of the Maine Revised Statutes, we are pleased to appoint the following members to the Lobster Management Policy Council effective immediately:

- Senator Marianne Moore of Calais – Zone A
- Representative Gary Friedmann of Bar Harbor – Zone B
- Representative Holly Eaton of Deer Isle, reappointment – Zone C
- Senator Cameron Reny of Bristol, reappointment – Zone D
- Representative Allison Hepler of Woolwich, reappointment – Zone E
- Representative Dylan Pugh of Portland – Zone F
- Representative Parnell Terry of Gorham – Zone G

Should you have questions regarding these appointments, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

S/Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry S/Ryan D. Fecteau
President of the Senate Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:
S.C. 144

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

March 14, 2025

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

RE: Appointment of Carl Wilson as Temporary Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources

Dear President Daughtry:

I am pleased to appoint Carl Wilson of Alna as Temporary Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources, effective March 14, 2025.

This appointment is being made pursuant to Title 5, MRS § 1, and provides authority to Mr. Wilson to exercise the powers and duties of the Commissioner.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:
S.C. 145

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

March 14, 2025

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

RE: Appointment of Carl Wilson of Alna as the Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources

Dear President Daughtry:

I am pleased to inform you that I am nominating Carl Wilson of Alna as the Commissioner of the Department of Marine Resources.

Pursuant to 12, MRSA, §6022, this nomination is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:
S.C. 146

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

March 14, 2025

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

RE: Reappointment of Philip L. Bartlett II, Esq. to the Maine Public Utilities Commission

Dear President Daughtry:

I am pleased to nominate Philip L. Bartlett II, Esq. of Portland for reappointment as Chair of the Maine Public Utilities Commission.

Pursuant to 35-A, MRSA, §105, this reappointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology.

Signed,

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication:
S.C. 141

STATE OF MAINE

**ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

March 13, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate of Maine
132nd Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Madam President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development has had under consideration the nomination of Simon Ferland of Bangor, for appointment to the Finance Authority of Maine.

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

YEAS	Senators	1	Curry, C. of Waldo
	Representatives	9	Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Eder, J. of Waterboro, Golek, C. of Harpswell, Julia, C. of Waterville, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Mingo, A. of Calais, Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Walker, M. of Naples, Yusuf, Y. of Portland
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Sen. Bennett, R. of Oxford, Rep. Collamore, A. of Pittsfield

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Simon Ferland of Bangor, for appointment to the Finance Authority of Maine be confirmed.

S/Chip Curry
Senate Chair

S/Traci Gere
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 132nd Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 35 Senators having voted in the negative, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present, and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination **Michael J. Foley, Jr.** of Cape Elizabeth for appointment to the Financial Authority of Maine was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:
S.C. 143

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

March 13, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate of Maine
132nd Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Madam President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Housing and Economic Development has had under consideration the nomination of William C. Tracy of Wales, for reappointment to the Finance Authority of Maine.

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

YEAS	Senators	1	Curry, C. of Waldo
	Representatives	8	Gere, T. of Kennebunkport, Eder, J. of Waterboro, Golek, C. of Harpswell, Julia, C. of Waterville, Malon, M. of Biddeford, Mingo, A. of Calais, Roberts, T. of South Berwick, Yusuf, Y. of Portland
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		4	Sen. Bailey, D. of York, Sen. Bennett, R. of Oxford, Rep. Collamore, A. of Pittsfield, Rep. Walker, M. of Naples

Nine members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the

nomination of William C. Tracy of Wales, for reappointment to the Finance Authority of Maine be confirmed.

S/Chip Curry
Senate Chair House Chair

S/Traci Gere

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 132nd Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#43)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, CYRWAY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 35 Senators having voted in the negative, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination **William C. Tracy** of Wales. for reappointment to the Financial Authority of Maine was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:
S.C. 135

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

March 12, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate of Maine
132nd Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Madam President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary has had under consideration the nomination of Edward S. David, Esq. of Farmington, for reappointment to the Maine Human Rights Commission.

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

YEAS	Senators	2	Carney, A. of Cumberland, Talbot Ross, R. of Cumberland
	Representatives	9	Kuhn, A. of Falmouth, Babin, M. of Fort Fairfield, Caruso, E. of Caratunk, Henderson, R. of Rumford, O'Halloran, D. of Brewer, Poirier, J. of Skowhegan, Pugh, D. of Portland, Sato, E. of Gorham, Sinclair, D. of Bath
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		2	Sen. Haggan, D. of Penobscot, Rep. Lee, A. of Auburn

Rep. Dana of Passamaquoddy Tribe was absent.

