

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
5th Legislative Day
Wednesday, February 23, 2022

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

Prayer by Pastor Derek Farrington, Central Church, South China.

National Anthem by Evelyn LaCroix, Skowhegan.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The Journal of Wednesday, February 16, 2022 was read and approved.

The CLERK: Whereas, the Legislature has learned with deep regret of the death of the Honorable Donna Doore, of Augusta, a Member of the Maine House of Representatives, who represented House District #85. Representative Doore worked for the State of Maine for most of her career and served as a union steward. She was elected to the Augusta School Board for 3 terms and the Augusta City Council representing Ward 2 for 3 terms. She also served her community as a volunteer little league coach and with the Maine General Auxiliary. Elected to 4 terms as a Representative, she was a Member of the 127th, 128th, 129th and 130th Legislatures and served on the Joint Standing Committees on State and Local Government, Labor and Housing, and Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development. She was an advocate for workers' rights and livable wages, affordable education and health care for all Maine people. Representative Doore will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family and friends and all those whose lives she touched; SLS 694 There for be it RESOLVED Sponsored by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec. Cosponsored by Senators: BAILEY of York, BALDACCI of Penobscot, BENNETT of Oxford, BLACK of Franklin, BREEN of Cumberland, BRENNER of Cumberland, CARNEY of Cumberland, CHIPMAN of Cumberland, CLAXTON of Androscoggin, CURRY of Waldo, CYRWAY of Kennebec, DAUGHTRY of Cumberland, DAVIS of Piscataquis, DESCHAMBAULT of York, DIAMOND of Cumberland, DILL of Penobscot, FARRIN of Somerset, GUERIN of Penobscot, HICKMAN of Kennebec, President JACKSON of Aroostook, KEIM of Oxford, LAWRENCE of York, LIBBY of Androscoggin, MAXMIN of Lincoln, MIRAMANT of Knox, MOORE of Washington, RAFFERTY of York, ROSEN of Hancock, SANBORN of Cumberland, STEWART of Aroostook, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, WOODSOME of York, Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, ANDREWS of Paris, ARATA of New Gloucester, ARFORD of Brunswick, AUSTIN of Gray, BABBIDGE of Kennebunk, BELL of Yarmouth, BERNARD of Caribou, BERRY of Bowdoinham, BICKFORD of Auburn, BLIER of Buxton, BLUME of York, BOYLE of Gorham, BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, BRENNAN of Portland, BROOKS of Lewiston, BRYANT of Windham, CAIAZZO of Scarborough, CARDONE of Bangor, CARLOW of Buxton, CARMICHAEL of Greenbush, CEBRA of Naples, CLOUTIER of Lewiston, COLLAMORE of Pittsfield, COLLINGS of Portland, CONNOR of Lewiston, COPELAND of Saco, COREY of Windham, COSTAIN of Plymouth, CRAFTS of Newcastle, CRAVEN of Lewiston, CROCKETT of Portland, CUDDY of Winterport, DILLINGHAM of Oxford, DODGE of Belfast, DOLLOFF of Milton Township, DOUDERA of Camden,

DOWNES of Bucksport, DRINKWATER of Milford, DUCARME of Madison, DUNPHY of Old Town, EVANGELOS of Friendship, EVANS of Dover-Foxcroft, FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor, FAY of Raymond, Speaker FECTEAU of Biddeford, FOSTER of Dexter, GEIGER of Rockland, GERE of Kennebunkport, GIFFORD of Lincoln, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, GREENWOOD of Wales, GRIFFIN of Levant, GRIGNON of Athens, GROHOSKI of Ellsworth, HAGGAN of Hampden, HALL of Wilton, HANLEY of Pittston, HARNETT of Gardiner, HARRINGTON of Sanford, HASENFUS of Readfield, HEAD of Bethel, HEPLER of Woolwich, HUTCHINS of Penobscot, HYMANSON of York, JAVNER of Chester, KESSLER of South Portland, KINNEY of Knox, KRYZAK of Acton, LANDRY of Farmington, LaROCHELLE of Augusta, LEMELIN of Chelsea, LIBBY of Auburn, LOOKNER of Portland, LYFORD of Eddington, LYMAN of Livermore Falls, MADIGAN of Waterville, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MARTIN of Sinclair, MARTIN of Greene, MASON of Lisbon, MATHIESON of Kittery, MATLACK of St. George, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, McDONALD of Stonington, MELARAGNO of Auburn, MEYER of Eliot, MILLETT of Waterford, MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth, MORALES of South Portland, MORIARTY of Cumberland, MORRIS of Turner, NADEAU of Winslow, NEWELL of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, NEWMAN of Belgrade, O'CONNELL of Brewer, O'CONNOR of Berwick, O'NEIL of Saco, ORDWAY of Standish, OSHER of Orono, PARRY of Arundel, PAULHUS of Bath, PEBWORTH of Blue Hill, PERKINS of Oakland, PERRY of Calais, PERRY of Bangor, PICKETT of Dixfield, PIERCE of Falmouth, PLUECKER of Warren, POIRIER of Skowhegan, PRESCOTT of Waterboro, QUINT of Hodgdon, RECKITT of South Portland, RIELLY of Westbrook, RISEMAN of Harrison, ROBERTS of South Berwick, ROCHE of Wells, ROEDER of Bangor, RUDNICKI of Fairfield, SACHS of Freeport, SALISBURY of Westbrook, SAMPSON of Alfred, SHARPE of Durham, SHEEHAN of Biddeford, SKOLFIELD of Weld, STANLEY of Medway, STEARNS of Guilford, STETKIS of Canaan, STOVER of Boothbay, SUPICA of Bangor, SYLVESTER of Portland, TALBOT ROSS of Portland, TEPLER of Topsham, TERRY of Gorham, THERIAULT of China, THORNE of Carmel, TUCKER of Brunswick, TUELL of East Machias, UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle, WADSWORTH of Hiram, WARREN of Hallowell, WARREN of Scarborough, WHITE of Waterville, WHITE of Mars Hill, WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor, WOOD of Portland, ZAGER of Portland, ZEIGLER of Montville

The SPEAKER: First and foremost, I want to thank Representative Doore's nephew for joining us this morning to provide us with the opportunity to be in prayer and to recognize Representative Doore's contributions both here in this chamber and to the people of Augusta for her many, many years of public service. I know a number of us in the House Democratic Caucus have shared our stories and memories of Representative Doore and the fond memories that we all share of her time here in this building and outside of this building and I know now having Representative Doore's family with us today, I know that we wanted to take this opportunity to thank you all for sharing her with us, sharing her with the people of the State of Maine. We are all the better for having served alongside her, to see her even in moments where she was facing the greatest challenges of her life, battling a disease, she was so positive every single day she was in this chamber and she brought joy to those who she served with. So, thank

you for being here and thank you for sharing her with us. The Chair would welcome comments at this point from other Members if they so wish.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Winterport, Representative Cuddy.

Representative **CUDDY**: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I really wanted to get in first so that I wouldn't be crying when I started what I was going to say regarding Representative Donna Doore. In my first term, I served with Donna on Labor and Housing. And she quickly became somebody who was sort of at the same time a friend, a mother figure and a grandmother figure. It was Donna's natural way to kind of support you, take you in and make sure that you knew how well you were doing. Early on, the Senate Chair and House Chair would often have to leave the committee room and I was seated directly next to them so they would hand me the gavel and I would have to run the committee for short periods of time while they were gone. And Donna, who was seated sort of down the edge, at one point in time came up to me and said you know, initially, when you started doing that, I was the ranking Democrat and I was a little like how come they're giving it to this guy? But, honey, you're doing a great job. Keep it up. And that kind of encapsulated the relationship that I had with Donna. She was always paying attention to what was going on around her, she always knew who was doing what and she would consistently point out to you when you were doing well. An amazingly loving person and unendingly, unceasingly positive and it is the worst news that I have received since the passing of my father that Donna Doore passed away and I will miss her forever. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from East Machias, Representative Tuell.

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise to remember Donna, Representative Doore, if I may be a little more informal this morning. When I first came into the Legislature eight years ago on State and Local Government, there were several people that were a welcoming committee. Amongst them were the Representative from Windham, Representative Bryant and the Representative from Sinclair, Representative Martin. But not the least of them, probably one of the brightest lights in the room, was Representative Doore. She just had a way of welcoming everybody. And it wasn't until later on, being a freshman, I realized, you know, she was a freshman, too. But, you know, we both came in together and she welcomed everybody. She was, right then and there, you knew she was something special. But there were many times, good times, laughs and things that those who were newer to the building who don't remember a time when we were in person missed out on in the committee room with her. But one of the most poignant times that I can remember is four or five years ago when I had a particularly bad day on a piece of legislation that didn't go my way and had to tell a group of people that they were going to lose their jobs and that day I walked around the building in a daze and made the determination I was going to pull my papers to run for reelection. Well, on my way over to the Secretary of State to do just that, who should I happen to cross but my pastor, who was down for another meeting or a pastor in my area that was down for a meeting and Representative Doore. And just the

conversation, I think she sensed the frustration and despair I was going through that day. And whether she realizes it or not, she probably changed the course of events that day. I did not go up, I did not withdraw my papers, but she just had a sense of understanding and compassion about her that translated regardless of what party you were, regardless of what your beliefs were, regardless of any of it. She was a wonderful lady and will sorely be missed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Waterville, Representative Madigan.

Representative **MADIGAN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The Good Representative Donna Doore was probably my closest friend here and another proud Kennebec woman. She makes a mean tuna salad sandwich. I often ate lunch with her and actually have been over her house and tooled around in the golf cart on the property there. I really have to look forward and address the chamber but I want to thank Representative Doore's family for sharing her with us because Donna was someone who always stood up for workers, always stood up for people who were vulnerable, as funny as heck and even when I sat one seat over, was still my great friend and I miss her so much. So, thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Knox, Representative Kinney.

Representative **KINNEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. My experience, I didn't serve on committee with Representative Doore but we had opportunities to speak in the halls and any time I had a conversation with her, it was always pleasant. As you said, Mr. Speaker, she always had a smile, she was always positive despite what she was going through. And that is up to and including the last time that I saw her in this chamber last year and she was still just as positive, she says I'm going to beat this. And she has. Anyone that has any faith, she has beaten it and she is now enjoying her eternal life and I'm just so grateful that I've had the opportunity to get to know her over the last eight years because we did come in together and I do want to thank her family myself as well for sharing her with us because she was a wonderful person to have as a friend. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Belfast, Representative Dodge.

