

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

Off Record Remarks

In Senate Chamber
Thursday
March 23, 2023

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

Prayer by Reverend Mutima Peter of Bethel Christian Center in Westbrook.

REVEREND PETER: Thank you. Thank you, President. Dear Lord, the most high mighty God, masterful, we are here to pray for our state leaders, especially today our State Senate. You have called these leaders to serve the public, promote justice, and establish peace in our land. We lift them before You, those who have humbly accepted to serve us in our state of Maine and even those who govern and serve our nation through this Body, its Senators, staff, and those who are the pages who are here today. Bless members through collaboration and to give them to see You, the Creator, through what they do for communities they serve. Give to those whom we entrust with authority the spirit of wisdom and understanding. Guide them with the spirit of counsel and insight. Grant them a spirit of knowledge. Grace them with Your presence. As the Bible says in Romans chapter 13:1, 'As we are called to pray for those who are in authority.' Father of Heaven, just You have given wisdom to Moses to appoint elders among the Israelites, You blessed our Founders with the wisdom to divide our country into individual states and the states into different branches and the Senate as one of them. You have empowered them to make laws and decrees which manage our daily lives, make our lives safe, and protect us from any harm. We also pray for our Governor and our state legislatures. Please give them strength and wisdom and guide their decisions and may they open their heart and eyes with love first as always. Surround them with people from all walks of life and many backgrounds. Among the many voices which cry out to them every day, may they hear Your voice above all others. As we look to our Senators for assurance and guidance, especially at times of bumps and divided country on different opinions, inspire them and speak through them by the power of your Holy Ghosts. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Eloise A. Vitelli of Sagadahoc County.

Reading of the Journal of Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

On motion by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 15

Ordered, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives proposing a Convention of the two branches of the Legislature be held at 10:45 this morning in the Hall of the House for the purpose of welcoming the Honorable Valerie Stanfill, Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, and members of the Judiciary, and request the Chief Justice make such communication as she is pleased to make.

READ and PASSED.

The Chair appointed the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DAUGHTRY**, to deliver the message to the House of Representatives. The Senator was escorted to the House of Representatives.

Subsequently, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DAUGHTRY**, reported that she had delivered the message with which she was charged.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Joint Order:
S.P. 535

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 10:00 in the morning, or until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House, respectively.

READ and PASSED.

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

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

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

ORDERS

Joint Order

Expressions of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Phyllis Coffin, of Windham, who celebrated her 100th birthday on December 10, 2022. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 300

Sponsored by Senator NANGLE of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BAGSHAW of Windham, OSHER of Orono, PERRY of Bangor, PRINGLE of Windham.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **NANGLE:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President and esteemed colleagues of the Senate, I rise today to recognize Phyllis Coffin and a remarkable milestone of celebrating her 100th birthday on December 10, 2022. Phyllis was born in Clinton, Maine, just ten minutes before her identical twin sister, Francis. She graduated from Clinton High School as a salutatorian in 1940 and went on to attend Westbrook Junior College, completing the commercial course and studies in bookkeeping, shorthand, law, and mathematics of law. Phyllis has led an incredible life full of family, friends, and adventure. Her professional career included co-owning Friends Bridal Shop, working as a bookkeeper for Eastern Tractor Equipment in Portland, and later as a real estate broker. Throughout her life she as pursued various passions such as playing high school basketball, roller-skating, dancing, water skiing, and snowshoeing. Snow skiing sorry. She even continued to played tennis until she was 90. If we could all do that we would be lucky. Phyllis attended Westbrook Junior College where she studied bookkeeping, shorthand, mathematics. To this day, Phyllis continues to track her own finances and sign all of her own checks, a testament to her lifelong love of numbers. However, if you asked Phyllis her greatest sense of pride would be her friends and family. She spent her 100th birthday going out to dinner with her children, grandchildren, and nieces. Once she arrived home, she video chatted with loved ones across the country and also spent her day opening more cards than the years that she has lived. She's joined her today by her daughter, Gail; her granddaughter, Bethany; grandson, Matthew; and her good friend, Joel. Distinguished members of the Senate, I ask that you join me in congratulating Phyllis on reaching this milestone and wish her health and happiness as she continues to live her full life, full of love and adventure.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is very pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Phyllis Coffin; her daughter, Gail; grandchildren Matthew and Bethany; and good friend, Joel. They are all from the city of Windham and the guests today of the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Nangle, and the entire Maine Senate. Would they please all rise and accept the congratulations of the Maine State Senate.

