

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

In Senate Chamber
Tuesday
March 21, 2023

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

Prayer by Pastor Steve Christner of Calvary Baptist Church in Turner.

PASTOR CHRISTNER: Thank you for inviting me to be here today. My understanding is the very first Senate meeting here in Maine, part of that opening was prayer and we're still doing it today. I appreciate the priority and the importance put on prayer. We need to see the Lord and we need to pray, so let's do it right now. Let us pray. Lord, Jesus, we thank You we can pray. We thank You, God, that You listen. We thank You, God, that You care. We thank You, Lord, that You want us to pray. Thank You, Lord, for Your faithfulness in our prayers. Please bless our country, protect our country, guide us. I pray for those right now that are protecting our freedoms. Bless our state. Thank You, Lord, for the freedoms that we have today. Thank You, Lord, for answering prayers in the past and I pray right now for this session. I pray for each Senator. I pray, God, You bless them personally. Bless their burdens, their cares that they have and they carry. Be with them. Bless the meeting today, the session today, the work to be done. I pray for guidance. I pray for clarity, for justice, for right. Thank You, God, that we can make - that we can come to pray. Thank You, Lord, for Jesus that made it possible. Our hope - our hope for forgiveness, our hope for blessing and grace and salvation. Thank You, Lord, that we can come here. Bless this meeting, bless the work to be done. We ask You, Lord, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Michael Tipping of Penobscot County.

Reading of the Journal of Thursday, March 16, 2023.

Off Record Remarks

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

ORDERS

Joint Orders

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

The Lawrence High School Girls Basketball Team, of Fairfield, which won the Class A State Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 282

Sponsored by Senator LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec. Cosponsored by Representative: RUDNICKI of Fairfield.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator LaFountain.

Senator **LAFOUNTAIN:** Thank you, Mr. President. I rise to congratulate the Lawrence High School Girls Basketball Team who recently capped off their incredible season with winning the Class A State Championship earlier this month. I am honored to represent communities like Fairfield and surrounding areas who support their schools and teams, who work so hard balancing academics, athletics, employment, and more. With an incredible season record of 16 wins to 3 losses, this team embodies resilience and determination coming off a heartbreaking regional defeat in 2022. This team took that loss on the chin and turned defeat into motivation and a chip on their shoulder that they carried with them all season. In the Class A State Title game they were faced with adversity once again as Brunswick took a quick 5-0 lead to start the game, but this group stuck together as they had all year, led by a tightknit group of seniors who had been playing ball together since they were in second grade. After starting with the 5-0 deficit, the Bulldogs went on to win at a 12-0 run and they were off. Senior Hope Bouchard led the Bulldogs to 25 points with 6 rebounds, besting Brunswick by a score of 58-43, leaving no doubt that they deserved the Gold Ball. I look forward to what these players will accomplish in the future and hope they continue their success for years to come. That is truly something special to seeing an entire town rally around a team and support them every step of the way and I will also add that they were playing some of the best basketball I've seen in decades. Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Somerset, Senator Farrin.

Senator **FARRIN:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I rise today to recognize the State Championship team from Lawrence as well. This is a first for me with redistricting, having some of the towns that attend Lawrence High School with Clinton, and Albion, Unity. So, it's great when it spreads that reach over and having another State Championship team here. You ladies did an amazing job representing the community so well. The support of your family and friends and school and enjoy your day here in Augusta today. I know you're going to be recognized throughout and it is about you. You are State Champions and you deserve to be recognized that way. You'll continue to do great things in our community and God bless. Thank you, Mr. President.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is very pleased to recognize up in the Gallery the Lawrence High School Girls Basketball Class A State Champions. They are from the town of Fairfield. They are the guests today of the Senator from Kennebec, Senator LaFountain, and the Senator from Somerset, Senator Farrin. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate and congratulations.

The Old Orchard Beach High School Girls Basketball Team, which won the Class C State Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 283

Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Representative: GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach.

The Old Orchard Beach High School Eight-Man Football Team, which won the 2022 State Small School Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 284

Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Representative: GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach.

Elise MacNair, of Old Orchard Beach, a student at Old Orchard Beach High School and a member of the girls basketball team, who recently scored her 1,000th career point. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 285

Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Representative: GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach.

Landen Johnson, of Old Orchard Beach, a student at Old Orchard Beach High School and a member of the boys basketball team, who recently scored his 1,000th career point. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 286

Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Representative: GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach.

Matt Regan, of Saco, Old Orchard Beach High School Boys Basketball Coach, who was named the Class C South Boys Coach of the Year. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 287

Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Representatives: COPELAND of Saco, GATTINE of Westbrook, O'NEIL of Saco.

Dean Plante, of Old Orchard Beach, Old Orchard Beach High School Girls Basketball Coach, who was named the Class C Girls Coach of the Year. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 288

Sponsored by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Representative: GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach.

The Joint Orders were **READ**.

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

Senator **BAILEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, welcome to Old Orchard Beach Athletic Day at the State House. It's wonderful to look around and see so many of my constituents from Old Orchard Beach today. I am proud to welcome two Class C State Championship teams from Old Orchard Beach; the High School Girls Basketball Team and the football team, as well as some student athletes and coaches. I'll start with the Girls Basketball Team. Earlier this month the Seagulls beat Dexter 35-24 and claimed their first Class C State Final. This State Championship followed the Seagulls defeating North Yarmouth Academy 39-36 by scoring 3 points in overtime for the Class C South Championship, which also marked the first Regional Championship in any class for the Old Orchard Beach girls basketball program. By the end of the season Tess Ferguson and Sarah Davis were named to the Western Maine Conference Second Team and Summer St. Louis received Honorable Mention. Elise MacNair, as we already heard about, joined the 1,000 Career Point Club, was named to the Western Maine Conference First Team, won the Bob Butler Award for being the top female basketball player in the Western Maine Conference, and was a finalist Miss Maine Basketball. I did tell Ms. MacNair earlier that I'm not going to hold it against her that she's going to Bowdoin, I'm a Bates graduate. Congratulations to Tess, Sarah, and Elise, as well as to their teammates: Abby Roy, Maddie Dow, Cate Clark, Camryn Blatchford, Gabriella Gagne, Olivia McInnis, Megan Dow, Hannah Webber, Kiley Reynolds, and Kaeli Arey, and their coaches Dean Plante, Shauna Tolley, Steve Labbe, Glen Merrill, and Jason Webber. Coach Dean Plante, as we heard, was also named the Class C Girls Coach of the Year.

