

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

In Senate Chamber  
Friday  
June 16, 2023

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

Prayer by Senator Jill C. Duson of Cumberland County.

**SENATOR DUSON:** Thank you. Thanks to our esteemed President. Today, I want to offer comments this morning, I'm going to share the response to the question what is Juneteenth. So, you needn't bow your heads, I want to share some thoughts, not a religious prayer. I'm going to offer the response written by Kelly Navies, who is museum specialist of oral history at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, affectionately known to many of us as the Blacksonian. I like to think of Juneteenth as a celebration of freedom, of family, and of joy that emerged from this cauldron of the war. After hundreds of years of enslavement, and the intense post-civil war era, all of these emotions and feelings had built up to a particular point. Then, General Granger arrives with his troops, some of whom were members of the United States Colored Troops, to announce that they will enforce the Emancipation Proclamation. We know this news -- this wasn't news to these enslaved people. There were channels through which they had heard about the Emancipation Proclamation. But there was nothing that they could do without the Union Troops to enforce it. So, now they're able to enjoy this moment and recognize what they've come through. It was such a difficult time, but there was a refusal to be held down by the past and a determination to move forward. Even though they were confronted with the challenges of racism and oppression from the very moment that freedom was announced, they still decided we need to buy land because we need a space to celebrate this freedom. As soon as that very following year, you see the emergence of emancipation parks all throughout the country. It starts in Houston, but you find them in different cities throughout the country. We chose this moment to savor to see where we've come from, to chart where we're going to go, and to relish the strength of our families and communities. Juneteenth has evolved over the years to mirror shifts in our struggle. Sometimes it wanes, but it reemerges. After World War II, we have this new sense of pride, and the great migration started to carry Juneteenth throughout the United States. You see it come up again during the Civil Rights Movement of the late 60s, and into Solidarity Day at the poor peoples' campaign held in Washington DC in 1968. Fifty years ago, from that moment, Solidarity Day, on June 19, 1968, you saw activists bring it back to their communities, where it developed a whole new grassroots identity. That's around the time that this author started celebrating it with her family. Her family, like mine, didn't have ties to Texas, and my family in Pennsylvania began celebrating Juneteenth in the early 70s. Some of us still celebrate July 4th, but we all celebrate Juneteenth. At its very core, Juneteenth is this affirmation that we are here, that we will continue to be here,

we will continue to struggle in the face of many challenges. Thank you very much.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Stacey K. Guerin of Penobscot County.

Reading of the Journal of Thursday, June 15, 2023.

Off Record Remarks

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

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

**ORDERS**

**Joint Order**

Expression of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

Chuck Hays, of Manchester, who is retiring as President and Chief Executive Officer of MaineGeneral Health. In 1995, Mr. Hays joined what is now the State's third-largest health care system, MaineGeneral Health. In the more than 20 years since Mid-Maine Health System joined Kennebec Valley Health System to become MaineGeneral Health, he has held a number of positions of increasing responsibility. As Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, he headed the team responsible for the construction and operation of the Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care, which opened in July 2007. In October 2007, he was named President and Chief Executive Officer of MaineGeneral Medical Center. In 2013, he became President and Chief Executive Officer of the parent company, MaineGeneral Health. Under his leadership, MaineGeneral Medical Center has been recognized with many distinguished national quality awards and has been recognized as one of the best hospitals in the world for 2022 and 2023 by Newsweek Magazine. He is a member of the American College of Healthcare Professionals, Maine Hospital Association and American Hospital Association and currently serves on the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Board, Kennebec Savings Bank Board, serving as Vice Chair, Alfond Youth and Community Center Board, Maine Health and Higher Education Funding Authority and Maine Dartmouth Residency Board. We extend our appreciation and best wishes;  
SLS 872

Sponsored by Senator HICKMAN of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Representative: SHAGOURY of Hallowell.

The Joint Order was **READ**.