Off Record Remarks

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

Senator **BALDACCI:** Thank you, Mr. President. It is with great pleasure that I want to recognize, and ask the President to recognize, the Bangor High Girls Track Team, who won the third consecutive State Championship, and their coach, Alan Mosca, of Bangor. On February 21st, the Bangor girls became Class A Indoor Track State Champions for the third consecutive time. Although a steadily comfortable lead was expected, the girls State title was not clinched until Bangor's final runner broke the line. In a meet full of unanticipated results, the Bangor girls proved that toughness wins out. It is with great pleasure that I ask the Senate to stand and recognize and honor their achievements. Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair would like to recognize up in the Gallery the Bangor High School Girls Varsity Track Team. All from Bangor. People that are in attendance today, I'm hoping I'm going to catch all of you; Sophia Chase, Ava Pelkey, Madison McLean, Brooklyn Schmersal, Jenna Elkadi, Alivia Mitchell, Madeline Tai, Callie Tennett, Hannah Williams, Katie McCarthy, Sophia Mazzarelli, Alison St. Peter, Emma Syphers, Maddie Cyr, Anna Connors, Evelyn Humbert, Julia Bassi, Sadie Harrow, Anika Noack, Madison Tritt, Samantha Erb, Loraine Thai, and Abby MacDonald. They are all the guests today of the Senator from Penobscot, Senator Baldacci. Would they please rise and accept the congratulations of the Maine State Senate.

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

ORDERS

Joint Order

An Expression of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Aurora Guzzetti, of Bath, a sophomore at Morse High School, who was named the 2023 State Champion in the Maine Forensic Association State Tournament, Lincoln Douglas Debate, Junior Varsity Division. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 301

Sponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc.
Cosponsored by Representative: PAULHUS of Bath.

The Joint Order was **READ**

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

Senator **VITELLI**: Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, men and women of the Senate, today I am pleased to welcome Aurora Guzzetti and her mother, Jean, to the Senate Chamber. Aurora, who is a sophomore at Morse High School in Bath, was recently named the 2023 State Champion in the Junior Division of the Lincoln Douglas Debate at the Maine Forensic Association Tournament. As we in this Chamber know, debate and the ability to articulate and advocate for one's position is a critical skill. The Lincoln Douglas Debate format itself is more than a simple back-and-forth you might engage in while sitting at the kitchen table arguing about what to watch on television that evening. Rather, the debate has a specific flow. It's a series of affirmative and negative constructions and rebuttals modeled on the famous Lincoln Douglas debates between Democratic Senator Stephen Douglas and the Republican challenger Abraham Lincoln during the 1858 Illinois Senatorial campaign. Those debates captivated the audiences of that time and would be remembered for all time. As important as the substance of the debate is the code of ethics which all Maine Forensic Association debaters adhere to: be respectful of others and self, be honest in all academic endeavors and interpersonal relationships, be compassionate and tolerant in dealing with the limitation and suffering of others, be responsible for personal actions as an individual and a member of the community, be fair and equitable in ones treatment towards others, be courageous in the face of ethical challenges. These values: honesty, compassion, fairness, responsibility, and courage, are not just for the debate stage. These values will help you on life's stage, Aurora. As a student, as a daughter, as a leader, in all your many roles, these values will guide you. I'm so proud of you and I am so happy that you could join us today. Congratulations on being the State champion. Thank you, Mr. President.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is very pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Aurora Guzzetti and her mom, Jean. They are both from the town of Bath and they are the guests today of the Senator from Sagadahoc, Senator Vitelli, and the entire Maine Senate. Would they please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine Senate.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: S.C. 211

**STATE OF MAINE
SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT**

March 10, 2023

Sen. Troy D. Jackson, President of the Senate
131st Maine Legislature
Senate President's Office
SHS #3, State House
Augusta, ME 04333

Rep. Rachel Talbot Ross, Speaker of the House
131st Maine Legislature
SHS #2, State House
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: State of the Judiciary Address

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

Thank you very much for the invitation to address a Joint Session of the 131st Maine Legislature on Thursday, March 23 at 10:45 a.m. I accept this invite and look forward to addressing the challenges faced and successes achieved by the Maine Judicial Branch over the last year, and an overview of the progress we hope to make on several critical areas in 2023 and beyond.