Secondly, I'd also like to recognize the Old Orchard Beach Boys Basketball player Landon Johnson, who also joined the 1,000 Career Point Club and I would say that the two 1,000 Point Club players did that almost within days of each other, so it was an exciting time in Old Orchard Beach, and Coach Matt Regan, who was named the Class C South Boys Coach of the Year.

At this point I'd like to also celebrate the Old Orchard Beach Football Team. Last fall the Seagulls defeated Orono 46-22 and won their first state title since 1993. The team also won the Maine Principal Association's Sportsmanship Award for the third year in a row. By the end of the season, Brady Plante, Riley Provencher, Derrick Webber, and Kyan Chase were named to the First Team Offense. Brady Croteau was named to the Second Team Offense. Shiloh Thao, Ian Blake, Riley Provencher, and Reid MacNair were named to the First Team Defense. Levi Perrone and Derrick Webber were also named to the Second Team Defense. Brayden Mansur received Honorable Mention and Elijah Vasque was named to the Second Team Special. Congratulations to these players, as well as other team members: Andrew Hodgkins, Aiden Hubert, Ethan Baker, Richard Delisle, James Dion, Trot Moody, Ryan Oliver, Reid MacNair, Malachi Thao, Asher Hubert, Wesley Gallant, Colby Salamacha, Thomas Daudaras, Gaige Barrett, Kooper Gervais, and Grae MacNair, and their coaches Dean Plante; my fellow Rotarian, Jason Webber; and Jon Gallant. I'd also like to recognize that Dean Plante, as we heard, was named the NFHS Coach of the Year and Campbell Coach of the Year and Jason Webber was named the Campbell Conference Assistant Coach of the Year. Whew, so impressive.

Thank you all for making the trip to the State House. We're delighted to have you, to congratulate you on your historic wins this season, and I extend my congratulations. Thank you.

The Joint Orders were **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize up in the Gallery the Old Orchard Beach Girls Basketball Team. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate. And I'm equally pleased to welcome downstairs the Old Orchard Beach High School Football Team. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate.

Off Record Remarks

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

Non-Concurrent Matter

An Act to Provide Rural Sober Living Housing for Mothers
H.P. 712 L.D. 1116

In Senate, March 9, 2023, on motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Comes from the House, that Body having **INSISTED** on its former action whereby the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **FURTHER CONSIDERATION**.

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Protect the Environment by Funding Ash Tree Management"
H.P. 734 L.D. 1162

Resolve, Requiring the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands to Convey Interest in a Parcel of Land at the Newfield Wildlife Management Area to a Private Landowner
H.P. 761 L.D. 1201

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

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

Bill "An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Promote the Design, Development and Maintenance of Trails for Outdoor Recreation and Active Transportation"
H.P. 728 L.D. 1156

Bill "An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Capital Improvements for Arts and Cultural Facilities"
H.P. 735 L.D. 1163

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

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

Bill "An Act to Recognize the Critical Nature of Workforce Development Through Career and Technical Education by Establishing an Adjustment for Career and Technical Education Centers in the School Funding Formula"
H.P. 730 L.D. 1158

Resolve, Directing the Department of Education to Conduct a Study on the Equity of the State Education Subsidy Formula
H.P. 732 L.D. 1160

Bill "An Act to Continue the Department of Education Diploma Program Related to the COVID-19 Pandemic" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 736 L.D. 1164

Bill "An Act to Establish the School Meal Equipment and Program Improvement Fund"
H.P. 755 L.D. 1183

Bill "An Act to Require Public Schools to Allow Parents and Guardians to Opt Out Their Children with Respect to Portions of the Curriculum"

H.P. 756 L.D. 1196

Bill "An Act to Provide Transparency in Public School Curricula"

H.P. 759 L.D. 1199

Bill "An Act to Reinstate the Religious and Philosophical Vaccine Exemptions for Private Schools and Virtual Public Charter Schools"

H.P. 769 L.D. 1209

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 Require Communications Service Providers to Prorate Customer Bills for Cancellation and Allow a Reduction in Service for a Customer with an Outstanding Balance"

H.P. 739 L.D. 1167

Bill "An Act to Provide for the Review and Uniform Application of All Transmission and Distribution Utility Rates"

H.P. 747 L.D. 1175

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

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

Bill "An Act to Raise Funding to Support Waste Reduction, Reuse, Recycling and Composting in Maine"

H.P. 743 L.D. 1171

Bill "An Act to Reestablish Annual Reporting on Solid Waste in Maine"

H.P. 744 L.D. 1172

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

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

Bill "An Act to Establish a Pilot Project Regarding Harm Reduction Health Centers"

H.P. 731 L.D. 1159

Bill "An Act to Fund Free Health Clinics"

H.P. 733 L.D. 1161

Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products"

H.P. 746 L.D. 1174

Resolve, to Reduce Barriers to Recovery from Addiction by Expanding Eligibility for Targeted Case Management Services

H.P. 750 L.D. 1178

Bill "An Act to Improve the Health of Maine Residents by Closing Coverage Gaps in the MaineCare Program for Incarcerated Persons"

H.P. 764 L.D. 1204

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 Prohibit Deceptive Advertising in Limited Pregnancy Services Centers"

H.P. 723 L.D. 1137

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

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

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

Bill "An Act to Enhance Cost Savings to Consumers of Prescription Drugs"

H.P. 737 L.D. 1165

Bill "An Act Regarding the Scope of Practice of Certified Professional Midwives and Certified Midwives"

H.P. 765 L.D. 1205

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 Improve Housing Affordability by Amending the Definition of 'Subdivision' Under the Site Location of Development Laws"

H.P. 720 L.D. 1134

Bill "An Act Regarding Accessory Dwelling Units and Municipal Zoning Ordinances"

H.P. 726 L.D. 1154

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

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

Bill "An Act to Allow Sunday Hunting by Landowners on Their Land"

H.P. 738 L.D. 1166

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Stabilize Licensing Fees"

H.P. 729 L.D. 1157

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Governing the Foreign Credentialing and Skills Recognition Revolving Loan Program"

H.P. 741 L.D. 1169

Resolve, Directing the Department of Economic and Community Development to Convene a Working Group to Improve the State's 10-year Economic Development Strategy

H.P. 758 L.D. 1198

Come from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Prevent Coerced Abortion"

H.P. 757 L.D. 1197

Bill "An Act to Clarify Deadlines in the Freedom of Access Act and Disclosure Provisions in the Intelligence and Investigative Record Information Act"

H.P. 763 L.D. 1203

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 Regarding Emergency Management Funding for Municipal Shelters"

H.P. 719 L.D. 1133

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

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**.

On motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Create a Grant Program for Workplace Health and Safety Improvements"

H.P. 766 L.D. 1206

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

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

Bill "An Act to Reestablish the Marine Recreational Fishery Advisory Council at the Department of Marine Resources"

H.P. 751 L.D. 1179

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

On motion by Senator **RENY** of Lincoln, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Clarify Term Limitations for Legislators, Constitutional Officers and the State Auditor"

H.P. 722 L.D. 1136

Bill "An Act to Address Legislative Salaries"

H.P. 727 L.D. 1155

Bill "An Act Directing the Bureau of General Services to Ensure Adequate Air Quality in All State-owned and State-leased Buildings"

H.P. 745 L.D. 1173

Bill "An Act to Allow for the Recall of an Elected Municipal Official for Any Reason"

H.P. 753 L.D. 1181

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

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

Bill "An Act to Ensure that Carbon Credits Can Be Sold on Forest Land Enrolled in the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law"

H.P. 721 L.D. 1135

Bill "An Act to Allow Municipalities to Tax Personal Solar Energy Equipment Under 5 Megawatts"

H.P. 725 L.D. 1153

Bill "An Act to Adjust Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Rates"

H.P. 740 L.D. 1168

Bill "An Act to Create Municipal Cannabis Revenue Sharing"

H.P. 748 L.D. 1176

Bill "An Act to Make Revisions to the Tax Increment Financing and Development District Laws"

H.P. 754 L.D. 1182

Bill "An Act to Increase the Homestead Exemption to \$50,000"

H.P. 762 L.D. 1202

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

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

Bill "An Act to Improve Work and Family Mobility by Altering and Removing Certain Requirements for Driver's Licenses and Nondriver Identification Cards"

H.P. 724 L.D. 1138

Resolve, to Promote Passenger Rail for Commuters

H.P. 742 L.D. 1170

Bill "An Act to Add an Exception to the Law Regarding Intermediate Driver's Licenses Regarding Passengers"

H.P. 752 L.D. 1180

Resolve, to Convene a Driver Education Working Group to Evaluate Hardships to Underserved Populations and Low-income Families

H.P. 760 L.D. 1200

Bill "An Act to Establish a Maine Highway Capital Fund to Provide Consistent Funding for the Construction and Repair of Maine's Roads and Bridges"

H.P. 770 L.D. 1210

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

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

Bill "An Act to Assess a Slip Fee on Megayachts Registered in Overseas Tax Havens"

H.P. 749 L.D. 1177

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

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

Bill "An Act to Allow Certain Liquor Sellers to Conduct Off-premises Taste-testing Events and Retail Sales"

H.P. 718 L.D. 1132

Comes 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.

Off Record Remarks

Joint Resolutions

The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 717

**JOINT RESOLUTION
DESIGNATING MARCH 12, 2023 TO
MARCH 18, 2023 AS AMERICORPS WEEK IN MAINE**

WHEREAS, service is a hallmark of the American character and has the unique ability to bring people of all backgrounds together in common cause, and throughout our history citizens have stepped up to meet our most pressing challenges of the day by volunteering in their communities; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors programs provide opportunities for more than 200,000 Americans to serve their country through service at nonprofits, schools, public agencies and community and faith-based groups across the country; and

WHEREAS, in the State of Maine, more than 2,700 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers of diverse ages and backgrounds helped to meet local needs at more than 200 locations in the State of Maine by responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, tutoring or mentoring children and youth, supporting veterans, combatting the opioid epidemic, ensuring citizens can age in their communities, working to end hunger in Maine, supporting new Maine residents, restoring the environment, repairing the effects of adverse childhood experiences and working with communities on building resilience; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers encourage collaboration and partnerships, leveraging millions of volunteers in service and acquiring the support of businesses, foundations and other local partners to increase the effectiveness of their initiatives; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors programs bring people together across race, age and place to address critical issues facing the country, forge relationships and cultivate mutual respect and help build resilient and thriving communities; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers demonstrate commitment, dedication and patriotism by making an intensive commitment to service, a commitment that remains with them in their future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, through their service, AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers strengthen the lives of their families, communities and the State of Maine as a whole; and

WHEREAS, national service represents a unique public-private partnership that invests in community solutions and leverages nonfederal resources to strengthen community impact and increase the return on taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, AmeriCorps Week is an opportunity to recognize the dedication and commitment of the more than 1.2 million Americans who have chosen to serve their country through AmeriCorps and millions more who have served in AmeriCorps Seniors and their community partners and to encourage more Americans to follow in their footsteps in service; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, designate March 12, 2023 to March 18, 2023 as AmeriCorps Week in Maine and urge citizens to thank AmeriCorps members and alumni and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers for their service and to find their own ways to give back to their communities.