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

Senator **HICKMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President and Ladies and Gentlemen of the Senate, I rise today to recognize and honor a distinguished individual from my constituency, Chuck Hays, who is retiring as President and Chief Executive Officer of Maine General Health. Chuck has dedicated over two decades of his life to serving the people of Maine and has made remarkable contributions to the field of healthcare. Chuck Hays began his professional journey after graduating from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, where he earned a degree in marine engineering. He embarked on a career with General Dynamics in Groton, Connecticut, where he served as supervisor of nuclear testing for the 688 class fast attack submarines. However, seeking a place to raise their children, Chuck and his wife, Maria, chose Maine as their home. In 1995, Chuck joined what is now Maine's third-largest healthcare system, Maine General Health. Throughout his tenure, Chuck has held various positions of increasing responsibility within the organization. As Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, he led the team responsible for the development and operations of the Harold Alfond Center for Cancer Care, a remarkable facility that opened its doors in July of 2007. Recognizing his exceptional leadership qualities, Chuck was appointed President and Chief Executive Officer of Maine General Medical Center in October of 2007. In 2013, he assumed the role of President and Chief Executive Officer of the parent company, Maine General Medical Center has earned numerous distinguished national quality awards and has been acknowledged as one of the best hospitals in the world for 2022 and 2023 by Newsweek Magazine. Chuck's commitment to healthcare extends beyond his professional responsibilities. He's an active member of the American College of Healthcare Professionals, the Maine Hospital Association, and the American Hospital Association. Moreover, he serves on several esteemed boards, including the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce Board, where he plays an integral role; the Kennebec Savings Bank Board as Vice Chair; the Alfond Youth and Community Center Board; the Maine Health and Higher Education Funding Authority; and the Maine Dartmouth Residency Board. Where does he find the time? Chuck Hays leaves behind a profound legacy of visionary leadership, compassionate care, and unwavering commitment to the wellbeing of the people of Maine as he exits this role later this year. His contributions to Maine General Health and the healthcare industry as a whole are immeasurable, and his efforts have undoubtedly improved countless lives. I want to express my sincere gratitude for his exceptional service and extend my heartfelt congratulations on his well-deserved retirement. His accomplishments will continue to inspire future generations of healthcare professionals, and his legacy will forever be etched in the annals of Maine's healthcare history. I will also say that the center that Mr. Hays has led employs my beloved and takes care of our healthcare needs. And I can say on a personal matter that I've had to call Chuck a few times and he was always responsive to the needs of my family whenever I called. Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, please join me in recognizing Chuck Hays for his outstanding achievements and in wishing him a joyful and fulfilling retirement. May he embark on this new

chapter of his life with the same determination, passion, and unwavering commitment that has defined his illustrious career. Thank you, Mr. President.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair would also like to say that my interactions with Mr. Hays have been nothing but positive and something I always look forward to. And when we needed an opportunity to have people be able to take COVID shots during the pandemic and still have the Legislature operate, Mr. Hays was outstanding in doing whatever he could to make that happen. So, I'm very glad to support this resolution today recognizing his retirement and certainly bittersweet that I won't be able to call him when I need something also.

The Joint Order was **PASSED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair is very pleased to recognize in the rear of the Chamber Chuck Hays and his guests, wife, from Manchester. The guests today of the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Hickman, and the entire Maine Senate. Would they please rise and accept the congratulations of the Maine Senate.

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Off Record Remarks

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**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, the Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Assigned (6/14/23) matter:

JOINT ORDER - Expression of Legislative Sentiment Recognizing Kaydn Hansen, of Roxbury, a student at Mountain Valley Middle School, who won the 14U 99-pound division at the Maine State Freestyle Wrestling Championship and won the 14U 101-pound Greco Roman Wrestling division at the Phil Portuese Northeast Regional Championship, the first time a female wrestler from Maine has won this title. We extend our congratulations and best wishes.

SLS 818

Tabled - June 14, 2023 by Senator **KEIM** of Oxford

Pending - **PASSAGE**

(In Senate, June 14, 2023, **READ**.)

The Joint Order was **READ**.)