Eleven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Edward S. David of Farmington, for reappointment to the Maine Human Rights Commission be confirmed.

S/Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Amy D. Kuhn
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 132nd Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#44)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, CYRWAY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 35 Senators having voted in the negative, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination **Edward S. David** of Farmington for reappointment to the Maine Human Rights Commission was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:
S.C. 138

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR**

March 12, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate of Maine
132nd Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Madam President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor has had under consideration the nomination of Paul H. Gendreau of Waterville, for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board.

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

YEAS	Senators	2	Tipping, M. of Penobscot, Bradstreet, D. of Kennebec
	Representatives	5	Roeder, A. of Bangor, Beck, M. of South Portland, Collins, A. of Sidney, Drinkwater, G. of Milford, Macias, R. of Topsham
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		6	Sen. Rafferty, J. of York, Rep. Archer, M. of Saco, Rep. Geiger, V. of Rockland, Rep. Libby, L. of Auburn, Rep. Skold, C. of Portland, Rep. Soboleski, M. of Phillips

Seven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Paul H. Gendreau of Waterville, for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Michael Tipping
Senate Chair

S/Amy Jean Roeder
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 132nd Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#45)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, BRENNER, CARNEY, CURRY, CYRWAY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HAGGAN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MARTIN, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TALBOT ROSS, TEPLER, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 35 Senators having voted in the negative, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination **Paul H. Gendreau** of Waterville for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication:
S.C. 139

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON LABOR**

March 12, 2025

The Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry
President of the Senate of Maine
132nd Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Madam President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Labor has had under consideration the nomination of Ronald P. Green, Jr. of Plymouth, for reappointment to the Workers' Compensation Board.

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

The Following Communication:
S.C. 148

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY SECOND LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS**

March 12, 2025

Honorable Matthea Elisabeth Larsen Daughtry, President of the Senate
Honorable Ryan D. Fecteau, Speaker of the House
132nd Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that the Joint Standing Committee on Veterans and Legal Affairs has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

- L.D. 118 An Act to Allow Candidates for Sheriff and District Attorney to Participate in the Maine Clean Election Act
- L.D. 313 An Act to Improve Voter Confidence in Electronic Ballot Counting by Requiring Ballots to Contain Unique Identifiers
- L.D. 454 An Act to Allow Candidates for Secretary of State or Attorney General to Participate in the Maine Clean Election Act
- L.D. 718 An Act to Require Municipal Clerks to Issue Absentee Ballots Only to Residents of That Municipality and to Eliminate Ongoing Absentee Voter Status

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Craig V. Hickman
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Laura Supica
House Chair

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Ought to Pass

The Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Resolve, to Name the Bridge Between Milford and Old Town the Alton L. Drinkwater Memorial Bridge
H.P. 334 L.D. 516

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

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

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in concurrence.

Ought to Pass As Amended

The Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Make Supplemental Allocations from the Highway Fund and Other Funds for the Expenditures of State Government and to Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2025" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 179 L.D. 275

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-12).**

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-12).**

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Committee Amendment "A" (H-12) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED**, in concurrence.

Senate

Ought to Pass

Senator TIPPING for the Committee on **LABOR** on Bill "An Act to Create Consistency in Retirement Service Benefits Deferral Under the Maine Public Employees Retirement System"
S.P. 106 L.D. 240

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

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

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED.**

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Change the Limits on Candidates' Communications with Voters at the Polls"
S.P. 86 L.D. 199

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

Signed:

Senators:

HICKMAN of Kennebec
DUSON of Cumberland

Representatives:

SUPICA of Bangor
FROST of Belgrade
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth
GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach
MALON of Biddeford
TERRY of Gorham

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

Signed:

Senator:

TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin

Representatives:

BOYER of Poland
CHAPMAN of Auburn
FREDERICKS of Sanford
HYMES of Waldo

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**

Sent down for concurrence.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING AN APPLICATION TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES CALLING AN ARTICLE V CONVENTION TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT ADDRESSING CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM"
S.P. 173

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

Signed:

Senators:

DUSON of Cumberland
TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin

Representatives:

SUPICA of Bangor
BOYER of Poland
FAIRCLOTH of Bangor
FROST of Belgrade
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth
HYMES of Waldo
MALON of Biddeford
TERRY of Gorham

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

Signed:

Senator:

HICKMAN of Kennebec

Representatives:

CHAPMAN of Auburn
FREDERICKS of Sanford

Reports **READ**.

Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report.

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

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Madam President, Fellow Members of the Senate. I rise to encourage a vote against the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report. Our politics is broken. We see that, unhappily, in this building. I believe our government is corrupted by money. People do not trust the institutions that hold up our society. Our nation as we know it is in peril. Washington is a mess. Profound changes are needed. One area that needs immediate reform is our campaign finance laws. Results from a 2019 poll by the Campaign Legal Center show that 61% of voters believe that major changes need to be made to the campaign finance system and 83% of voters support publicly disclosing contributions to organizations involved in elections. On top of that, 72% say there should be limits on the amount of money individuals can spend on political campaigns, according to a 2023 Pew Research study. Americans, Mainers, our constituents are desperate for reform. Concerns about political corruption and self-dealing degrade trust in our political systems. The Pew Research study revealed that 63% of Americans believe that elected officials run for office in order to make money. Additionally, 80% of U.S. adults believe that campaign donors have too much influence on congress, and 73% believe that lobbyists and special interest groups have too much influence. This means people feel voiceless. Despite these cries from the American people to fix our cherished institutions, incumbent and entrenched interests for whom the

current system works well continue to frustrate these commonsense reform efforts. We cannot wait for Congress to act. Without our demanding change, they will do nothing. For a representative democracy to function properly, elected officials must be the voice of their constituents and voters require access to information that allows them to assess candidates for public office and to hold them accountable once elected. Our country's founders recognized the importance of this and wrote the First Amendment to enable we the people to participate in informed debates and scrutinize our Representatives and the election process that chooses them. This democratic promise is threatened when wealthy special interest groups, big donors, and powerful corporations with unlimited money exert their power on our political system.

I strongly urge you to vote against this pending motion because we need to improve transparency and trust in our elected officials and prevent corruption. Our founders created the opportunity for states to propose specific amendments to the U.S. Constitution through Article V Conventions. Article V allows the people of our country, through us, the State Legislatures, to propose amendments when Congress fails to act. Thanks to the founders, we have it within our power here in Maine, here today with this proposal, to stem the erosion of our democratic heritage. Please vote against the motion so that we can give the people a lifeline of hope for true reform.

Madam President, I request the yeas and nays.

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

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Madam President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate. I'm trying -- I apologize to you, I'm trying to pull up the actual text of what the resolution is asking for, because I think that's important.

I have reservations around Article V Conventions just generally speaking, but would want to know how narrowly tailored this particular request is. And I mean, I totally hear what the Senator from Oxford is saying. In fact, in Maine, you know, there's so much money and, in fact, I think it benefits Republicans more than Democrats to address campaign finance reform because you have almost every Democrat running for the State Legislature running Clean Elections and yet the PACs run by the leadership raise millions. I mean, doubling up Republicans or quadrupling up in some election years.

And so, I do think that an even playing field is very important. I do think that getting the money in an actual way, out of politics, makes sense because then the ideas actually have space for breath and, you know, when you're outspent four to one, it makes it really tough to, you know, penetrate any of those media markets and get the message out. So, I would want to know what the actual proposal is and beyond that, I'd like to know, too, whether it would apply to unions who give millions every year to my friends across the aisle on the Democrat side and would treat them the same way as a corporation for the purposes of political giving or not. I think these are all really important things that will weigh on my thought process here as I figure out how to vote on this motion. Thank you.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Madame Chair, I should've been more clear. I pose all of that as a question through the Chair and appreciate the latitude there. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Ought Not to Pass Report. A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#47)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, CARNEY, CURRY, DUSON, GUERIN, HAGGAN, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, MARTIN, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENEY, ROTUNDO, TEPLER, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, PRESIDENT DAUGHTRY

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BERNARD, BICKFORD, BLACK, BRADSTREET, BRENNER, CYRWAY, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, LIBBY, MOORE, STEWART, TALBOT ROSS

19 Senator having voted in the affirmative and 16 Senators having voted in the negative, the motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, **PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

ENACTORS

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

Acts

An Act to Designate the Warden of the Maine State Prison as Chief Administrative Officer of the Bolduc Correctional Facility
S.P. 28 L.D. 17

An Act to Revitalize the Maine Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Advisory Council
H.P. 49 L.D. 85

An Act to Facilitate the Improvement of Credit Scores of Residents of Department of Corrections Facilities
H.P. 62 L.D. 97

An Act Regarding Licensure of Emergency Medical Services Persons
S.P. 44 L.D. 123

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

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Unfinished Business

The following matters in the consideration of which the Senate was engaged at the time of Adjournment have preference in the Orders of the Day and continue with such preference until disposed of as provided by Senate Rule 516.