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

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **VITELLI:** Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, I just want to take a few minutes to acknowledge that this is AmeriCorps Week, or actually last week was AmeriCorps Week, because quite a few years ago, in 1983, I was a Vista volunteer for the Maine Women's Lobby and I gained an incredible amount of experience in what the meaning of public service and service to community is all about through the year that I spent literally traveling the state and it was my first

opportunity to learn, in any depth, at all what the State Legislature was all about. So, I know that many of us honor members in our own communities from time to time who also provide incredible volunteer services, who contribute in so many ways to the very fabric of our society and I just wanted to say how important that is for all of us, for all of our towns, our families, the world that we live in depends so much on our individual willingness to do our part and to give back and to participate in the communities at whatever level and for however long. So, just let's celebrate those who volunteer to make our world a better place, however they do that and particularly if you happen to know of anyone who is a Vista volunteer or an AmeriCorps volunteer, because they are all over the state, please give them a special thanks. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 771

**JOINT RESOLUTION
COMMEMORATING THE 2023 STATE OF THE TRIBES**

WHEREAS, the Wabanaki People, People of the Dawnland, including the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Mi'kmaq Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahkomikuk, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik and the Penobscot Nation, have lived in present-day Maine since time immemorial; and

WHEREAS, the Wabanaki People have been the stewards of the land and natural resources, while making significant economic, social and cultural contributions, including the participation of representatives to the Legislature since statehood; and

WHEREAS, the Wabanaki tribal nations addressed the Legislature in a historic State of the Tribes address on March 11, 2002; and

WHEREAS, this State of the Tribes address builds upon that work and serves as an opportunity to gain critical understanding of the continuing efforts to achieve a more just and equitable relationship; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize the inherent dignity and rights of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Mi'kmaq Nation, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Motahkomikuk, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Sipayik and the Penobscot Nation; and be it further

RESOLVED: That We recognize March 16, 2023 as a historic State of the Tribes address at the Legislature.

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

READ and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 191

**THE STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

March 10, 2023

Honorable Valerie Stanfill, Chief Justice
Maine Supreme Judicial Court
Capitol Judicial Center
1 Court Street
Augusta, Maine 04330

Dear Chief Justice Stanfill:

We are pleased to invite you to address a Joint Session of the 131st Maine Legislature in the House Chamber on Thursday, March 23 at 10:45 a.m. concerning the State of the Judiciary and any other matters that you may care to bring to our attention.

We look forward to seeing you then.

Sincerely,

S/Troy D. Jackson S/Rachel Talbot Ross
President of the Senate Speaker of the House

Cc: Darek M. Grant, Secretary of the Senate
Robert B. Hunt, Clerk of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 192

**THE STATE OF MAINE
131ST LEGISLATURE
AUGUSTA, MAINE**

March 10, 2023

The Honorable Janet T. Mills
Governor, State of Maine
#1 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Governor Mills:

We are pleased to invite you to a Joint Session of the 131st Maine Legislature on Thursday, March 23 at 10:45 a.m. for the State of the Judiciary Address in the House Chamber.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

S/Troy D. Jackson S/Rachel Talbot Ross
President of the Senate Speaker of the House

Cc: Darek M. Grant, Secretary of the Senate
Rob Hunt, Clerk of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 199

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Isaac Jurson of Houlton, for appointment to the Maine Maritime Academy, Board of Trustees.

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	Rafferty, J. of York, Libby, J. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Brennan, M. of Portland, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sampson, H. of Alfred, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		3	Sen. Pierce, T. of Cumberland, Rep. Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Rep. Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth

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 Isaac Jurson of Houlton, for appointment to the Maine Maritime Academy, Board of Trustees be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty S/Michael F. Brennan
Senate Chair House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Denham Salisbury Ward, MD of Bowdoinham, for appointment to the State Board of Education.

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	Rafferty, J. of York, Libby, J. of Cumberland
	Representatives	9	Brennan, M. of Portland, Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sampson, H. of Alfred, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		2	Sen. Pierce, T. of Cumberland, Rep. Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth

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 Denham Salisbury Ward, MD of Bowdoinham, for appointment to the State Board of Education be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Penobscot, Senator **BALDACCI**, the Senator from Franklin, Senator **BLACK**, the Senator from Waldo, Senator **CURRY**, the Senator from York, Senator **HARRINGTON**, and the Senator from Kennebec, Senator **LAFOUNTAIN**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st 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, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, BLACK, CURRY, HARRINGTON, LAFOUNTAIN

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 30 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Isaac Jurson** of Houlton for appointment to the Maine Maritime Academy, Board of Trustees was **CONFIRMED**.

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

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Isaac Jurson of Houlton. Would he please rise and accept the congratulations of the Maine Senate.

The Following Communication: S.C. 196

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#44)

YEAS: Senators: None

NAYS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, BLACK, CURRY, HARRINGTON, LAFOUNTAIN

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 30 Senators having voted in the negative, with 5 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Denham Salisbury Ward**, MD of Bowdoinham for appointment to the State Board of Education was **CONFIRMED**.

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

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would very much like to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Denham Salisbury Ward who has just been confirmed. Would he please rise and accept the greetings and congratulations of the Maine Senate.

The Following Communication: S.C. 197

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Wendy L. Ault of Wayne, for reappointment to the State Board of Education.

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 Rafferty, J. of York, Libby, J. of Cumberland

Representatives 9 Brennan, M. of Portland, Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sampson, H. of Alfred, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth

NAYS 0

ABSENT 2 Sen. Pierce, T. of Cumberland, Rep. Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth

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 Wendy L. Ault of Wayne, for reappointment to the State Board of Education be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** be overridden?"

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Pouliot.

Senator **POULIOT:** Thank you, Mr. President. You know, I wasn't going to speak today but I was pulling in this morning and I saw Wendy in the parking lot. I think I almost hit her, actually. But when I first got into the Legislature I got a call from Wendy and she's like 'Hey, I'd like to meet with you.' We met downtown Augusta for breakfast and she really just kind of gave me a lot of good inside information about like what is really going on in Augusta, and for those of you that have been here for a while like I have now ten years, it's like we don't really get a training on what's really going on behind the scenes when we first came here. So, I would just want to say thank you to Wendy for doing that and I'm really enthusiastic about supporting her for this position. I think she has a mind to serve and certainly wants to give back to the state. It's a great way for her to do that. So, thanks, Wendy.

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st 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, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, KEIM, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, CURRY, HARRINGTON

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Wendy L. Ault** of Wayne for reappointment to the State Board of Education was **CONFIRMED**.

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

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to recognize in the rear of the Chamber the Honorable Wendy Ault of Wayne. She's joined today by a guest of hers, Peggy Crawford of Brewer, Ron Milliken from Farmington, Erik Appelin from Farmington, Scott MacDonald, and the Honorable Mary Small from Bath. Would they all please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate.

The Following Communication: S.C. 198

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Dr. Fernande Desjardins of Saint Agatha, for reappointment to the State Board of Education.