Very truly yours,

S/Valerie Stanfill
Chief Justice

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 230

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

March 21, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President, State of Maine Senate
#3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

The Honorable Rachel Talbot-Ross
Speaker, State of Maine House of Representatives
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot-Ross:

Thank you for your invitation to a Joint Session of the 131st Maine Legislature for the State of the Judiciary address to take place on March 23rd at 10:45 a.m. in the House Chamber.

I am pleased to accept your invitation.

Sincerely,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 219

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

March 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of Laura S. Burden of Portland to the Maine
Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Laura S. Burden of Portland for
appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

Pursuant to 30-A MRSA §5155, this appointment is contingent on
confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint
Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic
Advancement and Business.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 220

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

March 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of Janice de Lima of Falmouth to the Maine
Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Janice de Lima of Falmouth for
appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

Pursuant to 30-A MRSA §5155, this appointment is contingent on
confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint
Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic
Advancement and Business.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 221

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

March 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of Alexa Plotkin of Biddeford to the Maine
Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Alexa Plotkin of Biddeford for
appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.
Pursuant to 30-A MRSA §5155, this appointment is contingent on
confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint
Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic
Advancement and Business.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 222

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

March 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of Ian Houseal of Portland to the Maine
Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Ian Houseal of Portland for appointment
to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

Pursuant to 30-A MRSA §5155, this appointment is contingent on
confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint
Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic
Advancement and Business.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 223

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

March 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of Robert C. Bryant of Hartland to the Maine
Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Robert C. Bryant of Hartland for
appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

Pursuant to 30-A MRSA §5155, this appointment is contingent on
confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint
Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic
Advancement and Business.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 224

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

March 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of Lee Jay Feldman of Lisbon to the Maine
Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Lee Jay Feldman of Lisbon for
appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

Pursuant to 30-A MRSA §5155, this appointment is contingent on
confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint
Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic
Advancement and Business.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 225

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

March 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of Robert Patten of Scarborough to the Maine
Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Robert Patten of Scarborough for
appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

Pursuant to 30-A MRSA §5155, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 226

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

March 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of John W. Egan of Freeport to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate John W. Egan of Freeport for appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

Pursuant to 30-A MRSA §5155, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 227

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

March 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

RE: Appointment of Kevin Bunker of Brunswick to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate Kevin Bunker of Brunswick for appointment to the Maine Redevelopment Land Bank Authority.

Pursuant to 30-A MRSA §5155, this appointment is contingent on confirmation by the Maine State Senate after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Innovation, Development, Economic Advancement and Business.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 228

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

March 13, 2023

The Honorable Troy Jackson
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Re: Appointment of The Honorable Brian Langley of Ellsworth to the Maine Charter School Commission

Dear President Jackson:

I am pleased to nominate The Honorable Brian Langley of Ellsworth for appointment to the Maine Charter School Commission.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §2405, this appointment is contingent on the Maine State Senate's confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S/Janet T. Mills
Governor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 229

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

March 22, 2023

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs has had under consideration the nomination of Winnie M. LaRochelle of Rangeley, for appointment to the Maine Community College System, Board of Trustees.

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

| | | | |
|--------|-----------------|---|--|
| YEAS | Senators | 3 | Rafferty, J. of York, Libby, J. of Cumberland, Pierce, T. of Cumberland |
| | Representatives | 8 | Brennan, M. of Portland, Bagshaw, B. of Windham, Dodge, J. of Belfast, Lyman, S. of Livermore Falls, Murphy, K. of Scarborough, Sampson, H. of Alfred, Sargent, H. of York, Worth, J. of Ellsworth |
| NAYS | | 0 | |
| ABSENT | | 2 | Rep. Millett, R. of Cape Elizabeth, Rep. Polewarczyk, E. of Wiscasset |

Eleven members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Winnie M. LaRochelle of Rangeley, for appointment to the Maine Community College System, Board of Trustees be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Joseph E. Rafferty
Senate Chair

S/Michael F. Brennan
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Franklin, Senator **BLACK**, the Senator from Waldo, Senator **CURRY**, the Senator from Cumberland, Senator **DAUGHTRY**, the Senator from Penobscot, Senator **GUERIN**, the Senator from York, Senator **HARRINGTON**, the Senator from York, Senator **LAWRENCE**, and the Senator from Penobscot, Senator **LYFORD**, and further excused the same Senators from today's Roll Call votes.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#48)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LAWRENCE, LYFORD

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 28 Senators having voted in the negative, with 7 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Winnie M. LaRochelle** of Rangeley for appointment to the Maine Community College System, Board of Trustees was **CONFIRMED**.