Representative **DODGE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, rise to extend gratitude to Representative Doore's family for sharing her with us and her work as a legislator.

Everyone who knew her in this Body will continue to speak of Donna's friendship and caring and great service. In the 129th, I sat behind her and I loved that she checked with each of us who sat around her to make sure we had successfully pushed our button to register our votes. I also loved her smile, her sense of joy. For me, she will continue to hold a spot as an honorary member of our backrow caucus. May our words be affirming for each other and each member of her family and community and act as a source of comfort and remembrance. Rest in peace, Donna; job well done. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Saco, Representative Copeland.

Representative **COPELAND**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in honor of Donna Doore as a colleague on the State and Local Government Committee. This is my first year, my first introduction to how things work here and I can say that Donna Doore was inspiring. She was taking chemo treatments from a recliner in a health care facility and still participating in the committee work that we did. She cared so much about her constituents and about her colleagues. That was evident and I think that that speaks to who we are, that we care about one another and I am grateful for her example and I send my condolences to her family. It's a great loss for all of us.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bangor, Representative Roeder.

Representative **ROEDER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also am brand new and was the beneficiary of Representative Doore's kindness. In one particular instance, last year or last session I had a really unpopular bill with the hunting community in the State of Maine and I decided I was going to go to the Sportsmen's banquet, walk into the lion's den, as it were. And when I first walked in, I didn't see anyone I knew, felt a little awkward, wandering around, to quote a friend, like a fart in a mitten and then sat down at Donna's table. She was there. She looked at me and she said you're a brave girl for being here. But what I'll remember is that she was a constant welcome. She made me feel seen and heard and like I had a place here and I'm so grateful for her.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Dixfield, Representative Pickett.

Representative **PICKETT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Representative Doore was my seatmate in the State and Local Committee my first session I was here and during that time, we had many, many debates back and forth, sometimes when the people were testifying, unfortunately, but we had a real good line of communication. And the thing that really struck me about Representative Doore, whether it was in the committee, whether it was in the hallway, or in the House; if you had something you needed to talk with her about and wanted to get some input on, she was always willing to take the time and give you that input. I considered her a colleague, I considered her a friend and she was a bearer of gifts. Many trinkets came my way in the way of goodies in committee and, maybe I should strike that from the record, too, but no, she certainly was somebody that I really appreciated as a colleague and I'm glad to have known her and to have had the opportunity to serve with her. Thank you, sir.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Sylvester.

Representative **SYLVESTER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Donna and I knew each other 20 years. When I first started working at MSEA, she was involved as a steward and in many other capacities in the union. And the first time I got to speak to the union, I gave what I thought was a very rousing speech about organizing new members into the union. And Donna was the first person to come up to me afterwards and she said 'honey, those are some very nice words you just said, but I'm going to need to see it on paper.'

And all she cared about ever was that her colleagues in the DOT were taken care of or that her colleagues in the State were taken care of, that the people that she had served

alongside and that she served in the City of Augusta had what they needed. And I remember another moment at the end of my MSEA career when there was something going on and I leaned over to Donna and I said maybe, I want to say this, but maybe I ought to shut up and she said honey, you know when to speak and when to be quiet, because she's a nicer person than I am, she said if your gut's telling you to speak, then you should speak. And years later, we both found ourselves in this chamber and we were in caucus and there was something going on I won't go into the weeds on but Donna leaned to me and said you know, I'm really angry about this but maybe I ought to be quiet. And I had the favor of returning her own wisdom to her. And she stood up and she spoke and she was one of those people that didn't speak all the time but when she spoke, you listened to what she had to say because she was a leader. And she spoke and she put us in touch with our better angels to do the thing that was right that day and that's who Donna Doore was; she was a person who spoke for others, she was a person who spoke when it mattered and her words are what I will remember forever. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Brooks.

Representative **BROOKS**: Thank you, Speaker, people of the House. When I think of Representative Donna Doore, I think of a woman who really welcomed everybody, made us feel included in the process. I remember one of the times that she was a seatmate of mine and it was during this crisis of the coronavirus, she was behind me in the Civic Center and it was very reassuring to see her there, in more ways than one. To see her literally have my back and our back regardless of which side of the row or aisle she sat on. I remember meeting her family, her husband, maybe eight or so years previously and for her family to have her back continuously, that really is a gift to us. And I would just say that Donna has our back and from now on, in my heart, I'm going to refer to her as the Good Representative from Heaven.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Camden, Representative Doudera.

Representative **DOUDERA**: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I felt very fortunate and lucky at the Civic Center to be seated next to Representative Donna Doore. And that was such a kind of a cavernous, cold place for all of us and I know that we all really missed the warmth and communality that we have here in this beautiful historic building. But Donna made that place feel like home. She, you know, we chatted, we talked about our families and I think what I just want her family especially to know is how proud she was of everyone, how much she enjoyed telling stories about her family, how much they supported her during her illness and, you know, she was very, very grateful for that and very proud of all of them and we all here feel lucky to have had her but I just want them to know she was always thinking about you as well.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Collings.

Representative **COLLINGS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Representative Doore as well as everyone here probably knows if I stand up and say I'm going to be brief, you probably may not be going anywhere for a while. So, but I'm sure she's watching now and very happy to talk about her. I'm just going

to use one line from a poem which I think describes her life up to her very last moments here in this building, no matter what was going on and that line is; if nothing saves us from death, at least love should save us from life. I want to offer my prayers and best wishes to all of Donna Doore's family. As you can see today, she'll not be forgotten here or anywhere in the State of Maine. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Sinclair, Representative Martin.

Representative **MARTIN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, had the opportunity to serve with Representative Donna Doore on State and Local Government and, as chair, it was my role to call and recognize those on the committee that wanted to speak. And for some strange reason, for at least three committee meetings, I would forget Representative Donna Doore's last name. So, finally, I'd say Representative Donna whatever her mistaken last name was and after three meetings she just sheepishly rose her hand and said Mr. Chairman, my name is Donna Doore. So, I just share that with you because when Donna spoke and quite frankly she didn't get up on this floor too, too often, but when she spoke, everybody listened. The next thing that I remember about Representative Donna Doore is Donna used to sit behind Representative Bryant here and myself and every once in a while, would tap me on the shoulder and she said hey, Danny, it's time for you to get a haircut. So, Donna, if you're listening, I got a haircut last night. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Fort Fairfield, Representative McCrea.

Representative **McCREA**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise, like everyone else has, to pay my greatest respects to the memory of Donna, Representative Doore.

So, I came in, this is the end of my third term, and she sat, well, we had Representative Martin, Representative Bryant and then me and she was behind us. She kind of immediately took care of me as a freshman. She had been here two years so she was an old pro. So, anyway, there came a time when Former Speaker Gideon, like you, Mr. Speaker, will say there are three people in their seat who have not yet voted. There are two people in their seat who have not yet voted. There is one person in his seat who has not voted. And she was looking right at me just as you are right now, Mr. Speaker and I saw her looking at me and I turned around to see who hadn't voted. Donna says Dave, it's you. So, that was fun at the time. Every time either Former Speaker Gideon or you, Mr. Speaker, say there is one person in his or her seat or their seat who has not yet voted, Donna would say Dave and I don't think I've been late on a vote since, but the part that I liked the most and maybe all of the people in this room, when they hear the Speaker say there is one or there is two or there are three people who have not voted, every time I hear you, Mr. Speaker, say that, I will think of Donna. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Gray, Representative Austin.

Representative **AUSTIN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. In a few of my terms on Labor and Housing, I found myself at one end of the dais and to my right was the wonderful, Honorable Donna Doore. And to her right was the Honorable Ann Peoples. Now, some of you may

not have had the luxury of serving on Labor and Labor can be quite a tenuous position, but with Donna on my right, she really helped to give levity to the subject and to the, at times, conflict and we really enjoyed joking and giggling, the three of us, at times limited, but at times, because it's helpful and, you know, I think leadership knew in their wisdom, all their wisdom, what they were doing when they placed us at that end of the table. It got to the point where I think I heard someone else say she brought in chocolate, so, we had plenty of treats and it would go back and forth between the three of us and we, I'm not sure exactly how it originated, if it came from within the three of us, the team, or if it was from leadership of the committee, but we ended up being called the Golden Girls. And Donna took that to a whole new level towards the end of that term. She said you know what, I'm going to do something that, we're going to memorialize our sitting here. And she came in with white towels all embroidered and monogrammed in gold, The Golden Girls of Housing and Labor and she dated the term. And so, you know, I often think of her because she really was one who was able to bring two sides, two different philosophies, perhaps two different profiles, certainly two different personalities, together in really true congeniality. We had some really tough bills and we were often at odds on the outcome but never, never was there any tension, anger, sour exchange of conversation. So, I hold that up as probably one of the best examples of what I think we can do and I'm glad to have known Honorable Donna Doore.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Old Town, Representative Dunphy.

Representative **DUNPHY**: Thank you. I was very lucky to serve with Donna Doore, all of us were. We shared a lot of loves. As a fellow union steward, we loved a fun car ride on a summer day and we always enjoyed our time together trying to chart a course for a better day and for our communities so that others could enjoy the same things that we were blessed with. Donna was a fighter. I saw that in her committee work, her work in the halls, her work in this chamber and in the fire in her eyes. Her heart was as big as her smile but I will never forget what a fighter she was. She fought for the people who didn't know she was fighting for them and I will miss her dearly.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from St. George, Representative Matlack.

Representative **MATLACK**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this year I got to know Donna better than I had in the past when I became chair of the State and Local Government Committee and she was a valued member of that committee. I thought and I still think that Donna Doore is one of the bravest people I know. Throughout our time in virtual meetings, as Representative Copeland mentioned, she would show up wherever she was; whether it was at home or Scarborough or wherever she was receiving treatment. And she still participated in our discussions and in our meetings and she had great knowledge to share. And last winter, we had a special subcommittee on abandoned roads, a very lively discussion and Donna was not a member of that committee but Representative Downs was. And at one point, our clerk, our legal analyst, was searching for a quorum and she went down and she accidentally called Representative Doore instead of Representative Downs and she says Donna, can you please

log on and so we can meet quorum for this meeting? And she says okay, give me five minutes and I'll be right there. And so, she goes over and she, just as Lynn was finishing up the conversation, she called back and she said wait a second, you're not on that committee and she said I know, but you said you needed me and I was going to be there for you. So, that's Donna and I will miss her dearly. Thank you.