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

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, unfortunately, the Senior Senator from Oxford, Senator Keim, cannot attend today's session, but she did ask me to speak about this impressive young woman from her district, Kaydn Hansen. Kaydn is a seventh grader at Mountain Valley Middle School,

where she is admired by her peers and teachers. She is also, as you've heard, an incredible athlete. She's traveled the country competing in wrestling. She trains twice a day, five days a week, and competes at least twice a week. Just in May, she won the 14U Maine State Freestyle Wrestling Championship in the 99-pound division, going undefeated for the day. As mentioned by the secretary, the following weekend, Kaydn placed fourth in the 14U Freestyle Wrestling Division at 101 pounds and first in the 14U Greco Roman Wrestling division at 105 pounds. This is the first time that a female wrestler from Maine has won this title. Also in May, Kaydn competed in the Massachusetts State Freestyle and Greco Roman Championships and placed second in both divisions. She is the Mountain Valley Middle School's first All-American Wrestler. Mr. President, Kaydn is an exceptional young lady. It's inspirational to see what can be achieved through hard work, discipline, and dedication. I wish her the best of luck as she continues to follow her dreams. It's my honor on behalf of Senator Keim to represent and recognize Kaydn and her father today in our Chamber. 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 Kaydn Hansen. She's joined today with her father. Would she please rise and accept the greetings of the Maine State Senate.

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Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the following Joint Order:  
S.P. 833

**ORDERED**, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, June 20, 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.

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

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## PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

### Non-Concurrent Matter

An Act to Ensure Safer Communities by Increasing the Punishment for Crimes Involving Fentanyl  
S.P. 405 L.D. 986  
(C "A" S-313)

In Senate, June 14, 2023, Report "**B**", **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-313)**, **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-313)**.

Comes from the House, Report "**A**", **OUGHT NOT TO PASS, READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc moved the Senate **INSIST**.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, the Senate **INSISTED** and **ASKED FOR A COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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### Non-Concurrent Matter

An Act to Increase Bicycle Safety by Allowing Cyclists to Treat Stop Signs as Yield Signs and Red Lights as Stop Signs  
S.P. 614 L.D. 1551

In Senate, May 16, 2023, on motion by Senator **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland, the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-99)**.

Comes from the House, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc moved the Senate **RECEDE** and **CONCUR**.

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

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Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

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

Senator **TIPPING:** Thank you. I just, matters of process, I'm still figuring out, but I hope the Body will defeat the motion to recede and concur so that we may insist. This is a bill that had bipartisan support in the Chamber, they moved a different report in the Other Chamber, but I believe more may be done on that. And for reference, this is the Bill to Treat Stop Signs as Yield Signs as backed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration for bicyclists in certain circumstances.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The pending question before the Senate is to Recede and Concur. A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#359)**

**YEAS:** Senators: FARRIN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

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

**EXCUSED:** Senator: KEIM

5 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 29 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc to **RECEDE** and **CONCUR FAILED**.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the Senate **INSISTED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

**Non-Concurrent Matter**

An Act to Allow Certain Social Workers to Diagnose Organic Mental Illnesses (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 895 L.D. 1400  
(C "A" H-203)

In Senate, June 6, 2023, **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Comes from the House, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-203) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-423)** thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the Senate **RECEDED** and **CONCURRED**.

**Joint Resolutions**

The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 1293

**JOINT RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING JUNE 20, 2023  
AS WORLD REFUGEE DAY IN MAINE**

WHEREAS, World Refugee Day was launched by the United Nations in 2001 to honor the bravery, strength and determination of refugees around the world who have been forced to flee their home countries under threat of conflict, violence, persecution and natural disaster; and

WHEREAS, refugees in communities across the welcoming state of Maine resettle in the hope of finding peace and safety for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, for over 45 years, refugees from diverse social, cultural, racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds with a variety of skills, abilities and experiences have resettled in Maine and have been woven into the fabric of Maine's vibrant cultural tapestry; and

WHEREAS, refugee-led organizations in Maine share the priority of our State to strengthen communities by engaging with and improving the lives of all Maine people through fair and equitable access to education, health care and employment; and

WHEREAS, refugee and immigrant-owned businesses are important contributors to the economic and social vitality of communities across our State, supporting local economies and employing local people; and

WHEREAS, Maine celebrates the refugee communities throughout our State that have served on the front lines of the State's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring our safety during uncertainty and contributing to our strong and successful recovery; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize June 20, 2023 as World Refugee Day in Maine and the positive impact and enduring contributions of refugee communities in the State.