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (2/25/25) matter:

Bill "An Act to Create Parity in the Taxation of Medicine by Exempting Sales of Cannabis for Medical Use"
H.P. 363 L.D. 544

Tabled - February 25, 2025 by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland

Pending - **REFERENCE**

(Committee on **TAXATION** suggested and ordered printed.)

(In House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.)

Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland moved the Senate **REFER** Bill and accompanying papers to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and order printed, in concurrence.

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

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

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (3/11/25) matter:

Bill "An Act to Support the Maintenance, Preservation and Promotion of State Historic Sites" (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 320 L.D. 761

Tabled - March 11, 2025 by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland

Pending - **CONSIDERATION**

(In Senate, February 25, 2025, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.)

(In House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.)

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, the Senate **RECEDED** and **CONCURRED**.

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

Senator **GUERIN:** Thank you, Madam President, and as part of the Women in History Month, it's my turn today. And while I'm describing my woman in history, if you want to find -- if Members want to find the To God be the Glory words, we're going to have an opportunity to do some singing in a minute, so be ready. Those are on your desk.

Fanny Crosby's life is a testament to unwavering faith and remarkable resilience. Here's a glimpse into her inspiring story. She was born on March 24, 1820, in Brewster, New York. She lost her sight as a little baby of only six weeks old due to a medical mishap where she had a slight eye infection and they treated it with hot mustard poultices which burned her corneas. Her early life, amazingly, was filled with learning and memorization, especially of the Bible. She attended the New York Institute of the Blind, where she excelled academically and developed her poetic talents.

Fanny Crosby became one of the most prolific hymn writers in history, penning over eight thousand hymns and gospel songs. Her hymns are known for their heartfelt expressions of faith, hope, and love. Some of her most popular hymns include Blessed Assurance, To God be the Glory, Safe in the Arms of Jesus, Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior. Her hymns have touched the lives of millions nationwide and across the world.

Fanny Crosby dedicated her life to serving others, particularly the poor and the marginalized. She actively participated in rescue mission work in New York City, ministering to those in need. She had a heart for the lost and the destitute and she used her gifts to share the gospel and to offer comfort to others. Fanny was a person of unwavering faith. Despite her blindness, Fanny Crosby maintained a positive outlook and attributed her talent to divine inspiration. She lived a life of selfless service, prioritizing the needs of others. Today, her hymns continue to be sung in churches and homes around the world, inspiring generations of believers.

Fanny Crosby's life is a powerful reminder of even in the face of adversity, one can live a life of purpose, impact, and lasting influence. And as I said, on your desk, you'll find the words to one of her hymns, To God be the Glory, and due to my lack of singing abilities, Senator Moore has kindly agreed to lead us in the singing of this classic American hymn.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize the Senator from Washington, Senator Moore.

Senator **MOORE**: The things I do for buddies, right? All right, everybody sing with me, I know you know this song.

To God be the glory, great things He hath done; so loved He the world that He gave us His son, who yielded His life our redemption to win, and opened the life gate that all may go in. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

Off Record Remarks

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

Senator **TEPLER**: Thank you, Madam President, and Fellow Colleagues of the Senate. I'm going to join in our tradition today of honoring Maine women for Women's History Month, and I'm rising with both a heavy heart and a spirit of deep gratitude to honor the legacy of Dr. Julia Gamble Kahrl, who those of us who knew her called Judy.

She was a cherished constituent, a trailblazing philanthropist, and a fearless advocate for women's reproductive rights. She was heir to the Procter & Gamble fortune, but she was never a lazy heiress. She was a long-time Arrowsic resident and Judy passed away in January of this year. Her tireless work in advancing women's rights and family planning not only transformed lives here in Maine but also around the world. Her remarkable journey began at 19 when she participated in the Planned Parenthood international conference in Stockholm, Sweden. After she graduated from college, she began serving on the board of her family's international NGO Pathfinder International. Her activism infused her work as she raised her own children and served on the boards of directors of their schools.

In 1995, Judy came to Midcoast Maine to retire, living for three decades in Bath and Arrowsic, where she became deeply connected to the Maine community, particularly supporting women's and men's access to full reproductive healthcare. She traveled many times to Peru, Kenya, Tanzania, and Rwanda to support the work of promoting safe motherhood, reproductive healthcare, environmental conservation, and healthcare education.