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

Representative ORDWAY of Standish assumed the Chair.

The House was called to order by the Speaker Pro Tem.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.P. 1485)

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

February 22, 2022

Honorable Ryan M. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

130th Legislature

Honorable Troy D. Jackson

President of the Senate

130th Legislature

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mr. President:

On February 22, 2022, 1 bill was received by the Clerk of the House.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, this bill was referred to a Joint Standing Committee on February 22, 2022, as follows:

Appropriations and Financial Affairs

Bill "An Act To Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, General Fund and Other Funds and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2023" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1482) (L.D. 1995) (Sponsored by Representative PIERCE of Falmouth) (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

S/Darek M. Grant

Secretary of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

Sent for concurrence.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 366)

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

February 16, 2022

The Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (l) (a), I am temporarily appointing Representative Rachel Talbot Ross of Portland to the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety, replacing Representative Braden Sharpe of Durham, effective Thursday, February 17th. This appointment will expire at the end of the day on February 17th.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,

S/Ryan M. Fecteau

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 367)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

February 15, 2022

The Honorable Troy D. Jackson

President of the Senate

The Honorable Ryan Fecteau

Speaker of the House

130th Legislature

State House

Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Fecteau:

Please accept this letter as the report of the findings of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs from its review and evaluation of the State Board of Education under the State Government Evaluation Act, Title 3, Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 35.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Act, the committee notified the State Board of Education by letter dated April 30, 2021 of its intent to conduct a review. The State Board of Education submitted its report in November of 2021 and presented the report to the committee on January 13, 2022.

The committee has reviewed the report and finds that the State Board of Education is operating within its statutory authority.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Joseph Rafferty

Senate Chair

S/Rep. Michael F. Brennan

House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 368)

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**

February 15, 2022

The Honorable Troy D. Jackson
President of the Senate
The Honorable Ryan Fecteau
Speaker of the House
130th Legislature
State House
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Fecteau:
Please accept this letter as the report of the findings of the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs from its review and evaluation of the Department of Education under the State Government Evaluation Act, Title 3, Maine Revised Statutes, chapter 35.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Act, the committee notified the Department of Education by letter dated April 30, 2021 of its intent to conduct a review. The Department of Education submitted its report in November of 2021 and presented the report to the committee on January 13, 2022.

During its review, the committee requested additional information from the Department of Education regarding the relationship between the Department of Education and Department of Corrections in their respective responsibilities, oversight, and funding of the education of juveniles in correctional facilities in this State. The Department of Education will be submitting a separate report related to this topic later this session, and the committee looks forward to continuing conversations with the Department of Education on this important issue.

The committee has concluded its review of the report and finds that the Department of Education is operating within its statutory authority. In addition, the committee commends the Department of Education for their extraordinary work over the last two years. The Department of Education has shown great leadership in the State and nationally, and in particular have received national recognition for the MOOSE (Maine Opportunity for Online Sustained Education) Learning Module Library, which provides free access to a-synchronous, interdisciplinary, project-based learning. Despite the challenges and disruptions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, Commissioner Makin and Department of Education staff have worked tirelessly to encourage and support students and educators throughout the State.

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

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 369)

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

February 23, 2022

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

Dear Speaker Fecteau:
Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the following Joint Standing Committees have voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass:"

Education and Cultural Affairs
L.D. 1789 An Act To Modernize Funding of Publicly Funded Tuition Students Attending Career and Technical Education Programs (EMERGENCY)

Taxation
L.D. 276 An Act To Improve and Update Maine's Tax Laws

L.D. 392 An Act To Amend the Tax Laws

Transportation
L.D. 410 An Act To Provide Funding for the Reconstruction of Route 161 from Fort Kent to Caribou

L.D. 1833 Resolve, To Exempt Specialty or Recognition Registration Plates Already in the Process of Being Created from the Moratorium on the Approval of New Motor Vehicle Registration Plates (EMERGENCY)

Veterans and Legal Affairs
L.D. 421 An Act To Increase the Number of Plants a Medical Marijuana Caregiver May Cultivate
L.D. 1948 An Act To Enhance Access to, Education Regarding and Patient and Community Safety in Maine's Marijuana Programs (EMERGENCY)

Sincerely,
S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of House

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government, Highway Fund and Other Funds and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 2022 and June 30, 2023" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1483) (L.D. 1996)

Sponsored by Representative MARTIN of Sinclair. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Pursuant to Public Law

Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing

Representative SYLVESTER for the **Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing** pursuant to Public Law 2021, chapter 405, section 1, subsection 6 asks leave to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act To Implement Certain Recommendations of the Committee To Study the Feasibility of Creating Basic Income Security"

(H.P. 1484) (L.D. 1997)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Subsequently, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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

ORDERS

On motion of Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake, the following House Order: (H.O. 17)

ORDERED, that Representative Josanne C. Dolloff of Rumford be excused January 10 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Tiffany Roberts of South Berwick be excused January 5 and 26 for health reasons.

READ and **PASSED**.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair would like to thank the Representative from Standish, Representative Ordway for his service as Speaker Pro Tem and his 4 terms of service to the People of the State of Maine.

Representative BLUME of York assumed the Chair.

The House was called to order by the Speaker Pro Tem.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following matter, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment Wednesday, February 16, 2022, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Expression of Legislative Sentiment in Memory of Richard Litwin, of Old Orchard Beach

(HLS 529)

TABLED - February 16, 2022 (Till Later Today) by Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach.

PENDING - ADOPTION.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Old Orchard Beach, Representative Gramlich.

Representative **GRAMLICH**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Colleagues of the House. I would like to say a few remarks about Rich Litwin. I met Rich several years ago when former State Senator Chenette and I presented to the Old Orchard Beach VFW Post 7997 a commemorative license plate honoring Vietnam veterans. The license plate read 51458 - 51,458; that was the number of American lives lost in Vietnam. Rich was the VFW Post Chaplain. He shared with me stories about his time in Vietnam. We talked about POW bracelets; I had one as a kid. One of the stories Rich shared with me was when he heard the news that his brother, who was also serving in Vietnam, lost his life. Rich, who had very few weeks left to his own tour of duty, was immediately flown back to the states. However, the only plane available for departure was a cargo flight. Rich told me he flew back home on a cargo flight and that, other than the crew, he was the only person alive on that plane. The cargo plane was full of caskets of some of those who lost their lives in Vietnam. Rich looked me right in the eye and he asked me; do you know how long of a flight it is from Vietnam to the United States? I didn't know. Rich told me; 19 hours. Rich flew home after learning of the death of his brother and bearing witness to so many others who had served and lost their lives on a 19-hour flight full of caskets. Rich continued and looked at me even more intently and said, 19 hours, that gives a man a long time to think. Rich told me that it was many, many years before he was thanked for his service. So, today, we honor Rich Litwin and we thank him and all of our veterans for their service. Rich was a tireless advocate for veterans and was actively involved at our local VFW and the Maine Military Museum, which Rich told me about and I had the opportunity to tour. If you haven't had a chance to do so, which this museum is located in South Portland, I highly recommend doing so. Rich had a huge impact on our community and specifically in our town's VFW post. Madam Speaker, I am honored to have known him and he will be sorely missed. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Require Civil Rights Officers at Law Enforcement Agencies"

(H.P. 1486) (L.D. 1999)

Sponsored by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland. Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

ORDERS

On motion of Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 1487)

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF ASHLEY BRYAN

WHEREAS, Ashley Frederick Bryan, born in Harlem in New York City in 1923, the 2nd oldest of 6 children of immigrant parents from Antigua, a renowned author and illustrator and a resident of the State of Maine for over 60 years, died on February 4, 2022 at 98 years of age; and

WHEREAS, while a student at Cooper Union in New York City in 1942, Mr. Bryan was drafted to serve in a segregated battalion of the United States Army, with which he participated in the D-Day invasion, landing at Omaha Beach, and documented his experiences through writing and art; he told this important and inspiring story in 2019 in his celebrated memoir "Infinite Hope: A Black Artist's Journey from World War II to Peace"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bryan later studied art around the world and went on to a long teaching career at Queens College, Philadelphia College of Art, Lafayette College and Dartmouth College, but in the summer of 1946, he visited Maine for the first time as a student and, upon viewing the mountains of Mount Desert Island and the Cranberry Isles, decided this was where he wanted to live; and

WHEREAS, after coming to live on Little Cranberry Island, Mr. Bryan enriched the lives of island residents, visitors and schoolchildren in Maine and around the world with over 50 books, including "Beautiful Blackbird" and "Freedom Over Me," which were a force for bringing people of color and issues of racial diversity into children's literature and for introducing children of all backgrounds to African American poetry and folktales; and

WHEREAS, a child of the Great Depression who let nothing go to waste, Mr. Bryan used debris washed up on the shores of the Cranberry Isles to create puppets and stained-glass windows that have been displayed in museums around the country and are now on permanent display in the Ashley Bryan Storyteller Pavilion in Islesford on Little Cranberry Island; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bryan illuminated the African American experience and cultural heritage through his art, for which he has been recognized by universities and institutions internationally and which paved the way for African American writers and illustrators, creating opportunities for greater diversity in the world of children's literature; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bryan received the Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award, the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award, several Coretta Scott King Awards and a Newbery Honor, as well as many other recognitions, including the renaming of the Islesford school as the Ashley Bryan School in celebration of his love of children and commitment to education, and in September 2021, the Farnsworth Art Museum announced Mr. Bryan as the recipient of the 2022 Maine in America Award, which recognized outstanding contributions to Maine's role in American art and is the museum's highest honor; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirtieth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, take this occasion to recognize the achievements and contributions of Ashley Bryan and to offer his family and friends our condolences upon his passing.

READ and ADOPTED.

Sent for concurrence.