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

**READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

The following Joint Resolution:

H.P. 1294

**JOINT RESOLUTION  
RECOGNIZING JUNE 2023 AS PRIDE MONTH**

WHEREAS, the Stonewall riots that began on June 28, 1969 sparked the LGBTQ rights movement in the United States; and

WHEREAS, during these riots, LGBTQ citizens, led by transgender women of color, rose up and resisted police harassment that arose out of discriminatory criminal laws that have since been declared unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, in the decades since the Stonewall riots, Pride celebrations have taken place around the country every June to commemorate this historic turning point for the LGBTQ community; and

WHEREAS, following the 1984 murder of Charlie Howard, a young gay man in Bangor, LGBTQ Mainers came together to form the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, now known as EqualityMaine; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, the Maine Civil Rights Act was amended to include explicit protections for LGBTQ people, ensuring the law served to protect against bias-based threats, harms and hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, as a national leader for LGBTQ equality, Maine has included protections for LGBTQ people in parentage and antibullying laws; and

WHEREAS, Maine has continued to improve access to relationship equality, passing laws that extend hospital visitation rights to same-sex couples in 1999, require health insurance companies to offer to employers coverage for domestic partnerships in 2001, extend inheritance rights and next of kin status for funeral and burial arrangements and conservator rights to same-sex and unmarried heterosexual couples in 2004 and include domestic partnerships in the law governing family medical leave in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the people of Maine voted to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in 2005 and in favor of marriage equality in 2012; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Maine was the first state in the nation whose highest court ruled it unlawful for a school district to prohibit a transgender student from accessing the bathroom consistent with that student's gender identity, interpreting for the first time amendments to the Maine Human Rights Act that expanded protections to include sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, since 2018, Maine has added a nonbinary gender designation for state identification cards and birth certificates, prohibited transgender exclusions in health insurance plans, banned the harmful practice of conversion therapy and secured state-level benefits for veterans who were discharged from the military due to their sexual orientation or gender identity; and

WHEREAS, despite years of progress, members of the LGBTQ community in the United States and around the world still face discrimination, violence and proposed rollbacks in state and federal protections, and bias-based crimes based on sexual orientation and gender identity are on the rise; and

WHEREAS, here in Maine there is a commitment to protecting the civil rights of LGBTQ Mainers and to treating all people fairly and equally and with dignity and respect; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize June 2023 as Pride Month as we continue to work toward full equality for our LGBTQ family, friends and neighbors.

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

The Joint Resolution was **READ**.

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

Senator **DAUGHTRY:** Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, I rise in strong support of item 1-17, this Joint Resolution recognizing June 2023 as Pride Month here in Maine and across the nation. Pride is a celebration of the contributions that LGBTQIA+ Mainers have made to our state and our nation's past as well as the contributions that they make in the present and will continue to make in the future. All across Maine, the community along with their allies, friends, and families are celebrating Pride Month. There are rainbow crosswalks and flags in Bar Harbor, Bath, Brunswick, and Hallowell, and just last weekend, the City of Augusta painted their first-ever Pride crosswalk. If you have a break during the day, please head down to Commercial Street and check it out, it's quite beautiful. There have been or will be Pride festivals, parades, and rides all month long, including Bath's, Cape Elizabeth's, and Gorham's first-ever Pride events. And today, Bath's Pride will take place from four to seven p.m. at Front and Center Streets, and it will feature local artists, open galleries, and live music. As someone who helped organize Brunswick's first-ever Pride last year, I saw how important it was for the LGBTQIA+ Mainers in my community. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. It was an empowering and uplifting experience for everyone. And speaking of Brunswick, we just wrapped celebrating our second Pride weekend with thousands of Mainers filling the Mall on Main Street despite a lot of rainy weather. I know some of them are watching, and I want to give a special shout out to my fellow Brunswick Pride board members, Lydia, Stacia, Cory, Kyle, Kathy, Kerry, and Patrick, as well as our amazing volunteers. Thank you. This joint resolution also acknowledges the pain, power, and progress that LGBTQIA+ Mainers experience in their lifetimes. They encounter barriers and challenges in education, employment, healthcare, housing, and public spaces that their non-LGBTQ peers do not have to contend with. Regardless, they survive, and they rise, and they thrive. A key part of Pride is celebrating queer joy. No matter where they are or where you are on your personal journey, I hope that every LGBTQIA+ Mainer feels some pride in who they are. You are brave, you are beautiful, and you belong. Standing here today, I dream of a Maine where every LGBTQIA+ Mainer not only hears these words but feels them, and knows them to be true, so that they can live openly and freely in our state. Thank you.