In 2010, the Peruvian government recognized her with the Daniel Alcides Carrion award for her work to reduce maternal mortality in Peru. She traveled to Tanzania where she helped Pathfinder International to pioneer work in the field of population health and environment. In 2013, Judy founded the Grandmothers for Reproductive Rights. And I wish I was wearing my yellow scarf and button today, but I'm not. She tirelessly lobbied in Washington and in Maine to work to protect women's reproductive freedoms, GRR. In 2022, the state recognized her by inducting Judy into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame. Judy's journey serves as a powerful reminder of the strength inherent in every woman. As we celebrate the achievements of women throughout history, we honor Judy Kahrl's memory by dedicating ourselves to a future where every woman is free to

choose, to lead, and to thrive. Thank you.

Off Record Remarks

The Senate considered the following additional papers:

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act Regarding the Required State of Mind Relating to Robbery"
H.P. 751 L.D. 1146

Bill "An Act Regarding the Required State of Mind Relating to the Threatening Display or Carrying of a Concealed Weapon"
H.P. 752 L.D. 1147

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

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

Bill "An Act to Establish a Permanent Free Community College Program for Maine"
H.P. 737 L.D. 1118

Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for MaineCare-related Services for Public Schools"
H.P. 742 L.D. 1123

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

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

Bill "An Act to Establish Immunity for a Receiver Appointed by the Public Utilities Commission to Oversee the Operations of a Consumer-owned Water Utility"
H.P. 746 L.D. 1127

Bill "An Act to Advance Long-duration Energy Storage Within the State"
H.P. 749 L.D. 1130

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

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

Bill "An Act to Provide Water Service Infrastructure to Fairfield Residents Affected by Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances"
H.P. 730 L.D. 1111

Bill "An Act to Amend the Law Banning Single-use Carry-out Bags"
H.P. 741 L.D. 1122

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **TEPLER** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Reunification of Foster Children with Their Parents"
H.P. 727 L.D. 1108

Bill "An Act Regarding the Impact of Certain Nonemergency Transportation Services Contracts on Community Action Agency Programs"
H.P. 744 L.D. 1125

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

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

Bill "An Act to Require Remittance Fees for Money Transmissions"
H.P. 729 L.D. 1110

Bill "An Act to Expand Eligibility Under the State's Group Health Plan to Employees and Members of the Maine Association for the Education of Young Children"
H.P. 734 L.D. 1115

Bill "An Act Regarding Reproductive Health Care"
H.P. 738 L.D. 1119

Bill "An Act to Modernize the Formulary for Naturopathic Doctors"
H.P. 747 L.D. 1128

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

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

Bill "An Act to Provide Funds for the Redevelopment of the Island Nursing Home in Hancock County into Affordable Senior Housing" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 725 L.D. 1106

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

On motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Retirement Benefits and Salary Adjustments for Judicial Employees"
H.P. 743 L.D. 1124

Bill "An Act to Clarify Standards for Defendants' Post-judgment Motions for Relief from Protection from Abuse Orders"
H.P. 748 L.D. 1129

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

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

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Maine's Workforce Through Certified Preapprenticeship Training Programs"
H.P. 736 L.D. 1117

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

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

Bill "An Act to Ensure Equitable Access for All Caregivers to Diaper Changing Stations in State Buildings Open to the Public"
H.P. 740 L.D. 1121

Bill "An Act to Reform the Process by Which a Person May Petition an Agency to Adopt or Modify Rules Under the Maine Administrative Procedure Act"
H.P. 750 L.D. 1131

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

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

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

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**.

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

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

Bill "Act to Create a Working Group to Support Tax Expenditure Evaluation Efforts"
H.P. 726 L.D. 1107

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Requiring Not Less Than 90 Percent State Reimbursement for Residential Real Estate Property Tax Exemptions and to Establish a Minimum Homestead Exemption
H.P. 731 L.D. 1112

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

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

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

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, **ADJOURNED**, until Tuesday, March 20, 2025 at 10:00 in the morning, or to the call of the President and Speaker respectively.

Bill "An Act to Protect the Constitutional Rights of Petition Circulators"
H.P. 735 L.D. 1116

Bill "An Act to Improve Access to Absentee Ballots for Municipal Elections for Uniformed Service Voters and Overseas Voters"
H.P. 753 L.D. 1148

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

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

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

The Senate considered the following additional papers:

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Report of the Chair - Pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2

The Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Resolve, Requiring the Maine Health Data Organization to Develop a Plan for Measuring Gaps in Home and Community-based Services
H.P. 637 L.D. 977