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would like to thank the Representative from York, Representative Blume for her service as Speaker Pro Tem and her 4 terms of service to the People of the State of Maine.

The Speaker inquired if there was objection to temporarily **SUSPENDING** the rules for the purpose of allowing Members to remove their masks for the purpose of taking the official House photo.

Representative DILLINGHAM of Oxford **OBJECTED** to temporarily **SUSPENDING** the rules for the purpose of allowing Members to remove their masks for the purpose of taking the official House photo.

Representative DILLINGHAM of Oxford **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to temporarily **SUSPEND** the rules for the purpose of allowing Members to remove their masks for the purpose of the Legislative photo.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Oxford, Representative Dillingham.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A point of clarification as well as some comments I'd like to leave with the Speaker. First, for clarification, this is going to require a two-thirds vote to approve suspending our rules in order to be able to remove our masks for our picture. If this vote shall fail, we will take our picture with our masks on; is that correct?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would answer in the affirmative.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. While I will be voting in favor of this temporary suspension, I think for posterity it's important that we be able to have our chamber picture without our masks on our face, I would like to also ask that the Speaker consider and this Body consider moving in the direction of us not returning to wearing our mask once we're done with this picture and follow what so many other states are doing, along with even schools within the State of Maine, to allow masking to be a choice versus a mandate. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is to temporarily suspend the rules for the purpose of allowing Members to remove their masks for the purpose of taking the official House photo. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 452

YEA - Alley, Andrews, Arata, Arford, Austin, Bell, Berry, Blier, Blume, Boyle, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Connor, Corey, Costain, Crafts, Craven, Cuddy, Dillingham, Dodge, Dolloff, Doudera, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Faulkingham, Fay, FecteauR, Foster, Geiger, Gere, Greenwood, Griffin, Grohoski, Haggan, Hall, Hanley, Harnett, Harrington, Hasenus, Head, Hepler, Hutchins, Hymanson, Javner, Kessler, Kinney, Landry, LaRochelle, Lemelin, Libby,

Lookner, Lyford, Lyman, Madigan, MartinJ, MartinR, MartinT, MasonR, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, MillettH, MillettR, Moriarty, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connell, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Paulhus, Pebworth, Perkins, PerryA, PerryJ, Pickett, Pluecker, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Rielly, Riseman, Roberts, Roche, Roeder, Rudnicki, Sachs, Salisbury, Sampson, Sheehan, Skolfield, Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Terry, Theriault, Thorne, Tucker, Tuell, Wadsworth, WarrenC, WhiteB, WhiteD, Williams, Wood, Zeigler.

NAY - Brennan, Brooks, Cloutier, Collings, Gramlich, Mathieson, Melaragno, Meyer, Morales, O'Neil, Osher, Reckitt, Tepler, WarrenS.

ABSENT - Babbidge, Bernard, Bickford, Bradstreet, Copeland, Crockett, Gifford, Grignon, Kryzak, Pierce, Sharpe, Underwood, Zager.

Yes, 121; No, 14; Absent, 13; Vacant, 3; Excused, 0.

121 having voted in the affirmative and 14 voted in the negative, 3 vacancies with 13 being absent, and accordingly the rules were temporarily **SUSPENDED** for the purpose of allowing Members to remove their masks for the purpose of taking the official House photo.

At this point, Representative HEAD of Bethel was added to the roll call of the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature.

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Oxford, Representative Dillingham.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: May I pose a question to the Chair?

The SPEAKER: The Member may proceed.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: On the previous vote, where it was a temporary suspension of the rules of wearing the mask, was the indication then once we were done individuals would then have to go back to wearing their mask in the chamber under our rules that we have in place?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would answer in the affirmative. The member may proceed.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: And, Mr. Speaker, is it your intention to either not move on with our work in the chamber or get to the point where individuals will be asked to leave the chamber if they are not going to adhere to the House Rules?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would answer in the affirmative. We will not begin our work until all members are once again complying with the rules of the House and I will sit here in this chamber for as long as it takes. So, if we want to sit here until 10 p.m. this evening, so be it, but we will follow the rules. The House will be in order. The Member may proceed.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: And if we get to the point where Members, if we get to the point where either you're going to move on by having people removed from the chamber and there's work that comes from the Senate on a supplement,

those Members will not be present in the chamber to be able to vote on the supplements; is that correct?

The SPEAKER: Correct. Members will not be able to vote if they are not complying with the rules.

Representative **DILLINGHAM** of Oxford moved that the rules be suspended for the purpose of allowing members to remove their masks.

The same Representative **REQUESTED** a roll call on the **SUSPENSION** of the rules for the purpose of allowing Members to remove their masks.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would remind Members that no Member will be voting on this item until they're wearing their mask. The House will be in order. If a Member wants to vote on the motion before us, they will wear a mask in compliance with the House Rules. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Chelsea, Representative Lemelin.

Representative **LEMELIN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The first vote that we did to remove the mask, was that requiring two-thirds?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would answer in the affirmative.

Representative **LEMELIN**: And does this vote require a two-thirds?

The SPEAKER: The Chair would answer in the affirmative.

Representative **LEMELIN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Winter Harbor, Representative Faulkingham.

Representative **FAULKINGHAM**: Mr. Speaker, we've been doing this for two years. This is the only building in the State that is state-mandated to wear masks. I don't know for a fact, but I'd say just about everybody in here has either been vaccinated or had COVID.

The last outburst that we had from the other side of the aisle, laughing because they thought that you were scolding this side of the aisle should've been called out. It's not a laughing matter. We're sick of being treated like little children, wearing these masks on our faces, when we're two years into this and nobody else is. If you want to wear one, wear one. Let us take them off.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Suspension of the rules for the purpose of allowing Members to remove their masks. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 453

YEA - Alley, Andrews, Arata, Austin, Blier, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Connor, Corey, Costain, Dillingham, Dolloff, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Faulkingham, Foster, Greenwood, Griffin, Haggan, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Lemelin, Libby, Lyford, Lyman, MartinT, MasonR, MillettH, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Thorne, Tuell, Wadsworth, WhiteD.

NAY - Arford, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Fay, FecteauR, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle,

Lookner, Madigan, MartinJ, MartinR, Mathieson, Matlack, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, MillettR, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Paulhus, Peberworth, PerryA, PerryJ, Pluecker, Rielly, Riseman, Roberts, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, WarrenC, WarrenS, WhiteB, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler.

ABSENT - Babbidge, Bernard, Bickford, Bradstreet, Crockett, Gifford, Grignon, Kryzak, Pierce, Reckitt, Sharpe, Theriault, Underwood.

Yes, 58; No, 77; Absent, 13; Vacant, 3; Excused, 0.

58 having voted in the affirmative and 77 voted in the negative, 3 vacancies with 13 being absent, and accordingly the motion to **SUSPEND** the rules for the purpose of allowing Members to remove their masks **FAILED**.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

First Day

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

(H.P. 1441) (L.D. 1932) Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 132: Learning Results: Parameters for Essential Instruction, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Education (EMERGENCY) Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 541) (L.D. 736) Bill "An Act To Enhance the Ecological Reserve System" Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-771)**

(H.P. 1322) (L.D. 1771) Resolve, To Establish the Advisory Panel To Better Understand and Make Recommendations Regarding the Implications of Genome-editing Technology for the Citizens of the State Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-770)**

(H.P. 1359) (L.D. 1826) Bill "An Act To Create a Subcommittee of the Interagency Task Force on Invasive Aquatic Plants and Nuisance Species To Recommend Ways To Reduce the Threat of Further Infestations" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-774)**

(H.P. 1436) (L.D. 1929) Bill "An Act To Provide Assistance to Areas Severely Infested with Brown-tail Moths" Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-772)**

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

There being no objection, the House Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** or **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** and sent for concurrence.

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

An Act To Provide Insurance Coverage for a Beneficiary on a Transfer on Death Deed

(S.P. 611) (L.D. 1752)

(C. "A" S-417)

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Paris, Representative Andrews.

Representative **ANDREWS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just have a point of information.

The SPEAKER: The Member may proceed.

Representative **ANDREWS**: Thank you, sir. I'm just curious as to why we can be in here with masks and pack the chamber for the State of the State yet we can't have in-person committee meetings while wearing a mask. That just doesn't seem to make sense to me and I was hoping you could elaborate on that. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair would remind Members that we are on item 10-1.

This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 113 voted in favor of the same and 1 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act To Extend the Legal Hours for Harvesting Lobster in the Month of September

(H.P. 1310) (L.D. 1759)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 115 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act To Modify Exemptions for Certain Storm Water Discharges to Class AA and SA Waters

(H.P. 1342) (L.D. 1801)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 116 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act To Provide for the 2022 and 2023 Allocations of the State Ceiling on Private Activity Bonds

(S.P. 638) (L.D. 1811)

(C. "A" S-408)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 109 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act To Correct the Year of the Expiration of the Terms of 2 County Commissioners in Sagadahoc County

(S.P. 649) (L.D. 1832)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 114 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Storm Water Management To Provide an Exemption for Mountain Bike Trails

(S.P. 653) (L.D. 1835)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 114 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act To Amend Maine's Financial Institution Merger Statutes and Modernize Certain Sections of Title 9-B

(S.P. 654) (L.D. 1836)

(C. "A" S-413)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 116 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

An Act Regarding Point-of-dispensing Sites for Immunizations against COVID-19

(S.P. 610) (L.D. 1855)

(C. "A" S-416)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 104 voted in favor of the same and 10 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 120: Release of Data to the Public, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization

(H.P. 1363) (L.D. 1842)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 112 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 34: Child Care Provider (Child Care Facilities and Family Child Care Providers) Background Check Licensing Rule, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child and Family Services

(H.P. 1375) (L.D. 1865)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 114 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Acts

An Act Regarding the Terms of Office of the Director of the Maine State Museum Commission, the State Librarian and the Director of the Maine Arts Commission

(S.P. 392) (L.D. 1206)

An Act Regarding the Sale and Use of Consumer Fireworks

(H.P. 963) (L.D. 1307)

(C. "A" H-757)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Gambling Control Board

(S.P. 600) (L.D. 1745)

(C. "A" S-410)

An Act To Allow the Private Sale of Certain State Surplus Property to State Employees

(H.P. 1319) (L.D. 1768)

(C. "A" H-761)