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	Rafferty, J. of York, Libby, J. of Cumberland
	Representatives	9	Brennan, M. of Portland, Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset, Sampson, H. of Alfred, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		2	Sen. Pierce, T. of Cumberland, Rep. Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth

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 Dr. Fernande Desjardins of Saint Agatha, for reappointment to the State Board of Education be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, Nomination **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **CONSIDERATION**.

The Following Communication: S.C. 203

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

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation has had under consideration the nomination of Bettyann Sheats of Auburn, for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority, Board of Directors.

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	Chipman, B. of Cumberland
	Representatives	8	Williams, L. of Bar Harbor, Albert, R. of Madawaska, Ankeles, D. of Brunswick, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Parry, W. of Arundel, Theriault, A. of Fort Kent, White, B. of Waterville, White, J. of Guilford
NAYS		0	
ABSENT		4	Sen. Farrin, B. of Somerset, Sen. Nangle, T. of Cumberland, Rep. Crafts, L. of Newcastle, Rep. O'Connell, K. of Brewer

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 Bettyann Sheats of Auburn, for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority, Board of Directors be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Ben Chipman
Senate Chair

S/Lynne A. Williams
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#46)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, CURRY, HARRINGTON

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Bettyann Sheats** of Auburn for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority, Board of Directors was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 202

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

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Troy Dale Jackson
President of the Senate of Maine
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333-0003

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation has had under consideration the nomination of Marguerite Miller Fleming of Portland, for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority.

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	Chipman, B. of Cumberland
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Representatives 9 Williams, L. of Bar Harbor, Albert, R. of Madawaska, Ankeles, D. of Brunswick, Crafts, L. of Newcastle, Mason, R. of Lisbon, Parry, W. of Arundel, Theriault, A. of Fort Kent, White, B. of Waterville, White, J. of Guilford

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 32 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Marguerite Miller Fleming** of Portland for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 201

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES**

March 9, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, Senate President
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Maine State Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross,

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, we are writing to notify you that we have approved the request by the bill sponsor Rep. Underwood of Presque Isle, to report the following bill Leave to Withdraw:

L.D. 964 An Act to Eliminate the Paint Stewardship Assessment Paid by Consumers (EMERGENCY)

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Stacy Fielding Brenner S/Rep. Lori K. Gramlich
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 207

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

March 10, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

NAYS 0

ABSENT 3 Sen. Farrin, B. of Somerset, Sen. Nangle, T. of Cumberland, Rep. O'Connell, K. of Brewer

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 Marguerite Miller Fleming of Portland, for reappointment to the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Ben Chipman
Senate Chair

S/Lynne A. Williams
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Chapter 6, Section 158, and with Joint Rule 506 of the 131st Legislature, the vote was taken by the Yeas and Nays.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#47)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BALDACCI, CURRY, HARRINGTON

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 64 An Act to Ensure In-state Tuition for Postsecondary Students Who Are Registered to Vote in the State

L.D. 173 An Act Regarding the Responsibility for Technology Instruction Marketing Costs by the Maine Community College System

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph E. Rafferty Senate Chair S/Rep. Michael F. Brennan House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 206

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY

March 10, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House 131st Legislature State House Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 266 An Act to Increase Consumer Choice and Reduce Motor Vehicle Emissions in Maine

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Mark W. Lawrence Senate Chair S/Rep. S. Paige Zeigler House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 205

STATE OF MAINE ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

March 09, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House 131st Legislature State House Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 627 An Act to Promote Clean and Affordable Maine-sourced Bioenergy by Amending the Law Regarding Outdoor Wood Boilers and Outdoor Pellet Boilers

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Stacy Fielding Brenner Senate Chair S/Rep. Lori K. Gramlich House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 209

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

March 13, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House 131st Legislature State House Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 252 An Act Relating to Long-term Care Pharmacies

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Donna Bailey
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Anne C. Perry
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 204

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

March 13, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 452 An Act to Reform the Laws Regarding the Payment of Criminal Fines

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Carney
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Matt Moonen
House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 208

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

March 15, 2023

Honorable Troy Dale Jackson, President of the Senate
Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Legislature
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 110 An Act to Prohibit Leaving a Child Under 10 Years of Age Alone in a Motor Vehicle

L.D. 125 An Act to Allow Driver Education Instructors to Administer Driver's License Road Tests

L.D. 161 An Act to Modify the Law Regarding Tinted Glass in Motor Vehicles

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Ben Chipman
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Lynne A. Williams
House Chair

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

Off Record Remarks

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (2/28/23) matter:

JOINT ORDER - Expression of Legislative Sentiment Recognizing Chocolats Passion, of Portland, owned by Catherine Wiersema, which won two Silver Medals with their Miso Sesame and Pistachio Raspberry confections at the Academy of Chocolate Filled Confections 2022 Competition held in London, England, the platinum standard of chocolate competitions. We extend our congratulations and best wishes.

SLS 152

Tabled - February 28, 2023 by Senator **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland

Pending - **PASSAGE**

(In Senate, February 28, 2023, **READ.**)

The Joint Order was **READ.**

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

Senator **CHIPMAN**: Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, I'm honored to stand before you today to recognize the accomplishments of Catherine, Sarah, and Ruby of Chocolats Passion, the best chocolatier of Portland in 2022. Since 2017, Chocolats Passion has been a wonderful part of the city of Portland. Their success is entirely due to the hard work and dedication of Catherine Wiersema, Sarah Levine, and Ruby Bradford. Between Catherine's decades-long experience and training, Sarah's expertise as a pastry chef, and Ruby's creativity, together they provide Mainers with delicious and innovative chocolate. As we just heard, this past year they won two silver medals for their Miso Sesame and Pistachio Raspberry and three bronze medals for their Pineapple Black Pepper, Almond Calamansi, and Coffee Toffee at the Academy of Chocolate Filled Confections Competition in London. These awards, in combination with the many awards that Chocolats Passion has won in the past, are a testament to their immense skill and innovative abilities. Working in chocolate is one of the hardest skills to master as a culinary specialist and the chocolatiers of Chocolats Passion are in the top of their field. We are truly lucky in Portland to be so close to such wonderful business and I hope that if you ever find yourself in Portland that you stop by Chocolats Passion to try one of their delectable chocolates. Thank you and congratulations to Catherine, Sarah, Ruby.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Chocolats Passion. Here today is Catherine Wiersema, Sarah Levine, Ruby Bradford, and Fred Wiersema. They are all from the city of Portland and the guests today of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Chipman. Would they please rise and accept the congratulations of the Maine Senate.