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 212

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

March 21, 2023

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government has had under consideration the nomination of John Martin of Eagle Lake, for appointment to the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority.

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

| | | | |
|--------|-----------------|---|---|
| YEAS | Senators | 1 | Nangle, T. of Cumberland |
| | Representatives | 9 | Stover, H. of Boothbay, Abdi, M. of Lewiston, Adams, J. of Lebanon, Copeland, L. of Saco, Dhalac, D. of South Portland, Greenwood, R. of Wales, Pomerleau, K. of Standish, Riseman, W. of Harrison, Underwood, J. of Presque Isle |
| NAYS | | 0 | |
| ABSENT | | 3 | Sen. Baldacci, J. of Penobscot, Sen. Brakey, E. of Androscoggin, Rep. Paulhus, S. of Bath |

Ten members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of John Martin of Eagle Lake, for appointment to the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Tim Nangle
Senate Chair

S/Holly B. Stover
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The President laid before the Senate the following: "Shall the recommendation of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** be overridden?"

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#49)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CURRY, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LAWRENCE, LYFORD

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **John Martin** of Eagle Lake for appointment to the Maine Governmental Facilities Authority was **CONFIRMED**.

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

At this point a message was received from the House of Representatives, borne by Representative TERRY of Gorham, informing the Senate that the House concurred with the proposition for a Convention of the two branches of the Legislature to be held in the Hall of the House at 10:45 this morning in the Hall of the House for the purpose of welcoming the Honorable Valerie Stanfill, Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, and members of the Judiciary, and request the Chief Justice make such communication as she is pleased to make.

The Following Communication: S.C. 213

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

March 16, 2023

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

Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with 3 M.R.S.A., Section 157, and with Joint Rule 505 of the Maine Legislature, the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation has had under consideration the nomination of Jeanne T. Gibson, CPA of Winthrop, for reappointment to the Maine Board of Tax Appeals.

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

| | | | |
|------|-----------------|---|---|
| YEAS | Senators | 3 | Grohoski, N. of Hancock, Chipman, B. of Cumberland, Libby, J. of Cumberland |
| | Representatives | 9 | Perry, J. of Bangor, Carmichael, M. of Greenbush, Crockett, E. of Portland, Hasenfus, T. of Readfield, Lavigne, T. of Berwick, Libby, L. of Auburn, Quint, T. of Hodgdon, Rana, A. of Bangor, Rudnicki, S. of Fairfield |

NAYS 0

ABSENT 1 Rep. Matlack, A. of St. George

Twelve members of the Committee having voted in the affirmative and zero in the negative, it was the vote of the Committee that the nomination of Jeanne T. Gibson, CPA of Winthrop, for reappointment to the Maine Board of Tax Appeals be confirmed.

Signed,

S/Nicole Grohoski
Senate Chair

S/Joe Perry
House Chair

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

Senator **HICKMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, women and men of the Senate, Mr. President, you know that I consider every resident of the state of Maine to be my neighbor but in this case Jeanne Gibson and her son, Alex, are actually my next-door neighbors. We grow food together, share property together, break bread together, and I could not be happier. She's the nicest, kindest person in the world. She works really hard. So, I want the Senate to join me in confirming her reappointment to the Maine Board of Tax Appeals. I'm just thrilled. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#50)

YEAS: Senators: None

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

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CURRY, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LAWRENCE, LYFORD

No Senator having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, and none being less than two-thirds of the Membership present and voting, it was the vote of the Senate that the Committee's recommendation be **ACCEPTED** and the nomination of **Jeanne T. Gibson**, CPA of Winthrop for reappointment to the Maine Board of Tax Appeals was **CONFIRMED**.

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

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is very pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Jeanne Gibson. Would she please rise and accept the congratulations of the Maine Senate.

Off Record Remarks

The Following Communication: S.C. 214

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION
AND FORESTRY**

March 17, 2023

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

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 180 An Act to Allow a Person to File a Paper Copy of a Timber Harvest Notification Form

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Henry Ingwersen S/Rep. Bill Pluecker
Senate Chair House Chair

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 215

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

March 17, 2023

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

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 386 An Act to Assist Schools with Heating and Transportation Fuel Costs During the School Year (EMERGENCY)

L.D. 570 Resolve, to Provide Information to Maine's School Administrators and Maine Communities About the Financial Advantages of Modern Wood Heating

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

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

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 216

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

March 15, 2023

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

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 188 An Act to Require the Department of Environmental Protection to Pay for Certain Water Tests for Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (EMERGENCY)