An Act Clarifying the Rights to Legal Representation and To Communicate with Others for Individuals Subject to Guardianship

(H.P. 1325) (L.D. 1774)

(C. "A" H-762)

An Act To Support Statewide Economic Recovery through Strategic Investments

(H.P. 1334) (L.D. 1793)

(C. "A" H-760)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Small Enterprise Growth Program

(H.P. 1341) (L.D. 1800)

(C. "A" H-759)

An Act To Attract and Retain Firefighters and Emergency Medical Services Personnel through the Maine Length of Service Award Program

(H.P. 1345) (L.D. 1803)

(C. "A" H-756)

An Act To Allow Exceptions to the Height Limitations under the Shoreland Zoning Laws

(S.P. 636) (L.D. 1809)

(C. "A" S-415)

An Act Regarding Examinations and Applications for Professional Engineers and Engineer-interns

(S.P. 637) (L.D. 1810)

(C. "A" S-409)

An Act To Amend the Charter of the Ogunquit Sewer District

(S.P. 646) (L.D. 1829)

(C. "A" S-411)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Resolves

Resolve, Directing the Department of Health and Human Services To Update the Rights of Recipients of Mental Health Services

(H.P. 795) (L.D. 1080)
(C. "A" H-758)

Resolve, To Rename Bridges in the Town of Milo for Veterans Who Died during the Vietnam War

(S.P. 626) (L.D. 1788)
(C. "A" S-412)

Resolve, To Name a Bridge in the Town of Unity the Alton "Mac" McCormick Memorial Bridge

(S.P. 657) (L.D. 1839)

Resolve, To Rename 3 Bridges in Brownville and Brownville Junction

(S.P. 672) (L.D. 1912)

Resolve, Authorizing the State To Convey to the Passamaquoddy Tribe the State's Interest in a Parcel of Land in the Town of Meddybemps

(H.P. 1429) (L.D. 1921)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed, **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 716)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, respectively.

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **PASSED**.

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Establish a Disaster Relief Fund for Potato Farmers Adversely Affected by Drought Conditions"

(S.P. 717) (L.D. 1998)

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

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

First Day

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

(S.P. 598) (L.D. 1743) Bill "An Act To Amend Certain Definitions in the Statutes Governing the Gambling Control Board" Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(S.P. 267) (L.D. 680) Resolve, To Reestablish the Task Force To Study the Creation of a Comprehensive Career and Technical Education System (EMERGENCY) Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-418)**

(S.P. 597) (L.D. 1742) Bill "An Act To Ensure Compliance with the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for

American Lobster" Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-422)**

(S.P. 609) (L.D. 1751) Bill "An Act To Make Permanent the Changes to the Liquor Laws Made by Public Law 2021, Chapters 3 and 91" Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-419)**

(S.P. 655) (L.D. 1837) Bill "An Act To Clarify the Appeals Process for Decisions Related to the Maine Health Insurance Marketplace" Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-420)**

(S.P. 680) (L.D. 1940) Bill "An Act To Ensure That Building Codes Allow the Installation and Use of Products and Equipment That Use Certain Federally Regulated Refrigerants" Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-421)**

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

There being no objection, the Senate Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** or **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** in concurrence.

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

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

(H.P. 1339) (L.D. 1798) Bill "An Act To Ensure Health Insurance Coverage for Certain Adults with Disabilities" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-776)**

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

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

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-769)** on Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Program To Encourage Climate Education in Maine Public Schools

(H.P. 1409) (L.D. 1902)

Signed:

Senators:

RAFFERTY of York

DAUGHTRY of Cumberland

Representatives:

BRENNAN of Portland
CROCKETT of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
McCREA of Fort Fairfield
MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth
SALISBURY of Westbrook

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Resolve.

Signed:

Senator:

WOODSOME of York

Representatives:

LYMAN of Livermore Falls
ROCHE of Wells
SAMPSON of Alfred
STEARNS of Guilford

READ.

Representative BRENNAN of Portland moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative STEARNS of Guilford **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

Representative **STEARNS**: Mr. Speaker, one of the roles that we have as school administrators, school boards, whether local or state, Department of Education, is to make certain that we have appropriate resources for our teachers in the classroom and that they come from unbiased sources.

One of the pieces regarding this bill, I was interested to notice that the day after we worked this bill, did a nice job in committee, one of our prominent statewide daily newspaper, if you will, kind of took the minority members of the committee to task a little bit and their view was that perhaps the minority members were in denial about any type of climate change or that type of thing. In reality, they missed the point on this bill. The point on this bill is whether or not the science teachers or the folks instructing the topic of climate in the State of Maine are in a crisis as to whether or not they have enough material to work with to form their lessons and create their curriculum from. So, after our committee meeting and reading that article, I went online myself and did a little bit of cheapo research, but the Department of Education, a plethora of national and regional science teacher organizations, the universities, our universities both public and private, private colleges, our curriculum coordinator group, there is so much information available for anyone at any grade level in order to teach the topic of climate change that's available to them. One of the best resources that I found is the Maine Digital Library. I use it every day. It's free or taxpayer-funded, if you will, and the resources that are available on that digital library website are just phenomenal. So, Mr. Speaker, I would encourage Members to consider whether we're voting about climate change, that big topic, or are we voting about whether to pass a bill with a \$3 million price tag, a \$3 million fiscal note

because there isn't enough material available for our instruction of science to take place. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Brennan.

Representative **BRENNAN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. This is a good bill and this is a good idea. This is a recommendation that comes from the Maine Climate Council Report and what it does is establish a new fund within the Department of Education with \$3 million request from the appropriation to fund that new effort within the department. What it does is simply allow school districts across the State and teachers across the State, partnering with community-based organizations, to develop projects, curriculum and efforts to address climate crisis education. And we desperately need that in the State. And I appreciate the comments that were made by the Good Representative from Guilford, but we need to go a step further and this is the step further, in fact, it's a big step further, to start to allow teachers, schools and communities to actively engage in discussions, curriculum and education around the climate crisis. So, I commend the people that brought this bill forward. We had overwhelming testimony and support of this bill and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this initiative.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from York, Representative Blume.

Representative **BLUME**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, there are many reasons to support this bill. First, it fulfills one of the Climate Council's recommended strategies in the Maine Won't Wait four-year climate action plan to increase educational opportunities in climate and energy. This bill supports this strategy by offering professional development opportunities for Maine educators and by enabling school districts to partner with local community-based organizations in order to better educate students on climate change's causes, impacts and the new career opportunities created because of it. It is important to note and the second reason is that the teachers are asking for it. The whole reason this bill came to be is because the teachers, the science teachers in their summit last summer said that this was their number one priority. So, it is needed by the teachers because since Maine adopted the Next Generation science standards in 2019, teachers have called for professional development support in teaching to those standards, which include numerous climate change education standards. The lack of professional development has become a significant barrier to meeting these standards. It is not enough to simply create requirements for teachers without supporting them in meeting those requirements and teachers have been calling out for this support. Number three, it is ensuring equitable distribution of this grant program. This bill prioritizes schools currently underserved by climate science education. Maine has a rich landscape of supportive community organizations that partner with schools and provide capacity that schools lack right now, as demonstrated during COVID. Each Maine county is served by over a dozen community partner programs in climate education and professional development and these organizations are ready to partner with schools on this pilot program. The funded DOE position that this bill creates is

intended to support schools through the process and ensure the funds go where they are most needed.

Finally, I'm asking you to help accelerate climate change education in our public schools because our students and teachers are asking for it and because the pace of climate change is also accelerating. Maine has demonstrated that it won't wait to take action on climate change and our students can't wait either. I urge you to follow my light. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Milford, Representative Drinkwater.

Representative **DRINKWATER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Having served on the Education, every time we had a bill come up that wanted to add more curriculum to the school day, the answer we always got and it was a good answer, was the school day's not long enough. So, what I'm hearing is let's add something, it's a great idea and I'm not disagreeing that it isn't, but may I ask a question through the Chair? Are we going to be extending, if somebody would answer, are we going to be extending the school day to accommodate this?

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Milford, Representative Drinkwater, has posed a question through the Chair for anyone who wishes to answer. The Chair recognizes the Representative from York, Representative Blume.

Representative **BLUME**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This bill, it is not a mandate, first of all and it does not create new curricula. So, I don't know what different schools do, but it is not creating new curricula nor is it mandating that you do it. It is for those school systems that want it. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 454

YEA - Alley, Arford, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Corey, Crafts, Craven, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Lookner, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett H, Millett R, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Paulhus, Pebworth, Perry A, Perry J, Pluecker, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roberts, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stetkis, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin, Blier, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Connor, Costain, Dillingham, Dolloff, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Faulkingham, Foster, Greenwood, Griffin, Haggan, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Lemelin, Libby, Lyford, Lyman, Martin, Mason, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfeld, Stanley, Stearns, Thorne, Tuell, Wadsworth, White.

ABSENT - Babbidge, Bernard, Bickford, Bradstreet, Crockett, Gifford, Grignon, Kryzak, Pierce, Sharpe, Theriault, Underwood.

Yes, 82; No, 54; Absent, 12; Vacant, 3; 0; Excused, 0.

82 having voted in the affirmative and 54 voted in the negative, 3 vacancies with 12 being absent, and accordingly

the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Resolve was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-769)** was **READ** by the Clerk.

Representative **BLUME** of York **PRESENTED House Amendment "A" (H-778)** to **Committee Amendment "A" (H-769)**, which was **READ** by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from York, Representative Blume.

Representative **BLUME**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This amendment is a carefully-worded amendment that reads; the Department may apply for and receive funds, grants, or contributions from public or private sources to support the purposes of this resolve as long as the person providing the funds, grants, or contribution does not have a vested or pecuniary interest in the outcome of the pilot program. This is important, if the funding doesn't come through that there may be the opportunity through very specific steps to accept money from elsewhere. It's a common practice that we do with these type of programs. Thank you.

Representative **STEARNS** of Guilford **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ADOPT House Amendment "A" (H-778)** to **Committee Amendment "A" (H-769)**.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Guilford, Representative Stearns.