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

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Expression of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

The Honorable Bonnie Pothier, of Biddeford, on her retirement as a regional representative of United States Senator Angus King, Jr., working in the Biddeford office serving all of York County, a position she has held since 2012 after years of service as a teacher and the first woman elected Mayor of Biddeford. We extend our congratulations and best wishes

HLS 476

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

Senator **INGWERSEN**: Thank you, Mr. President. I am so honored to rise this morning to extend my congratulations to Biddeford's own Bonnie Pothier, who recently retired from ten years or more as one of five regional representatives for U.S. Senator Angus King. However, Bonnie's history of community engagement and service go much farther back than her work with Senator King. Bonnie was a mom to three kids, now a grandmother, and she was an owner of multiple businesses, which is enough reason to admire her accomplishments. However, on December 5, 1989, Bonnie was sworn in as the first female mayor of Biddeford. Not only was Biddeford a very different city back then, but so were the cultural norms surrounding women in public life. She faced down slurs from misogynists and cultural conservatives to blaze the way for future women mayors and for women's participation in all facets of local government and leadership organization in Biddeford. As Mayor, she oversaw the extension of sewer and water lines in the city, enabling the commercial growth that was to follow. Her groundbreaking work in local government politics is an incredible testament to the hurdles which she faced with both from men and women. Bonnie Pothier also held dual firsts for first female and also first Franco President of the Biddeford-Saco Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Bonnie, since leaving office, has continued to distinguish herself in business and public service. She served as director of Saco's Main Street Maine organization, Saco Spirit, and served on the Board of Grow Smart Maine. Bonnie spent nine years in leadership positions at Key Bank and, as I mentioned, since 2013, she served as the regional rep for southern Maine in the office of U.S. Senator Angus King, conducting business and organizational outreach on the Senator's behalf, among other duties. And I know from personal experience that when I've needed assistance for a constituent in my district that related to federal matters, Bonnie was always very quick and thorough to respond and help in any way she could. And to end, I just want to quote a few words from current mayor of Biddeford, Alan Casavant, he had this to say, 'Pothier's role as a Franco mayor, mother, and wife would pervade every aspect of her new public life. During her campaign, she heard from ward clerks that some people voted against her because she was a woman. Even women voted against her, because their belief that women belong to not in public office but in the home. Pothier, however, considered her gender as an advantage in the political arena. She argued that she would engage problems differently than men, as women, 'attend to details and are more compassionate and more tolerant, have high expectations, and expect people to toe the line.' While men resented toeing her line, women, some, resented a woman who challenged that which they had never dared to do, breaking the shackles of cultural repression. The years that have passed have opened the eyes to many within the community who now see the Pothier years, devoid of newspaper caricature or character assassination, as being a catalyst for Biddeford's modernization. As a descendent of French-Canadian women who were sent to Quebec to be - from Quebec to be wives, mothers, and property, who crossed the border to work a lifetime in noisy brick mills, she is an epiphany, she was the first.' Bonnie, congratulations on your retirement, and thank you so much for your service to our community.

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

Senator **BAILEY**: Thank you, Mr. President. Men and women of the Senate, I just wanted to rise and offer my congratulations to Bonnie on her retirement. Although I will say in our community, she will be dearly missed. She has been the steadfast point person for our community in dealing with the erosion happening in Saco Bay and down at Camp Ellis and she has been there at every meeting. She has been the intermediary trying to deal with the Army Corps of Engineers and again, I'm not sure how we're going to replace her, but I do wish her the best. Thank you.

**THE PRESIDENT**: The Chair is very pleased to recognize in back of the Chamber Bonnie Pothier. She's joined by her daughter, Kendra Rousseau, and her grandchildren, Emmett, Evelyn, Lordelia, and Theodore. They are from the city of Biddeford. The guests today of the Senator from York, Senator Ingwersen, the Senator from York, Senator Bailey, and the entire Maine Senate. Would they all please rise and accept the greetings and congratulations of the Maine Senate.