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

ORDERS

Joint Order

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

The Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School Girls Basketball Team, of South Paris, which won the Class AA State Championship. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 290

Sponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Senator: KEIM of Oxford, Representatives: ANDREWS of Paris, JACKSON of Oxford, MILLETT of Waterford, RISEMAN of Harrison.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **BENNETT**: Thank you, Mr. President. Fellow members of the Senate, Mr. President, if my fellow colleagues thought they were done hearing about the tremendous athletes from Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School they were sorely mistaken. Today I'm delighted to welcome our Girls Basketball Team who recently won the Class AA State Championship. This is the third State Championship for the Vikings since 2019. In the championship game, after a slow first quarter, the Vikings started to take over control. But it was really the second half when the team came alive. Bolstered by Tristen Derenburger's six three-pointers, a Class AA State final record, and Ms. Maine Basketball finalist, Sierra Carson's career high 17 points, the Vikings could not be caught. But the victory was truly a team effort. Despite being down after the first quarter, the team worked together. Every defensive rebound, assist, and steal culminated to bring them to a decisive 62-25 victory. The Vikings 62 points are the most scored in a Girls Class AA Final. Mr. President, I hope you and the entire Senate will join me in celebrating this incredible team and their head coach, Nate Pelletier. Team, you are all the pride of our community and an inspiration to us all. Thank you.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber the Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School Girls Basketball Team, Class AA State Champions, and their coach, Nate Pelletier. They are from South Paris and surrounding communities. They are the guests today of the Senator from Oxford, Senator Bennett, and the entire Maine Senate. Would they please rise and accept the congratulations of the Maine Senate.

Off Record Remarks

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

ORDERS OF THE DAY

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (2/28/23) matter:

JOINT ORDER - Expression of Legislative Sentiment Recognizing the Skowhegan Area High School Field Hockey Team, which won the 2022 Class A State Championship. Members of the team include Norie Tibbetts, Samantha Thebarga, Callaway LePage, Riley Enright, Kate Kelso, Paige Gilbert, Lanie Vanadestine, Jackie Dodge, Emmah Corson, Nyah Gunst, Masyn Atwood, Laney LeBlanc, Layla Conway, Jayla Gentry, Savanna Michaud, Gemma Kennedy, Kaylee Bruce, Julia Fitzgerald, Sydalia Savage, Elli Quinn, Lucia Siren, Michela Provost, Sophie Noyes, Katriel Garcia, Aubrey Obert, Kally Price, Marley Dore and Grace Mayo; scorekeeper James Alberico; filmer Leanna Lemieux; assistant coaches Tammie Veinotte, Fawn Haynie, Kim Leo, Elizabeth York and Megan Smith; and

head coach Paula Doughty. We extend our congratulations and best wishes.

SLS 171

Tabled - February 28, 2023 by Senator **KEIM** of Oxford

Pending - **PASSAGE**

(In Senate, February 29, 2023, **READ.**)

The Joint Order was **READ.**

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Somerset, Senator Farrin.

Senator **FARRIN:** Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, it is an honor for me to recognize the Skowhegan River Hawks Field Hockey Team. If you have served in this Chamber a few years or follow high school field hockey, you know that dynasty that this team and coaching staff are. Since 1991, Skowhegan has played in 27 State Championships games, a state record, and they have won 21 consecutive regional titles since 2000. While the teams before them set a high bar, I am very pleased to join the Skowhegan area community in congratulating this dedicated, hardworking, and very talented group of young ladies. After an undefeated season, they went into the Class A North game with a 16-0 record. With just one quarter remaining, the team was down by a point. In typical Coach Doughty fashion, she told the team, 'This is it. If you don't do it now you're done for the year.' The team heard the message loud and clear, tying the game in the fourth quarter and scoring 4 minutes and 24 seconds into overtimes to win the game. Both teams, Skowhegan and Cheverus, went into the Championship game with 17-0 records. It was a bit - it was a rematch as the two teams battled it out for the Class A title last year. However, things were a bit different this year. It was obvious the ladies worked well together as a team, complementing each other's individual skills on the field. Just as success in the Chamber comes when we work together for the betterment of the Maine people, this team worked together and delivered Skowhegan with its 20th, yes 20th, State Championship, adding to a very full collection of trophies. Again, I am incredibly honored to recognize this group of ladies, as I know, Mr. President, they were pleased to spend some time with you this morning, the coaching staff and managers. I know I join your families and the greater Skowhegan community when I say how very proud I am of your efforts. As you go through life, I encourage you to continue to set goals for yourself and work to achieve them. Congratulations and job well done.

The Joint Order was **PASSED.**

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is very pleased to recognize up in the Gallery the Skowhegan Field Hockey Team and their managers, coaches, and bus drivers. Would they please rise and accept the congratulations on the 20th State Title.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Create the Animal Cruelty Task Force"
S.P. 497 L.D. 1216

Presented by Senator HARRINGTON of York.

Bill "An Act Establishing a System to Appeal Administrative Actions or Management Plans of the Bureau of Parks and Lands"
S.P. 499 L.D. 1218

Presented by Senator BLACK of Franklin.
Cosponsored by Senator: President JACKSON of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act to Establish Rights for Holders of Certain Leases and Easements on Land Managed by the Bureau of Parks and Lands"
S.P. 500 L.D. 1219

Presented by Senator BLACK of Franklin.