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

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

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 217

**STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY FIRST LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEE ON INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

March 17, 2023

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

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 55 An Act to Move the Headquarters for the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

L.D. 441 An Act to Amend the Laws Governing Recreational Freshwater Fishing with Respect to a Portion of Middle River in Marshfield and Machias

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. David P. LaFountain Senate Chair S/Rep. Scott Landry House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: S.C. 218

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

March 17, 2023

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

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 243 An Act To Eliminate Residency Requirements for District Court Judicial Appointments

L.D. 543 An Act to Reimburse Counties for Judicial Costs

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Anne Carney Senate Chair S/Rep. Matt Moonen House Chair

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

At this point the Senate retired to the Hall of the House where a Joint Convention was formed.

Following the Joint Convention the Senate was called to order in the Senate Chamber by the President.

PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

House Papers

Bill "An Act to Increase Access to Oral Health Care by Expanding the Maine Dental Education Loan Program" H.P. 804 L.D. 1256

Committee on EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, REFERRED to the Committee on INNOVATION, DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND BUSINESS.

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

Bill "An Act to Balance Renewable Energy Development with Natural and Working Lands Conservation" H.P. 775 L.D. 1227

Committee on ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY suggested and ordered printed.

Comes from the House, REFERRED to the Committee on AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY.

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

Bill "An Act to Develop a Pilot Program to Provide Legal Representation to Families in the Child Protection System" H.P. 788 L.D. 1240

Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES suggested and ordered printed.

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

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

Bill "An Act to Protect the Quality of Care Provided via Telehealth by Prohibiting Physicians from Prescribing Abortion-inducing Drugs or Devices Through Telehealth or Other Electronic Communication"

H.P. 797 L.D. 1249

Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** suggested and ordered printed.

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

On motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Off Record Remarks

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act to Extend Funding for the Land for Maine's Future Program"

S.P. 522 L.D. 1285

Presented by Senator **BLACK** of Franklin.
Cosponsored by Representative **LANDRY** of Farmington and Senator: **BENNETT** of Oxford.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Invest in Maine's Fire Service Training Facilities"
S.P. 517 L.D. 1280

Presented by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo.

Bill "An Act to End the Maine Information and Analysis Center Program"

S.P. 527 L.D. 1290

Presented by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox.
Cosponsored by Representative **FAULKINGHAM** of Winter Harbor and Representatives: **ANDREWS** of Paris, **SALISBURY** of Westbrook, Speaker **TALBOT ROSS** of Portland.

On motion by Senator **LAFOUNTAIN** of Kennebec, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.

Sent down for concurrence.

Resolve, to Reestablish the Task Force to Study the Creation of a Comprehensive Career and Technical Education System (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 520 L.D. 1283

Presented by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Require Personal Finance to be Taught as a Separate Course to Obtain a High School Diploma"
S.P. 521 L.D. 1284

Presented by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative **WOODSOME** of Waterboro and Senators: **LaFOUNTAIN** of Kennebec, **NANGLE** of Cumberland, **POULIOT** of Kennebec, **RAFFERTY** of York, Representative: **CROCKETT** of Portland.

Bill "An Act to Require Instruction in Schools on Substance Abuse Prevention and Administration of Naloxone Hydrochloride"
S.P. 533 L.D. 1315

Presented by Senator **POULIOT** of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative **LaROCHELLE** of Augusta and Senator: **MOORE** of Washington, Representative: Speaker **TALBOT ROSS** of Portland.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Streamline Income Verification Requests for Income Supplementation and Assistance Programs"
S.P. 519 L.D. 1282

Presented by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act to Establish an Appeal Process for Child Care Providers"
S.P. 524 L.D. 1287

Presented by President **JACKSON** of Aroostook.
Cosponsored by Senators: **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, **INGWERSEN** of York, Representative: **GUERRETTE** of Caribou.

Resolve, to Establish the Commission to Promote the Integration of Human Health and Environmental Health
S.P. 536 L.D. 1317

Presented by Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford.