Representative **STEARNS**: Mr. Speaker, this amendment seeks to add language that during our committee deliberations we actually removed from the original bill to make sure that we kept that bright line between organizations who might have some type of interest. And I do respect the Good Representative, the language in there regarding pecuniary interest, but at the end of the day, I still think we should keep that bright line between the funding from outside groups coming into this bill. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Adoption of House Amendment "A" (H-778) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-769). All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 455

YEA - Alley, Arford, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Corey, Crafts, Craven, Cuddy, Doudera, Dunphy, Evans, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Lookner, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett H, Millett R, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Paulhus, Pebworth, Perry A, Perry J, Reckitt, Rielly, Roberts, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, Warren, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin, Blier, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Connor, Costain, Dillingham, Dodge, Dolloff, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Evangelos, Faulkingham, Foster, Greenwood, Griffin, Haggan, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Lemelin, Libby, Lyford, Lyman, Martin, Mason, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Pluecker, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Riseman, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson,

Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Thorne, Tuell, Wadsworth, Warren, White

ABSENT - Babbidge, Bernard, Bickford, Bradstreet, Crockett, Gifford, Grignon, Kryzak, Pierce, Sharpe, Skolfield, Theriault, Underwood.

Yes, 76; No, 59; Absent, 13; Vacant, 3; Excused, 0.

76 having voted in the affirmative and 59 voted in the negative, 3 vacancies with 13 being absent, and accordingly **House Amendment "A" (H-778) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-769) was ADOPTED.**

Committee Amendment "A" (H-769) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-778) thereto was ADOPTED.

Under suspension of the rules the Resolve was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading.**

Under further suspension of the rules the Resolve was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-769) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-778)** and sent for concurrence.

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

Majority Report of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-775)** on Bill "An Act To Implement the Most Time-sensitive Recommendations of the Maine Climate Council"

(H.P. 1045) (L.D. 1429)

Signed:

Senators:

BRENNER of Cumberland
BENNETT of Oxford
CARNEY of Cumberland

Representatives:

TUCKER of Brunswick
BELL of Yarmouth
BLUME of York
BOYLE of Gorham
DOUDERA of Camden
GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach
ZEIGLER of Montville

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

HANLEY of Pittston
O'CONNOR of Berwick
TUELL of East Machias

READ.

Representative TUCKER of Brunswick moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended Report.**

Representative HANLEY of Pittston **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended Report.**

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Pittston, Representative Hanley.

Representative **HANLEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, the amended version of this bill is much better than the original, I thank goodness for that, but, again, even the amended version projects 23 years into the future a zero carbon emission for the entire State of Maine. I don't think anyone can project anything 20 years into the future, much less 23 years. It sets an unrealistic goal of zero, but the problem with the bill is it also sets in motion, now it's in Statute, so, the grinding of government will start and what will happen is a massive increase in the cost of living in this State, especially energy cost. I ask you to follow my vote and defeat this motion. It is a feel-good piece of legislation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Berwick, Representative O'Connor.

Representative **O'CONNOR**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Time sensitive, 23 years; that really doesn't make a lot of sense. But also, if we keep following this path, our energy costs will, of course, rise even more and right now they are already higher than an elephant's fanny and I don't think we can afford that. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Brunswick, Representative Tucker.

Representative **TUCKER**: This bill is needed for planning purposes. You have to plan for the future. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 456

YEA - Alley, Arford, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Carlow, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Corey, Crafts, Craven, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Lookner, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Paulhus, Pebworth, Perry A, Perry J, Pluecker, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roberts, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, Warren C, Warren S, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin, Blier, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Connor, Costain, Dillingham, Dolloff, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Faulkingham, Foster, Greenwood, Griffin, Haggan, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Lemelin, Libby, Lyford, Lyman, Martin, Mason, Millett, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Thorne, Tuell, Wadsworth, White.

ABSENT - Babbidge, Bernard, Bickford, Bradstreet, Crockett, Gifford, Grignon, Kryzak, Pierce, Sharpe, Theriault, Underwood.

Yes, 81; No, 55; Absent, 12; Vacant, 3; Excused, 0.

81 having voted in the affirmative and 55 voted in the negative, 3 vacancies with 12 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended Report was ACCEPTED.**

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-775)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-775)** and sent for concurrence.

JAVNER of Chester
LEMELIN of Chelsea

READ.

Representative MEYER of Eliot moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report.

Representative JAVNER of Chester **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

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

Representative **QUINT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can you hear me okay? All right, thank you.

This bill was brought forward for constituents that spoke to me when I was campaigning. Many things have been said about what I thought about the bill, that I brought it forward because I said this or I did this or I was a conspiracy theorist. But, to be honest, this bill was brought forward because I was asked to bring it forward. So, I'm a little upset that the press would say such a thing. I'm bringing it forward for health care workers who have walked away from their jobs. I'm bringing it forward for parents who are concerned that their children will have to be vaccinated against their will, against the parents' will or the State would step in. Grandparents as well have also come to me about this.

So, I would like to take a moment to thank the people that testified on this bill because I feel they were very brave. I feel that people that speak up against the COVID-19 vaccination are vilified and that's not acceptable. As a nurse, it is not acceptable to vilify someone for not wanting a medical treatment. So, I just really wanted to thank them for that and acknowledge them. I would also like to acknowledge the people who have been injured or who have died from the COVID-19 vaccine. That doesn't seem to make it in the papers. We will see constant things on the news or in the papers about people who have died of COVID and that is a tragedy, but it's also a tragedy of people who did what they felt was the right thing and then they have suffered for it. So, I did want to bring them up and acknowledge them now. And I thank you for allowing me to do that. It's also brought forward for constituents in my own district who have given me their personal medical records to help them fill out VAERS reports. They have elevated troponin levels, soaring D-dimer levels, this has to do with blood clotting and now they're having to take Eliquis for the rest of their lives but, don't worry, it is a Pfizer product, so they're making some good money off of this. More information is becoming available. This bill was introduced over a year ago and, at first I was disappointed that it wasn't brought forward but now I'm not because we're receiving more information. Many countries have backed away from their mandates, many states are working on proposals to prevent government overreach and mandates. Why are we not taking a pause to address these concerns? We now have fully-vaxxed and boosted health care workers providing care to patients in the hospital who are COVID positive. Once again, long-term studies, which is what this is about, in part, would have given us this useful information. It did not take long to

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE Pursuant to Statute

Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government

Representative **MATLACK** for the **Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12006, subsection 2 asks leave to report that the accompanying Bill "An Act To Eliminate Inactive Boards and Commissions"

(H.P. 1488) (L.D. 2002)

Be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

The Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Subsequently, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

Sent for concurrence.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Prohibit Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccinations for 5 Years To Allow for Safety Testing and Investigations into Reproductive Harm" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 635) (L.D. 867)

Signed:

Senators:

CLAXTON of Androscoggin
BALDACCI of Penobscot

Representatives:

MEYER of Eliot
CRAVEN of Lewiston
PERRY of Calais
STOVER of Boothbay
ZAGER of Portland

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-768)** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senator:

MOORE of Washington

Representatives:

CONNOR of Lewiston
GRIFFIN of Levant

show breakthrough cases. Why do we have a mandate on a failed product?

Informed consent. I would like to speak just a couple of things about informed consent. The State is responsible for ensuring that individuals lawfully residing in the State have the right to provide or withhold consent for any medical treatment. That is supposed to be our legal right. The American Medical Association's Code of Medical Ethics Opinion 2.1.1 recognizes the right of an individual to be fully informed of a recommended medical treatment and to allow that individual to make an informed decision regarding the individual's course of treatment, including whether to obtain or decline a particular medical treatment. Under 42 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 482.13, a hospital is required as a condition of participation in Medicare, to have in place a process for obtaining the informed consent of a patient before providing treatment to that patient and to ensure that the patient or the patient's representative, as allowed by State law, has the right to make informed decisions regarding that patient's care. Mandates take away all of those rights. But a mandate is not a law. How can a mandate usurp law? Informed consent requires information. I was raised to question everything. I homeschooled my children, I tell them to question everything as well; even science. The scientific method should yield consistent results. Now, if you question safety or efficacy, you will be vilified. The given narrative must be obeyed. We're told to trust our doctor, to speak to them about the vaccine, unless you're a doctor him or herself did not get the vaccine and then you must get a different doctor that agrees with the narrative. You're not allowed to go to your doctor anymore because your doctor was fired in the State of Maine. That is unacceptable. The State is coming in between a doctor and patient's private conversations. The State does not belong there. There are no therapeutics promoted by our State except for a couple from a pharmaceutical company in which the medical community is financially rewarded on our misfortunes. We should have early treatment and we do not; other states do. People of Maine should not be compelled or coerced into receiving a vaccine that carries the risk of injury and/or death. Are we representatives or are we rulers? Do we protect the bodily autonomy and the rights of our citizens? I did not swear an oath to protect my constituents' health; that is for them to do. I swore an oath to protect my constituents' rights and I will continue to do so. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Chelsea, Representative Lemelin.

Representative **LEMELIN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Members of the House. I rise in strong opposition to the pending motion also. I would like to present the science to you, Mr. Speaker and only the science, which we should all be following and not just idle chatter that's been going on throughout the State of Maine. At first, we were assured one hundred percent that if you receive the COVID vaccine, you would not get COVID. It has been proven unequivocally and there's not a person in this chamber that doesn't know that whether you are vaccinated or not, you can receive COVID. Then we were told okay, well, you can't spread COVID if you have this miracle vaccine. That, of course, has been proven wrong. Then we were told if you have this miracle vaccine,

you would not be hospitalized, you would not go to the ICU and you absolutely can't be on a ventilator. We were promised this, Mr. Speaker and we have been lied to because this has been proven unequivocally wrong. Presented to the Health and Human Services Committee, Northern Light Health, which we all respect, clearly indicated that the CDC was wrong. Presented to the Health and Human Services Committee by Northern Light; 56 vaccinated people were in the hospital, 60 unvaccinated. The numbers are almost identical. So, it's unequivocal that vaccinated people are in the hospital and that the vaccine doesn't work against you being hospitalized. They secondly reported that seven people vaccinated were in ICU, 11 unvaccinated. Once again, pretty close. So, you can definitely be in the ICU whether vaccinated or not. Third, they reported to our committee that two people are on ventilators who are fully vaccinated. So, you can't say that the vaccines prevent you from being on ventilators. So, what does the vaccine do, exactly, Mr. Speaker, because they don't prevent you from getting COVID, that's proven. They don't prevent you from spreading it, that's proven. They don't prevent you from being hospitalized. Proven; testified to. They don't prevent you from being in the ICU. Proven; testified to by the hospitals which we all respect. And you can be on a ventilator. So, what are people going to tell me; well, maybe you're less likely? Is that the next step? So, we are going to force a vaccine on people on the hopes, no scientific proof on the hopes that you are less likely maybe to get COVID, to be hospitalized, to be in the ICU, to be on a ventilator? Are you kidding me? This is why I oppose this.