Bill "An Act to Increase Land Access for Historically Disadvantaged Populations"
S.P. 511 L.D. 1274

Presented by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Speaker TALBOT ROSS of Portland and Senators: BRENNER of Cumberland, DUSON of Cumberland, President JACKSON of Aroostook, Representatives: ABDI of Lewiston, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, DHALAC of South Portland, PLUECKER of Warren, RANA of Bangor.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Resolve, to Create a Pilot Program for Alternative Teacher Certification
S.P. 498 L.D. 1217

Presented by Senator ROTUNDO of Androscoggin.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Clarify Cost Allocations and Insurance in the Joint Use of Public Utility Equipment"
S.P. 504 L.D. 1223

Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock.
Cosponsored by Senator: BENNETT of Oxford, Representatives: CARLOW of Buxton, DODGE of Belfast.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Laws to Combat Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Contamination"

S.P. 495 L.D. 1214

Presented by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senator: President **JACKSON** of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act to Exempt Some Businesses from Certain Laws Relating to Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Accordance with the Size of the Business"

S.P. 510 L.D. 1273

Presented by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Senator: President **JACKSON** of Aroostook,
Representatives: **ARDELL** of Monticello, **BABIN** of Fort Fairfield,
GUERRETTE of Caribou, **THERIAULT** of Fort Kent,
UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to End the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products"

S.P. 496 L.D. 1215

Presented by Senator **DUSON** of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Speaker **TALBOT ROSS** of Portland and
Senators: **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **BRENNER** of Cumberland,
President **JACKSON** of Aroostook, Representatives: **CYRWAY** of
Albion, **GATTINE** of Westbrook, **MEYER** of Eliot, **MILLETT** of
Cape Elizabeth, **SCHMERSAL-BURGESS** of Mexico.

Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services to Seek Federal Approval for Reimbursement of Community-based Mobile Crisis Intervention Services

S.P. 505 L.D. 1224

Presented by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock.
Cosponsored by Representative **GRAHAM** of North Yarmouth
and Senator: **INGWERSEN** of York, Representatives: **CRAFTS** of
Newcastle, **GRAMLICH** of Old Orchard Beach, **KUHN** of
Falmouth, **MADIGAN** of Waterville, **MILLIKEN** of Blue Hill,
MONTELL of Gardiner, **SHAGOURY** of Hallowell.

Bill "An Act to Empower Patients and Eliminate Welfare Cliffs in the MaineCare Program by Establishing a MaineCare Savings Account Pilot Program"

S.P. 506 L.D. 1269

Presented by Senator **BRAKEY** of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Senator: **MOORE** of Washington,
Representatives: **BOYER** of Poland, **JAVNER** of Chester,
LEMELIN of Chelsea, **MORRIS** of Turner.

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 to Require Lyme Disease Vaccine Coverage for State-regulated Health Plans"

S.P. 501 L.D. 1220

Presented by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative **CAMPBELL** of Orrington and
Senators: **BAILEY** of York, **RAFFERTY** of York, **RENY** of Lincoln,
Representatives: **DILL** of Old Town, **DOUDERA** of Camden,
LANDRY of Farmington, **MILLETT** of Cape Elizabeth, **POIRIER** of
Skowhegan.

Bill "An Act to Protect Maine People from Inflation by Restoring Gold and Silver as Legal Tender"

S.P. 507 L.D. 1270

Presented by Senator **BRAKEY** of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative **GREENWOOD** of Wales and
Senators: **LIBBY** of Cumberland, **MOORE** of Washington,
TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, Representatives: **BOYER** of
Poland, **HYMES** of Waldo, **MASON** of Lisbon, **MORRIS** of Turner,
WHITE of Guilford.

Bill "An Act to Require a Disclaimer on Promotional Materials for Medicare, Medicaid and MaineCare Products by Private Entities"

S.P. 508 L.D. 1271

Presented by Senator **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative **MADIGAN** of Waterville and
Senators: **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **INGWERSEN** of York,
Representative: **MEYER** of Eliot.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Property Investment by Credit Unions"

S.P. 514 L.D. 1277

Presented by Senator **ROTUNDO** of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative **MORRIS** of Turner and
Representatives: **ABDI** of Lewiston, **ARATA** of New Gloucester,
BLIER of Buxton, **CLOUTIER** of Lewiston, **CRAVEN** of Lewiston,
DHALAC of South Portland, **LAJOIE** of Lewiston.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Index Unemployment Benefits to the Unemployment Rate"

S.P. 509 L.D. 1272

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Representative MORRIS of Turner and Senator: GUERIN of Penobscot, Representatives: BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, HALL of Wilton.

Bill "An Act to Require Timely Payment for Salaried Employees"

S.P. 515 L.D. 1278

Presented by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot.
Submitted by the Department of Labor pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Clarify the Powers of the Government Oversight Committee and Enable Committee Access to Department of Health and Human Services Documents Related to Investigations of Child Deaths"

S.P. 512 L.D. 1275

Presented by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, LAWRENCE of York.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

S.P. 493 L.D. 1212

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senator: CHIPMAN of Cumberland, Representative: DUCHARME of Madison.

Bill "An Act to Reform Income Taxes by Reducing Tax Rates for Each of the 3 Income Tax Brackets"

S.P. 494 L.D. 1213

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senator: TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

Bill "An Act to Expand Child Care Services Through an Employer-supported Tax Credit"

S.P. 503 L.D. 1222

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, President JACKSON of Aroostook, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: MILLETT of Waterford, TERRY of Gorham.

Bill "An Act to Create and Sustain Jobs and Affordable Housing Through the Development of Cooperatives and Employee-owned Businesses"

S.P. 513 L.D. 1276

Presented by Senator RENY of Lincoln.
Cosponsored by Representative STOVER of Boothbay and Senators: DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, GROHOSKI of Hancock, POULIOT of Kennebec, Representatives: EATON of Deer Isle, HEPLER of Woolwich.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Make Changes to the Distribution Amounts to Certain Maine Clean Election Act Candidates in Contested General Elections"

S.P. 502 L.D. 1221

Presented by Senator LYFORD of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Senators: BLACK of Franklin, BRAKEY of Androscoggin, GUERIN of Penobscot, HARRINGTON of York, STEWART of Aroostook, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Pursuant to Statute

The Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Public Records Exceptions"

H.P. 767 L.D. 1207

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 411, subsection 6, paragraph G.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

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

Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, in concurrence.

Pursuant to Statute

The Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Right To Know Advisory Committee Concerning Time Estimates for Responding to Public Records Requests"

H.P. 768 L.D. 1208

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 1, section 411, subsection 6, paragraph G.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

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

Bill and accompanying papers **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**, in concurrence.

Ought to Pass

The Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 100: Enforcement Procedures, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 251 L.D. 418

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.

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

SECOND READERS

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

House

Bill "An Act to Remove the Requirement for Wild Blueberry Transportation Permits" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 183 L.D. 285

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

Senate

Bill "An Act to Update the Maine State Grant Program" (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 24 L.D. 32

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

Sent down for concurrence.