Bill "An Act to Address Income Disparity in Health Care by Limiting the Compensation of Hospital Executives"
S.P. 540 L.D. 1321

Presented by Senator TIPPING of Penobscot.
Cosponsored by Representative MALON of Biddeford and Senators: BALDACCI of Penobscot, INGWERSEN of York, RAFFERTY of York, Representatives: JAUCH of Topsham, OSHER of Orono, RANA of Bangor, ROEDER of Bangor, WARREN of Scarborough.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Facilitate Property Redevelopment and Encourage Affordable Housing by Allowing the Conveyance of Unfinished Commercial Condominium Units"

S.P. 526 L.D. 1289

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Exempt Certain Boat Operators from Having to Become Maine Guides" (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 538 L.D. 1319

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.
Cosponsored by Senator: LIBBY of Cumberland.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Protect Economic Competitiveness in Maine by Extending the End Date for Pine Tree Development Zone Benefits"

S.P. 518 L.D. 1281

Presented by Senator DAUGHTRY of Cumberland.

Resolve, to Establish the Blue Economy Task Force to Support Maine's Emergence as a Center for Blue Economy Innovation and Opportunity in the 21st Century (EMERGENCY)
S.P. 523 L.D. 1286

Presented by Senator DUSON of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative RIELLY of Westbrook and Senators: BENNETT of Oxford, CARNEY of Cumberland, CURRY of Waldo, MOORE of Washington, RENY of Lincoln, Representatives: BOYER of Poland, DAVIS of East Machias, MATLACK of St. George.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Grant Program to Provide for Statewide and Equitable Access to Experiential Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education"

S.P. 528 L.D. 1291

Presented by Senator POULIOT of Kennebec.
Cosponsored by Representative CROCKETT of Portland and Senators: GROHOSKI of Hancock, MOORE of Washington, RENY of Lincoln, Representative: DODGE of Belfast.

Resolve, Directing the Maine Technology Institute to Review Targeted Technology Sectors and Industry Clusters
S.P. 537 L.D. 1318

Presented by Senator BENNETT of Oxford.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Strengthen Maine's Child Protection Laws by Limiting Contact with Violent Offenders"

S.P. 516 L.D. 1279

Presented by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act to Limit the Immunity of Charitable Organizations"

S.P. 530 L.D. 1312

Presented by Senator BAILEY of York.
Cosponsored by Representative GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach and Senator: CARNEY of Cumberland, Representative: RECKITT of South Portland.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Require Auditing for Work Search Requirements of Claimants of Unemployment Compensation"

S.P. 534 L.D. 1316

Presented by Senator STEWART of Aroostook.

Cosponsored by Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, GUERIN of Penobscot, MOORE of Washington, POULIOT of Kennebec, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Establish a Minimum Salary for Educational Specialists, Educational Technicians and School Teaching Professionals"

S.P. 532 L.D. 1314

Presented by Senator LIBBY of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Representative SAMPSON of Alfred and Senators: RAFFERTY of York, STEWART of Aroostook, Representative: BRENNAN of Portland.

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

On motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS**.

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Amend the Tax Credit for Major Business Headquarters Expansions Regarding Employees' Location and Time of Hire for Purposes of the Credit"

S.P. 531 L.D. 1313

Presented by Senator GROHOSKI of Hancock.

Cosponsored by Representative PERRY of Bangor. Submitted by the Department of Economic and Community Development pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Create a 2-year Motor Vehicle Registration"

S.P. 525 L.D. 1288

Presented by Senator LIBBY of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Representative THERIAULT of Fort Kent and Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, FARRIN of Somerset, TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Increase the Prize Limits Allowed for Raffles"

S.P. 529 L.D. 1292

Presented by Senator TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin.

Bill "An Act to Improve Signature Requirements for Candidates by Allowing Unenrolled Voters to Sign Petitions for Party Candidates"

S.P. 539 L.D. 1320

Presented by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland.

Cosponsored by Representative SUPICA of Bangor and Senator: BRENNER of Cumberland, Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, HYMES of Waldo, RISEMAN of Harrison.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

House

Change of Committee

The Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Study the Shared Use of the Public Right of Way"

H.P. 196 L.D. 298

Reported that the same be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION**.

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

Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION**, in concurrence.

Ought to Pass

The Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 305: Natural Resources Protection Act - Permit by Rule, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 243 L.D. 392

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

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

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

The Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act Regarding the Definition of 'Reportable Accident'"
H.P. 357 L.D. 552

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

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

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Support Rural Service Programming and Promote Volunteerism"
H.P. 89 L.D. 143

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-6)**.