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Following Communication: S.C. 636

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

June 15, 2023

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

Dear Secretary Grant,

Pursuant to my authority under Title 38, MRSA, Ch. 3-A, §577-A, I am pleased to appoint the following members to the Natural and Working Lands Working Group of the Maine Climate Council, effective immediately:

Representative Margaret O'Neil of Saco  
Representative Dean Cray of Palmyra

If you have any questions regarding these appointments, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

S/Rachel Talbot Ross  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: S.C. 632

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

June 14, 2023

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

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 421 An Act to Ensure Utility Acquisitions Benefit  
Maine People

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

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

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 633

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

June 14, 2023

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

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Talbot Ross:

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

L.D. 1167 An Act to Require Communications Service  
Providers to Prorate Customer Bills for  
Cancellation and Allow a Reduction in Service  
for a Customer with an Outstanding Balance

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

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

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 635

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

June 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 Judiciary has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 776 RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to  
the Constitution of Maine to Establish the Right  
to Bodily Autonomy

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

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

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

The Following Communication: S.C. 634

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

June 14, 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 Veterans and Legal Affairs has voted unanimously to report the following bill(s) out "Ought Not to Pass":

L.D. 1680 An Act to Allow Cannabis Advertising and to Allow Cannabis Delivery

This is notification of the Committee's action.

Sincerely,

S/Sen. Craig V. Hickman  
Senate Chair

S/Rep. Laura Supica  
House Chair

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

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**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**House**

**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Provide Funding to Emergency Medical Services Organizations"

H.P. 331 L.D. 526

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-528)**.

Signed:

Senators:

BEEBE-CENTER of Knox  
LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec

Representatives:

SALISBURY of Westbrook  
HASENFUS of Readfield  
LOOKNER of Portland  
MADIGAN of Waterville  
MATHIESON of Kittery  
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-529)**.

Signed:

Senator:

HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:

ARDELL of Monticello  
NEWMAN of Belgrade

NUTTING of Oakland  
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-528)** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-528)**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-528)** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-528) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-528)**, in concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** on Resolve, to Ensure Compliance by the State with an Agreement Regarding the Operation of the Landfill in Old Town

H.P. 843 L.D. 1330

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

Signed:

Senators:

BRENNER of Cumberland  
CARNEY of Cumberland

Representatives:

GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach  
BELL of Yarmouth  
BRIDGEO of Augusta  
DOUDERA of Camden  
HOBBS of Wells  
O'NEIL of Saco  
SCHMERSAL-BURGESS of Mexico

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-545)**.

Signed:

Senator:

LYFORD of Penobscot



Representatives:  
CAMPBELL of Orrington  
SOBOLESKI of Phillips  
WOODSOME of Waterboro

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**  
Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BRENNER** of Cumberland, the Majority  
**OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** on Bill  
"An Act to Amend the Laws Regarding Zoning and Land Use  
Restrictions to Limit Certain Requirements to Municipalities with a  
Population of More than 10,000" (EMERGENCY)  
H.P. 135 L.D. 214

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

Signed:

Senators:  
PIERCE of Cumberland  
POULIOT of Kennebec  
VITELLI of Sagadahoc

Representatives:  
GERE of Kennebunkport  
BLIER of Buxton  
GATTINE of Westbrook  
GOLEK of Harpswell  
LOOKNER of Portland  
RANA of Bangor

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject  
reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by  
Committee Amendment "A" (H-179)**.

Signed:

Representatives:  
CAMPBELL of Orrington  
MORRIS of Turner

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**  
Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **PIERCE** of Cumberland, the Majority  
**OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **INNOVATION,  
DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND  
BUSINESS** on Bill "An Act to Establish an Emergency Fuel  
Reserve"

H.P. 507 L.D. 818

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

Signed:

Senator:  
CURRY of Waldo

Representatives:  
ROBERTS of South Berwick  
COLLAMORE of Pittsfield  
NESS of Fryeburg  
SAYRE of Kennebunk  
WHITE of Waterville

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject  
reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by  
Committee Amendment "A" (H-533)**.

Signed:

Senator:  
GUERIN of Penobscot

Representatives:  
SMITH of Palermo  
WALKER of Naples

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**  
Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **CURRY** of Waldo moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the  
Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#360)**

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

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN,  
GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, LYFORD,  
MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senator: KEIM

22 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 12 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **CURRY** of Waldo to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Increase Transparency in Municipal Ballot Referenda Expenditures"

H.P. 850 L.D. 1336

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-544)**.

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

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

Signed:

Representatives:

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

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-544)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

On further motion by same Senator, 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 Cumberland, Senator Nangle.