The second part of this bill states that we want to allow safety testing and everybody wants to know why, why do we want to do that? Here's the reasoning behind it, Mr. Speaker and I guarantee you, Mr. Speaker, that 99% of the people in the State of Maine do not know what I'm about to tell you because I know I have asked every constituent in my area that I bump into if they know this and they say well, what are you talking about. Testified in a court of law to Dr. Shah, 600 in the first nine months of the vaccine being given out in the State of Maine only, first nine months, 671 people have died of no known cause within 28 days of receiving the vaccine. Dr. Shah was asked are you going to investigate this? No, I'm going to leave it up to the federal government. Are you kidding me? If Prilosec or any other drug, if these were the results of that drug being tested out, Dr. Shah and everybody in this room would be up in arms saying you've got to do something about this because 671 people have died of no known cause within 28 days of taking this drug. But not on a vaccine. On a vaccine that has been proven to do nothing. These aren't my words, it's Northern Health. So, Mr. Speaker, I really want to know from the Members of this chamber why they can vote to have a vaccine mandate when the vaccine has been proven scientifically not to do a darn thing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Alfred, Representative Sampson.

Representative **SAMPSON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Allow me to share some examples of where our government has shown prudent and prompt response when the people of this country have been harmed. In 2008, there was a tainted heparin problem and this

was quickly addressed and stopped after less than 100 deaths. In 1982, there was a Tylenol scandal. Again, that was addressed and the tampering issue was dealt with after less than 10 deaths. In 1976, the swine flu vaccine was stopped after 32 deaths. Now, since 1990, the Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System, also known as VAERS, has been the nation's early-warning system monitoring the safety of vaccines and has been considered an important signal to the FDA and the CDC. We've heard Dr. Shah refer to this many times and he basically has said this in the Health and Human Services Committee during the work session. It is a passive recording system capturing roughly 1% of actual adverse events. It does not prove cause and effect relationships but it clearly can highlight unusual data patterns and these patterns can indicate a fatal flaw in medical interventions. So, allow me to share with you some specifics from VAERS as of February 11th that was posted. This is to do specifically with the experimental COVID shot. Approximately 24,000 deaths have occurred, over 4,000 miscarriages, approximately 34,000 cases of myocarditis and pericarditis. Please keep in mind, this is roughly 1% that are recorded of all the problems. Since we know and we have just clearly heard that these shots do not prevent the infection or the spread, it is also shown clearly, as I just gave examples of, not to be safe and effective. So, I would ask that you would oppose this measure and please stop the mandate. It's the mandate. People can choose, but it's the mandate that I'm requesting that we stop that shot. Thank you.

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

Representative **COLLAMORE**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise today to speak in opposition to the pending motion. I've really struggled trying to decide whether I would speak on the floor very publicly about this and whether I wanted to share on record about my personal experience and why I hope that we defeat this pending motion. Mr. Speaker, this is very difficult for me and a very personal story so, I apologize in advance, although I'm already getting emotional; I apologize. We've all had a pretty rough two years. I would not presume to assume the difficulties that the last two years have provided for other Members of this Body or those we represent but I can say with great certainty that the last two years have been some of the worst years of my life. I have been told that my health doesn't matter as much as others' lives because of my inability to wear a mask. I fight with medical providers, excuse me, I'm having a hard time seeing, I fight with medical providers just to be seen to stay healthy for my son and my family because I'm unable to wear a mask. Honestly, Mr. Speaker, I'm very tired of fighting. But that's actually why I need to keep fighting for all of those others who are tired of fighting for their medical rights.

In May of last year, after more than a year of being unable to participate in the world normally due to my medical inability to wear a mask and because I have been advised against receiving a vaccine, I was unable to obtain the COVID shot. Though in May I tested positive for COVID, I was very lucky to have only had the extreme headaches and great fatigue as a result of catching the virus. I did end up having to get fluids in the ER because I was dehydrated, but that's not

abnormal occurrence for me. Even without a virus, I am constantly on alert for dehydration due to other medical issues. Anyway, I thought this was pretty lucky because I had a mild case and now I have natural immunity and just like when I had chickenpox as a child, I thought great, I can go to work again because I have natural immunity. Mask mandates for vaccinated people at the University System had been lifted. Unfortunately, I learned that natural immunity didn't count and that I still wouldn't be allowed to return to my office without the shots. The only accommodation given to people like me who are unable to wear a mask is to work remotely. I have been cut off from the world. Mr. Speaker, all I wanted to do was to return to work and no longer be segregated from my team and the young man we had just hired as I was trying to train him remotely. I made the decision to get the shot so that I could return to campus and feel included again. I worked with my medical team, we identified the Pfizer shot as the shot that would be least likely to impact my health. We set a date with Northern Light Hospital that's local for me in Pittsfield for the first shot, with the understanding that I cannot wear a mask and that I had to be monitored for at least an hour with an EpiPen very nearby. When I arrived at the hospital, I was refused service because I can't wear a mask. What a great irony, Mr. Speaker; I needed to get the shot to be able to be in communities without a mask but I couldn't get the shot because I couldn't wear a mask. I was hurt and angry and yet again felt discriminated against due to a medical condition I cannot change. I called my mom, who is the world's best sounding board and happened to work for a hospital system in North Dakota. My son was out visiting her and I had already had plans to go out and visit and pick him up and bring him home with me. My mom was able to get me scheduled to get my shots in North Dakota. I had to extend my stay to allow for the 21 days in between the shots and postpone my vacation for the following two weeks so that I could drive home with my son, visiting colleges and historical sites; he wants to be a historian.

By the time we had returned to Maine, I would be considered fully vaccinated and could return to campus. Mr. Speaker, just to be clear, I had to go to North Dakota to obtain shots that were supposed to allow me to return to work. Unfortunately, the university changed their policy again for whatever reason and I still can't go to work. I'm angry and I'm hurt and yet again feel discriminated against. My anger, to be clear, Mr. Speaker, is with myself. I'm angry because here I am six months after getting my second shot and the adverse effects to my fit due to receiving these two shots, believing that I would be able to return to a more normal life and go back to work, to be able to be here without masking and without dirty looks that I get for being unable to wear a mask would go away. These adverse effects are so bad that I am frequently at doctors' appointments, unfortunately causing me to miss committee meetings and work hours that are already so hard to make because I serve at the will of the people that I represent. Mr. Speaker, two weeks ago as I sat in these chambers, I was wearing a Holter monitor to find out what's going on with my heart. I'm angry at myself for putting those chemicals into my body that didn't have long-term studies on them. And I hurt my heart and potentially my lungs. I'm angry

that I don't know if we can fix my heart. I'm angry because I don't know if the damage is permanent. And this is something I'm saying out loud for the very first time; I don't know how long I will be around to watch my son achieve all of the wonderful things I know he can achieve. Excuse me. Mr. Speaker, I beg of you and the Members of this Body to follow my light to defeat the pending motion, to allow the Minority Report to be brought forward so we can protect parents like me, children, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, grandparents and all the others who are in our State from having the medical complications that I have experienced over the last six months and for the future to come. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Brooks.

Representative **BROOKS**: Thank you, Speaker, People of the House. Having a background in medicine, one comes across a number of things. I grew up in Auburn-Lewiston in the '80s. HIV/AIDS was a viral disease that was most prevalent when I was growing up. Right now, we have better treatments for that, we're still making progress. Prior to that, I've learned more about polio. And polio, we don't know enough about even now because we forget. We forget the destruction that it caused. We go into CMMC and upstairs they have the iron lungs and it's just heartbreaking. There are medical anthropologists that study that that show that what happened in the sequelae, things that happened after getting the illness. Unfortunately, as this pandemic was unfolding, Dr. Shah, I remember being in the chamber on the other side of the aisle in my seat and he coming to say after our first person was identified in Maine that was identified as having the coronavirus in my area, he was telling us about it and having a medical mind I listened very intently, as I'm sure we all did, but we also listened with a lot of other circumstances about what's going to happen next, what will happen and a lot of that was unknown. And even today, a lot of that is unknown. With this bill and with this measure, there are other viruses that we can look back on, whether it's smallpox that had a vaccine that has been widespread and it was nearly pretty much eradicated because everybody got the vaccine and that's the history of it. We think of chickenpox. When I was young, we had the chickenpox events where you'd go and you get chickenpox and that seems cruel today, especially when you think of shingles, but that was kind of how the natural immunity was something. But this is something that's evolving. We have multiple vaccines. I had a, well, I shouldn't say, I don't have permission to say my struggles with people who have developed coronavirus that are close, but every person who's been affected by this, by the separation from their loved ones, whether they're in a care facility or whether they're six feet apart, it's been definitely a challenge that we're all living through and our challenge is to move forward together and to see the promise of the next day. And if we could all try to stay in that moment, see the promise of the next day and know that there are things that we can do to work and that the illness is challenging and that's the nature of science is that it's the work in progress and we need to learn together and work together.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Windham, Representative Corey.

Representative **COREY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I'm a vaccine collector now. I have a collector's card in my wallet. I believe in the COVID vaccines and their efficacy especially with regard to preventing hospitalizations and deaths. I'll be voting against the pending motion not because I don't support vaccination; rather, I do not believe in vaccine mandates. I don't want anyone else to speak for me today, that's why I stood up to speak. Please oppose the pending motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Paris, Representative Andrews.

Representative **ANDREWS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The essential function of American government is to protect our foundational liberty that's enshrined in the Constitution and it's why we all take the oath. Consent of the governed, Mr. Speaker, that's the contract. Forcing vaccine is an act of aggression that violates that contract. Please vote this motion down. Thank you.