ENACTORS

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

Acts

An Act to Amend the Law Governing the State Grant Program Administered by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission
H.P. 19 L.D. 15

An Act to Establish Maine Needham Day
H.P. 190 L.D. 292

An Act to Establish Maine Alewife Day
H.P. 218 L.D. 344

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

RECESSED until the sound of the bell.

After Recess the Senate was called to order by the President.

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

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Provide Reimbursement for Health Care Expenses of Retired State Police Law Enforcement Dogs"
H.P. 782 L.D. 1234

Bill "An Act to Provide Compensation to and to Limit Work Hours of Jail Employees"
H.P. 783 L.D. 1235

Resolve, to Study Training in Racial Issues, Racial Justice and Social Issues at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy and Study Additional Requirements for Law Enforcement Officers and Candidates
H.P. 795 L.D. 1247

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 Prohibit Certain Higher Education Institutions from Requiring Vaccines Approved Under Emergency Use Authorization for Admission or Attendance" (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 776 L.D. 1228

Bill "An Act to Establish a Minimum Hourly Wage for School Support Staff"
H.P. 785 L.D. 1237

Bill "An Act to Require School Identification Cards to Include the Telephone Number of a Suicide Prevention Hotline"
H.P. 811 L.D. 1263

Resolve, Establishing the Commission to Update Maine's Public Policy on Higher Education
H.P. 812 L.D. 1264

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 Increase Adoption of Solar Power in Maine"
H.P. 780 L.D. 1232

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

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

Bill "An Act to Include Endangered and Threatened Species Habitat in the Definition of 'Significant Wildlife Habitat' Under the Natural Resources Protection Act"
H.P. 794 L.D. 1246

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

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

Bill "An Act to Require the Department of Health and Human Services to Fund Out-of-state Residential Treatment for Substance Use Disorder When In-state Treatment Is Unavailable"
H.P. 772 L.D. 1211

Bill "An Act to Require MaineCare to Give a 60-day Notice Prior to Terminating Benefits"
H.P. 774 L.D. 1226

Bill "An Act to Support Peer Mentors for Parents Involved in the Child Protective Services System"
H.P. 777 L.D. 1229

Bill "An Act to Increase the Provision of Children's Behavioral Health Services in Rural Areas and to Provide Support for Families of Children Receiving Services"
H.P. 784 L.D. 1236

Bill "An Act to Require Reporting on the Percentage of Approved Care Being Delivered to Individuals"
H.P. 786 L.D. 1238

Bill "An Act to Ensure the Quality of Bottled Water"
H.P. 796 L.D. 1248

Bill "An Act Regarding Paying Providers Sufficiently, Maintaining Short Waiting Lists and Creating a Cause of Action for Aggrieved Persons in the System of Care for Clients with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism"
H.P. 798 L.D. 1250

Bill "An Act to Provide Coverage and Prior Authorization of Medications and Services During a MaineCare Provider's Enrollment Period"
H.P. 802 L.D. 1254

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

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

Bill "An Act Regarding Timely Payment of Undisputed Insurance Claims"

H.P. 792 L.D. 1244

Bill "An Act to Ensure Choices in Health Insurance Markets by Limiting the Requirement to Offer Clear Choice Design Health Plans"

H.P. 800 L.D. 1252

Bill "An Act to Maintain the Integrity of the Individual and Small Group Health Insurance Markets"

H.P. 801 L.D. 1253

Bill "An Act to Amend the Law Governing the Credit Card and Debit Card Surcharge Prohibition"

H.P. 810 L.D. 1262

Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Producer Licensing Act to Authorize Licensure as a Pet Insurance Producer"

H.P. 814 L.D. 1266

Bill "An Act to Provide Alternative Methods of Payment to Health Care Providers"

H.P. 815 L.D. 1267

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 Increase Housing Capacity and Protect the Municipal Tax Base and Working Lands"

H.P. 805 L.D. 1257

Bill "An Act to Make Adjustments to Affordable Housing Requirements"

H.P. 813 L.D. 1265

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

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

Bill "An Act to Allow Sunday Hunting with a Bow and Arrow or Crossbow"

H.P. 789 L.D. 1241

Comes from the House, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered printed.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered printed, in concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Clarify Immunity from Liability for Municipalities Engaged in Recycling Activities"

H.P. 799 L.D. 1251

Bill "An Act to Recover Legal Fees for Low-income Individuals in Actions or Proceedings"

H.P. 807 L.D. 1259

Bill "An Act to Establish Mandatory Minimum Sentences for Gross Sexual Assaults and Sex Trafficking of Children"

H.P. 809 L.D. 1261

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.

Resolve, Directing the Maine Public Employees Retirement System to Study the Creation of an Interstate Compact Concerning the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset

H.P. 778 L.D. 1230

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

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

Bill "An Act Regarding the Maine State Cemetery Preservation Commission"

H.P. 781 L.D. 1233

Bill "An Act to Make General Election Day a State Holiday and to Allow Certain Employees an Opportunity to Vote"

H.P. 787 L.D. 1239

Resolve, to Establish the Committee to Study the Creation of a State Calendar

H.P. 791 L.D. 1243

Resolve, to Study Expansion of Civics Education and Engagement Through the Secretary of State

H.P. 808 L.D. 1260

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

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

Bill "An Act to Protect Housing by Increasing the Property Tax Fairness Credit"

H.P. 773 L.D. 1225

Bill "An Act to Bring Fairness in Income Taxes to Maine Families by Adjusting the Tax Brackets"

H.P. 779 L.D. 1231

Bill "An Act to Increase the Personal Property Tax Exemption for Farm Machinery"

H.P. 806 L.D. 1258

Bill "An Act to Provide for a Local Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Exemption for Qualifying Volunteer Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Persons"

H.P. 816 L.D. 1268

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

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

Bill "An Act to Eliminate Certain Motor Vehicle Inspections"

H.P. 790 L.D. 1242

Bill "An Act to Require Registration of Motorized Bicycles or Tricycles or Motorized Scooters"

H.P. 793 L.D. 1245

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

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

Bill "An Act to Improve the Security of Voting Places"

H.P. 803 L.D. 1255

Comes 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.

Off Record Remarks

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **ADJOURNED** until Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 10:00 in the morning.