

REP. RYAN M. FECTEAU
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130TH MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SEN. ELOISE A. VITELLI
SEN. MATTHEA DAUGHTRY
SEN. JEFFREY L. TIMBERLAKE
SEN. MATTHEW POULIOT
REP. MICHELLE DUNPHY
REP. RACHEL TALBOT ROSS
REP. KATHLEEN R.J. DILLINGHAM
REP. JOEL STETKIS

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
MEETING SUMMARY
October 27, 2022**

CALL TO ORDER

Speaker Fecteau called the October 27, 2022 meeting of the 130th Legislative Council to order at 2:14 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Senators: President Jackson, Senator Vitelli; Senator Daughtry, and Senator Pouliot

Representatives: Speaker Fecteau, Representative Dunphy, Representative Talbot Ross, and Representative Dillingham

Absent: Senator Timberlake and Representative Stetkis

Legislative Officers: Suzanne Gresser, Executive Director
Christopher Nolan, Director, Office of Fiscal and Program Review
Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis
Edward Charbonneau, Revisor of Statutes

Speaker Fecteau convened the meeting at 2:14 p.m. with a quorum of members present.

SUMMARIES OF THE APRIL 21, 2022 AND SEPTEMBER 22, 2022 MEETINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Motion: That the Meeting Summaries for the April 21, 2022 and September 22, 2022 meetings be accepted and place on file. Motion by Rep. Talbot Ross, Second by Senator Daughtry. **Motion passed unanimously (8-0-0-2**, with Senator Timberlake, and Representative Stetkis absent).

REPORTS FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND COUNCIL OFFICES

Fiscal Report

Christopher Nolan, Director of the Office of Fiscal and Program Review, presented the fiscal report found in the agenda packet.

Studies Report

Danielle Fox, Director, Office of Policy and Legal Analysis, presented the studies report found in the agenda packet.

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

None

OLD BUSINESS

Item #1: Council Actions Taken by Ballot

Legislative Council Decisions:

Motion: That the Legislative Council authorizes the extension of the reporting deadline of the Commission To Develop a Paid Family and Medical Leave Benefits Program to December 6, 2022, in accordance with Joint Rule 353(7).

Motion by: Speaker Ryan Fecteau Second: President Troy Jackson
Date: October 6, 2022
Vote: 7-1-0-2 Passed (with Representative Stetkis opposed and Senator Pouliot and Representatives Dillingham recorded as absent)

Motion: That the Legislative Council authorizes the Commission to Examine Reestablishing Parole to hold two additional meetings.

Motion by: Speaker Ryan Fecteau Second: President Troy Jackson
Date: October 19, 2022
Vote: 6-1-0-3 Passed (with Representative Stetkis opposed and President Jackson, Senator Timberlake and Representative Dillingham recorded as absent)

NEW BUSINESS

Item #1: Recommendation from the Legislative Council Subcommittee on the Racial Impact Statement Process Pilot

Speaker Fecteau summarized the recommendations of the Legislative Council Subcommittee on the Racial Impact Statement Process Pilot, which were included in agenda packet. Speaker Fecteau reported that the feedback of the Joint Standing Committees that participated in the Pilot, the analyses often came too late in the process, and the analyses did not necessarily address the committees' questions.

Motion: That, in accordance with Public Law 2021, c. 21, §2, sub§3, based on information gathered through conducting the Racial Impact Statement Process Pilot Project during the 130th Legislature and the reports of the joint standing committees that participated in the pilot project, the Legislative Council of the 130th Legislature respectfully recommends to the Legislative Council of

the 131st Legislature that it continue the Racial Impact Statement Pilot Project during the course of the 131st Legislature, and that it incorporate into the Pilot Project the following specified elements:

1. That, early in the First Regular Session of the 131st Legislature, joint standing committees identify those bills for which the committee, prior to beginning work on the bills, requests preparation of a Racial Impact Statement (“RIS”) over the course of the interim;
2. That each joint standing committee that votes to request an RIS for a bill or bills transmit to the Presiding Officers the RIS request(s) in a manner to be prescribed by the Presiding Officers;
3. That a bill for which an RIS request has been approved by the Presiding Officers not be scheduled for hearings or work sessions until the RIS is completed, and be included in the Carry-Over Order passed at the end of the First Regular Session;
4. That the Executive Director identify savings in the legislative accounts for the Legislature to contract with research organizations to perform the analysis necessary to prepare the RIS for the identified and approved bills;
5. That in order to prepare RIS, research organizations with whom the Legislature contracts perform qualitative analysis by, among other methods, engaging with and eliciting input from impacted communities; and
6. That researchers performing the qualitative and quantitative analysis be authorized and encouraged to engage and communicate together and with legislators to identify and refine those avenues of inquiry that will provide information most relevant to the needs of the Legislature; and

Further, that the Legislative Council of the 130th Legislature respectfully recommends to the Legislative Council of the 131st Legislature that it support the introduction of legislation in the Second Regular Session of the 131st Legislature to clarify the Racial Impact Statement Process.

Motion by Representative Talbot Ross. Second by Senator Vitelli. **Motion passed unanimously (8-0-0-2**, with Senator Timberlake and Representative Stetkis absent).

Item #2: Request from the Commission to Study the Role of Water as a Resource in the State of Maine

Speaker Fecteau reviewed the request from the Commission to Study the Role of Water as a Resource in the State of Maine to hold one additional meeting, and to extend the reporting deadline.

Motion: That the Legislative Council grant the request from the Commission to Study the Role of Water as a Resource in the State of Maine to hold one additional meeting and to extend its reporting deadline to December 7, 2022, in accordance with Joint Rule 353. Motion by Representative Dunphy. Second by President Jackson. **Motion passed (7-1-0-2**, with Representative Dillingham opposed, and Senator Timberlake and Representative Stetkis absent).

Item #3: Request from the Commission to Ensure Constitutionally Adequate Contact with Counsel

Speaker Fecteau reviewed the request from the Commission to Ensure Constitutionally Adequate Contact with Counsel to hold one additional meeting.

Motion: That the Legislative Council grant the request from the Commission to Ensure Constitutionally Adequate Contact with Counsel to hold one additional meeting. Motion by Senator Daughtry. Second by President Jackson. **Motion passed (8-0-0-2,** with Senator Timberlake and Representative Stetkis absent).

Item #4: Request from the Commission to Study Court-ordered Treatment for Substance Use Disorder

Speaker Fecteau reviewed the request from the Commission to Study Court-ordered Treatment for Substance Use Disorder to extend its reporting deadline to December 7, 2022.

Motion: That the Legislative Council grant the request from the Commission to to Study Court-ordered Treatment for Substance Use Disorder to extend its reporting deadline to December 7, 2022, in accordance with Joint Rule 353. Motion by Representative Talbot Ross. Second by President Jackson. **Motion passed (8-0-0-2,** with Senator Timberlake and Representative Stetkis absent).

Item #5. Information regarding the Policy Leaders Academy from the Maine Development Foundation

Speaker Fecteau drew members' attention to the informational memorandum provided by the Maine Development Foundation describing the Policy Leaders Academy Program and offerings for December 2022 and January 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMARKS

Recognizing that today's meeting was likely the final meeting of the 130th Legislative Council, Speaker Fecteau, expressed his thanks to his colleagues on the Council for their respect, patience, collaboration, and willingness to work together on the challenges presented during the 130th Legislature. With no other business to consider or further announcements, the Legislative Council meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.