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

Representative **MEYER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Esteemed Colleagues of the House. The COVID-19 vaccines were developed with robust international collaboration and dramatically increased resources in response to the pandemic. These vaccines were evaluated in tens of thousands of participants in clinical trials, meeting the Food and Drug Administration's rigorous scientific standards for safety, effectiveness and manufacturing quality. Nearly 550 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been given in the United States under the most intensive and comprehensive safety monitoring in our nation's history. Billions of vaccines have been given worldwide across 184 countries. Illness and suffering averted, untold numbers of lives saved. The scientific evidence is overwhelming, sound, supported by the professional medical community. It is nothing short of irresponsible and, indeed, inhumane, to remove a tool, a safe and effective tool from our toolbox as we battle a virus that has stolen so much from us, has sickened and killed so many. Misinformation, disinformation, myth, pseudoscience have driven vaccine hesitancy and continues to so doubt in research and scientific method and to promote conspiracy-laden rhetoric that is quite simply a threat to public health. Join me in supporting our public health workforce, our frontline health care teams and the promise of a future free from this virus. I urge you to support the committee's Ought Not to Pass.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from East Machias, Representative Tuell.

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to concur with my good friend from Windham and I think he put it very eloquently. This is about mandates and not about whether you personally or professionally or what-have-you believe in vaccines or not. I got vaccinated, I'm boosted, I would recommend it to anyone who asks me. But, quite honestly, recommending it and mandating it are two different things. That's why I'll be opposing the pending motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Representative **QUINT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When it comes to misinformation and disinformation, my dear friend here is not misinformed or disinformed; she is injured. That is a fact. And I'm very upset to have that somehow once again inferred, as I was speaking with earlier, that anyone that speaks up against this vaccine is vilified. The FDA has approved, yes; but the FDA did no studies themselves. I think this is something that people are unaware of. The only thing the FDA does is take the information that the vaccine companies give and they say we accept your data. However, right now, they don't want to release this data to us. Not only that, the CDC itself announced yesterday that it didn't want to release all the information because somehow we wouldn't be able to understand it. So, now we have to be edited in our beliefs and what we're allowed to think because once again it isn't fitting the narrative. Again, the FDA approved these vaccines with the manufacturer's information; information that you are not allowed to see at this moment. Not only that, their trials do not actually end with their completion until 2025. So, they don't even have the information to give you until that point. So, I really don't see how we can say definitively safe and effective. Thank you very much.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Dexter, Representative Foster.

Representative **FOSTER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise in opposition to the pending motion. I do not believe that vaccine mandates should be forced upon our people, but that's not the part of the bill that I stand to speak to. I speak to the part that is asking for time to do safety testing in relation to reproductive harm. Many of us here are old enough to remember the terror that some young women went through when it was found that the drug thalidomide, which was prescribed, not mandated, but prescribed in the 1950s and early '60s was found to cause terrible birth defects in the unborn. The drug, of course, use was stopped and but, I recall as a youngster relatives of mine who were concerned because they had been prescribed that drug while pregnant and, fortunately, birth defects did not result. I mention this because recently the Dana Farber Cancer Institute believes they have discovered the reason that this drug, thalidomide, caused these birth defects. And I will only end by saying; 60 years later. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from York, Representative Hymanson.

Representative **HYMANSON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Colleagues in the House. I'm rising in support of this bill and I wanted to address the last speaker's comments by asking you to look at my colleagues who have written a very nice desk sheet for us which is now not on our desk but in our tablet. And so, this took me a little while so, I'm going to direct you to, in case you haven't found this, because it's really quite good, on your tablet there's a little one called announcements. And if you touch that, you'll get a dropdown menu and you'll see there are five different things you can click on. One of them at the end is the American Academy of Pediatrics. And if you want to, you can pull that up and you will see all of the reasons why there is no evidence of reproductive harm.

The **SPEAKER**: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought

Not to Pass Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 457

YEA - Alley, Arford, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Lookner, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Paulhus, Pebworth, Perry A, Perry J, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roberts, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, Warren, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin, Bernard, Blier, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Connor, Corey, Costain, Dillingham, Dolloff, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Faulkingham, Foster, Greenwood, Griffin, Haggan, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Lemelin, Libby, Lyford, Lyman, Martin, Mason, Millett, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Pluecker, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfeld, Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Thorne, Tuell, Wadsworth, White.

ABSENT - Babbidge, Bickford, Bradstreet, Crockett, Gifford, Grignon, Kryzak, Morales, Pierce, Sharpe, Theriault, Underwood, Warren.

Yes, 76; No, 59; Absent, 13; Vacant, 3; Excused, 0.

76 having voted in the affirmative and 59 voted in the negative, 3 vacancies with 13 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** and sent for concurrence.

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

Majority Report of the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-773)** on Bill "An Act To Improve Health Care Affordability and Increase Options for Comprehensive Coverage for Individuals and Small Businesses in Maine" (H.P. 1329) (L.D. 1778)

Signed:

Senators:

SANBORN of Cumberland
BRENNER of Cumberland

Representatives:

TEPLER of Topsham
ARFORD of Brunswick
BROOKS of Lewiston
EVANS of Dover-Foxcroft
MATHIESON of Kittery
MELARAGNO of Auburn

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senator: STEWART of Aroostook

Representatives:
BLIER of Buxton
MORRIS of Turner
QUINT of Hodgdon

READ.

Representative TEPLER of Topsham moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

The same Representative **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Turner, Representative Morris.

Representative **MORRIS**: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the pending motion. This committee that will be studying this extra work has not even been seated yet. They've been confirmed but they have not even met once. They are still looking for an executive director, the last I knew. The other biggest issue is that if the committee has not even started its work, it's not a good time to be changing its mission and adding more work to their mission. The other thing that I object to within this bill is that it seems to double down on things that have already been tried and haven't worked. Many years ago, we had the Dirigo program. That program was a disaster. It never insured more Mainers than 13,000, it never lowered the cost of health care and yet this bill proposes to create another public health option which is similar to what that one was. It's advocating for more things like more government, more Medicaid buy-in, increasing the income levels for people to be able to receive public assistance. These things have all been tried in the past, they have not worked to bring down health care. If the goal of this committee is truly about reducing the health care costs for the residents of our State, then why are we looking backwards? Why is this committee not looking forwards at other things? Why is there not more input being given from the business community about the things that they experience every single day in terms of dealing with mandates to many other things that State government has put on their plate? So, for these reasons, I encourage this Body to reject this motion. Let's let the committee do its work as it's already been formed rather than adding more to it and especially if all we're adding to it is more opportunity to look backwards. Thank you.

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

Representative **TEPLER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the amendment to the bill that is included in my motion pushes the requirement that the study take place back a year until the year 2023. We believe that this is enough time for this office to get organized and we also feel strongly that having a purpose in looking at affordability and coverage for all Mainers is what this office needs in terms of direction. So, thank you, Mr. Speaker and I hope that everyone will vote in favor of the motion.

The **SPEAKER**: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 458

YEA - Alley, Arford, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Lookner, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry A, Perry J, Pluecker, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roberts, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, Warren, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin, Bernard, Blier, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Connor, Corey, Costain, Dillingham, Dolloff, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Faulkingham, Foster, Greenwood, Griffin, Haggan, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Lemelin, Libby, Lyford, Lyman, Martin, Mason, Millett, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Thorne, Tuell, Wadsworth, White.

ABSENT - Babbidge, Bickford, Bradstreet, Crockett, Gifford, Grignon, Kryzak, Paulhus, Pierce, Sharpe, Theriault, Underwood, Warren.

Yes, 77; No, 58; Absent, 13; Vacant, 3; Excused, 0.

77 having voted in the affirmative and 58 voted in the negative, 3 vacancies with 13 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-773)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-773)** and sent for concurrence.

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act To Update the Designation of Vietnam War Remembrance Day" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 718) (L.D. 2000)

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

Came from the Senate, under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Representative DUNPHY of Old Town moved that the Bill be **TABLED** until later in today's session pending **REFERENCE**.

Representative KINNEY of Knox **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **TABLE** until later in today's session pending **REFERENCE**.

More than one-fifth of the members present expressed a desire for a roll call which was ordered.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is to Table until later in today's session pending Reference. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 459

YEA - Alley, Arford, Bell, Berry, Blume, Boyle, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Cloutier, Collings, Copeland, Crafts, Craven, Cuddy, Dodge, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Evans, Fay, Geiger, Gere, Gramlich, Grohoski, Harnett, Hasenfus, Hepler, Hymanson, Kessler, Landry, LaRochelle, Lookner, Madigan, Martin J, Martin R, Mathieson, Matlack, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, Melaragno, Meyer, Millett, Morales, Moriarty, O'Connell, O'Neil, Osher, Pebworth, Perry A, Perry J, Pluecker, Reckitt, Rielly, Riseman, Roberts, Roeder, Sachs, Salisbury, Sheehan, Stover, Supica, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tucker, White, Williams, Wood, Zager, Zeigler, Mr. Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin, Bernard, Blier, Carlow, Carmichael, Cebra, Collamore, Connor, Corey, Costain, Dillingham, Dolloff, Downes, Drinkwater, Ducharme, Faulkingham, Foster, Greenwood, Griffin, Haggan, Hall, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Kinney, Lemelin, Libby, Lyford, Lyman, Martin, Mason, Millett, Morris, Nadeau, Newman, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pickett, Poirier, Prescott, Quint, Roche, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Thorne, Tuell, Wadsworth, Warren, White.

ABSENT - Babbidge, Bickford, Bradstreet, Crockett, Gifford, Grignon, Kryzak, Paulhus, Pierce, Sharpe, Theriault, Underwood, Warren.

Yes, 76; No, 59; Absent, 13; Vacant, 3; Excused, 0.

76 having voted in the affirmative and 59 voted in the negative, 3 vacancies with 13 being absent, and accordingly the Bill was **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

Bill "An Act To Fund and Support the Veterans Homes in Caribou and Machias and Require Legislative Approval for the Establishment and Closure of Veterans Homes"

(S.P. 719) (L.D. 2001)

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

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

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

On motion of Representative POIRIER of Skowhegan, the House adjourned at 1:45 p.m., until the call of the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate respectfully, pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 716) and in honor and lasting tribute to Shirley Jean Stedman Whittemore, of Skowhegan.