Signed:

Senators:
RAFFERTY of York
PIERCE of Cumberland

Representatives:
BRENNAN of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
MILLETT of Cape Elizabeth
MURPHY of Scarborough
SARGENT of York
WORTH of Ellsworth

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:
LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:
BAGSHAW of Windham
LYMAN of Livermore Falls
POLEWARCZYK of Wiscasset
SAMPSON of Alfred

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-6)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-6)**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **RAFFERTY** of York, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-6) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Expand Access to Postsecondary Education for Low-income Parents"
H.P. 9 L.D. 5

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

Signed:

Senators:
BALDACCI of Penobscot
INGWERSEN of York

Representatives:
MEYER of Eliot
CRAVEN of Lewiston
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth
MADIGAN of Waterville
SHAGOURY of Hallowell
ZAGER of Portland

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:

MOORE of Washington

Representatives:

FREDERICKS of Sanford

GRIFFIN of Levant

JAVNER of Chester

LEMELIN of Chelsea

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

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

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes the Senator from Washington, Senator Moore.

Senator **MOORE:** Thank you, Mr. President. I just wanted to stand today and explain. When you read the title of the bill it is a little bit deceiving. Some would think why would Senator Moore not vote to expand postsecondary education when that is something that I support strongly. This bill is intending to make some changes to the Higher Opportunity for Pathways to Employment, or the HOPE program, itself and the HOPE program is designed to give the opportunity for additional education and some opportunities to expand their postsecondary work. In the past, we have raised the cap to that to be for 800 people. Currently, there is only 445 participants. We did have a bill last session, L.D. 1748, that talked about the lack of applicants for the HOPE program and so we actually have a task force in place to look at simplifying the application, including it with other applications such as ASPIRE, TANF, SNAP programs to make it easier for folks to apply to it. The study is to report back to the HHS Committee by February of 2024. What this bill is trying to do, we haven't even finished any of that work, is it's wanting to raise the minimum requirement that from 185% of the federal poverty level to 225% and what we're afraid of, because of the lack of actually getting it out there, the communication about the program, about the availability of it, is it has not been thoroughly worked through, that we're hesitant to raise that limit to 225% when we're going to begin to get applicants and by-pass those who really do need it, that are in the lower federal poverty level. So, that's why we voted against it. They do have a Facebook page. Very few people, friends, are friend with that. I encourage - it took me a while to find it. I would encourage you all to search that out. It is under HOPE program. They also have a YouTube video that is very, very good, that actually describes what the program is. Very few viewers of that. So, I would encourage the Senators to take a look at that. So, we just felt like we really needed to leave it alone, leave it at the 185% and really push the marketing of it and let the task force do the job that they've been asked to do so that we can make sure that we've got some good

applicants that are taking advantage of a fabulous program. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **BALDACCI:** Thank you, Mr. President. I would first let the - this is a good bill. This doesn't cost the State any extra money and it will help more people. So, it is a very good bill for us to pass right now. The HOPE program assists qualifying parents with access to quality education and training, to earn degrees and credentials necessary to enter the workforce with the earning power to provide economic stability for their families. The program provides financial assistance with tuition, books, transportation, childcare, and other needs for these participating parents. The proposed change, the eligibility threshold, would change it from 185% of the poverty level to 225%, which is a difference going from \$45,000 as a household income to \$55,000. We - there are 800 slots that we have already funded as a legislature. Barely half of them are being filled right now and it - there can be marketing and we definitely have told DHS we need to do more marketing and more education and more awareness but something like 33% of the people that we denied in 2021 would have fit into this small gap. So, we can fill more positions, provide more people with education and upward mobility without costing the State additional money and I think the time to do it is now and certainly, when recommendations are provided, we can always adjust our course. But this will help people right now and I think we have an obligation to do so.

The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report.

The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Hancock, Senator **GROHOSKI**, further excused the same Senator from today's Roll Call votes.

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

ROLL CALL (#51)

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BRAKEY, FARRIN, KEIM, LIBBY, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: BLACK, CURRY, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LYFORD

20 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 9 Senators having voted in the negative, with 6 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Off Record Remarks

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Maine Parentage Act Regarding Joinder of Parties" H.P. 83 L.D. 137

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

Signed:

Senators:
CARNEY of Cumberland
BAILEY of York

Representatives:
MOONEN of Portland
KUHN of Falmouth
LEE of Auburn
MORIARTY of Cumberland
POIRIER of Skowhegan
RECKITT of South Portland
SHEEHAN of Biddeford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:
LYFORD of Penobscot

Representatives:
ANDREWS of Paris
HAGGAN of Hampden
HENDERSON of Rumford

(Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Majority **Ought To Pass** Report.)

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act Regarding the Monitoring of Municipal Abandoned Property" H.P. 90 L.D. 144

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

Signed:

Senators:
GROHOSKI of Hancock
CHIPMAN of Cumberland
LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:
PERRY of Bangor
CARMICHAEL of Greenbush
CROCKETT of Portland
HASENFUS of Readfield
LAVIGNE of Berwick
MATLACK of St. George
QUINT of Hodgdon
RANA of Bangor
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass**.

Signed:

Representative:
LIBBY of Auburn

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

Senate

Divided Report

The Majority of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Include a Representative of Newspaper and Other Press Interests on the Archives Advisory Board"

S.P. 72 L.D. 133

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-9).**

Signed:

Senators:

NANGLE of Cumberland
BALDACCI of Penobscot

Representatives:

STOVER of Boothbay
ABDI of Lewiston
COPELAND of Saco
DHALAC of South Portland
PAULHUS of Bath
RISEMAN of Harrison

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought Not To Pass.**

Signed:

Senator:

BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

ADAMS of Lebanon
GREENWOOD of Wales
POMERLEAU of Standish
UNDERWOOD of Presque Isle

Reports **READ.**

On motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED.**

Bill **READ ONCE.**

Committee Amendment "A" (S-9) **READ** and **ADOPTED.**

ASSIGNED FOR SECOND READING NEXT LEGISLATIVE DAY.

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

SECOND READERS

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

House

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 100: Enforcement Procedures, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization (EMERGENCY)
H.P. 251 L.D. 418

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

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

ENACTORS

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

Acts

An Act to Simplify an Assessment Notice Requirement Under Department of Labor Laws
H.P. 18 L.D. 14

An Act Regarding the Committee Structure of the State Workforce Board
S.P. 59 L.D. 120

An Act to Provide Revenue for Property Tax Relief and Capital Infrastructure Projects
H.P. 107 L.D. 166

An Act to Designate Granitic Pegmatite as the Maine State Rock
S.P. 128 L.D. 269

An Act to Amend Maine's Underground Oil Storage Tank Laws
S.P. 140 L.D. 319

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

Resolves

Resolve, Designating Maine Turnpike Approach Road in South Portland as Samantha Smith Way
S.P. 13 L.D. 21

Resolve, to Rename the Bridge Between Bingham and Concord Township on Route 16 the Jason Dore Memorial Bridge
S.P. 36 L.D. 44

Resolve, to Designate the Route 170 Bridge Located in Webster Plantation the Gary "Swampy" Worster Memorial Bridge
S.P. 139 L.D. 318

Resolve, Designating the Desert of Maine Overpass the Matthew MacMillan Overpass

S.P. 219 L.D. 502

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

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

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

ORDERS

Joint Order

Expression of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Zubeyda Shute, of Westbrook, who received the 2022 Youth Award Giraffe Award from the Maine Children's Alliance for her work as a political activist and member of the Young People's Caucus. We extend our congratulations and best wishes;
SLS 293

Sponsored by Senator DUSON of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senator: NANGLE of Cumberland,
Representatives: GATTINE of Westbrook, RIELLY of Westbrook,
SALISBURY of Westbrook.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **DUSON:** Thank you, President Jackson. President Jackson and the esteemed colleagues of the Senate, I rise to introduce this Body to an extraordinary young woman, Zubeyda Shute. In November of 2022, Zubeyda was recognized by the Maine Children's Alliance with the Champion for Children's Giraffe Award. At the official ceremony, the MCA presented Zubeyda with its Youth Award. The Giraffe Award honor those in our communities who stick out their necks for Maine kids. Zubeyda's leadership activities included serving three years on the Young People's Caucus and working through the Gateway to Opportunity Program to create an internship with the University of Southern Maine's WMPG to record podcasts about racial justice, restorative justice, and women's rights, and she bravely shared her lived experience as a BIPOC high school student in testimony on an important bill before the 130th Legislature. Zubeyda accomplished all this while also being a high performing student at Westbrook High School. Zubeyda currently attends Carleton University where she is continuing to grow as a leader. I am inspired by this young woman's passion and dedication to engagement and action. When I meet young people like Zubeyda Shute, who have done so much important work in our community, I have hope for our next generation of leaders and our future. I look forward to seeing what she does next.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair is very pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Zubeyda Shute of the city of Westbrook. She's the guest today of the Senator Cumberland, Senator Duson. Would she please rise and accept the greetings and congratulations of the Maine Senate.

Off Record Remarks

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

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **ADJOURNED**, pursuant to the Joint Order, until Tuesday, March 28, 2023, at 10:00 in the morning, or until the call of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House.