Senator **NANGLE:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, this bill is an effort to increase transparency, just like the title says, increase transparency in spending on budget - on municipal referendum. Recently, there was a situation where a community wanted to set up a cable - a community cable system, and as soon as a large corporate entity heard about that, they swooped in and began spending tens of thousands of dollars in order to defeat this proposal. While that's their right, the sponsor and the majority of the committee members felt that it was also reasonable to require transparency in that spending. So, that's why we have an Ought to Pass. Thank you.

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

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. Fellow members of the Senate, as relayed by the good Senator from Cumberland, Senator Nangle, under current law, reporting requirements for those spending large sums of money on municipal referendum campaigns in municipalities with a population of less than 15,000 is different from the reporting requirements in municipalities with more than 15,000 people. This makes very little sense to me, and this bill before you, L.D. 1336, will close this population-based loophole and increase transparency for those living in smaller municipalities like those I represent, not a single one over 15,000 people. Now, you may ask, is this really a current problem that needs to be solved? Like Senator Nangle, I would answer in the affirmative. As he said last year, there were two initiatives, one in Southport and one in Readfield, to bring municipal broadband to towns. A great deal of money was spent in opposition to these referenda, with very few reporting requirements. And according to one Maine Public article, quote, a full accounting of its electioneering activities and funding sources is not possible because the majority of Maine towns do now - the vast majority of Maine towns do not require campaign finance reports by groups influencing local referendums. I do not believe that the size of the municipality should trigger a political report. Instead, it should be the amount of money spent. Special interests should not have the ability to layer on another layer of darkness onto their political spending simply because they are preying on small town residents here in Maine. For that reason, I encourage you to vote for the Majority Report. Thank you, Mr. President.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

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

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The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#361)**

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

NAYS: Senators: FARRIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: KEIM, LAWRENCE

29 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 4 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-544) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Implement the Recommendations of the Working Group to Review the Process for Ongoing Review of Tax Expenditures by the Legislature"

H.P. 538 L.D. 849

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-530)**.

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

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

Signed:

Representatives:

LIBBY of Auburn  
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-530)**.

Reports **READ**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-530) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Abolish the Maine Income Tax and Establish a Zero-based Budget"

H.P. 930 L.D. 1434

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

Signed:

Senators:

GROHOSKI of Hancock  
CHIPMAN of Cumberland

Representatives:

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

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-547)**.

Signed:

Senator:

LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:  
LIBBY of Auburn  
QUINT of Hodgdon

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#362)**

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

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senator: KEIM

23 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 11 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Eliminate the Excise Tax on Recreational Vehicles and Permit Municipal Adoption of Fees to Cover the Cost of Municipal Services to Campgrounds and Recreational Vehicle Parks"  
H.P. 979 L.D. 1524

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

Signed:

Senators:  
GROHOSKI of Hancock  
CHIPMAN of Cumberland

Representatives:  
PERRY of Bangor  
CARMICHAEL of Greenbush  
CROCKETT of Portland  
HASENFUS of Readfield  
LAVIGNE of Berwick  
LIBBY of Auburn  
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 To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-534)**.

Signed:

Senator:  
LIBBY of Cumberland

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Protect Access to Absentee Ballot Drop Boxes"

H.P. 1013 L.D. 1568

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-542)**.

Signed:

Senators:  
HICKMAN of Kennebec  
BRENNER of Cumberland  
TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin

Representatives:  
SUPICA of Bangor  
COLLINGS of Portland  
HYMES of Waldo  
MALON of Biddeford  
MONTELL of Gardiner  
RIELLY of Westbrook  
RISEMAN of Harrison

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

Signed:

Representatives:

ANDREWS of Paris  
BOYER of Poland  
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-542)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, there was a question this morning in caucus around exactly what this bill is seeking to prevent. We just want to confirm that it's quite literally the impeding of access, physically, to ballot boxes, if that's our understanding, before we vote on this. Is that accurate? Thank you.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Senator from Aroostook, Senator Stewart, has posed a question through the Chair to anyone that can answer. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Hickman.

Senator **HICKMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President. I would answer in the affirmative.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-542) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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#### Divided Report

Five Members of the Committee on **TAXATION** on Bill "An Act to Increase the Maine Exclusion Amount for Estate Tax Exemptions" H.P. 491 L.D. 802

Reported in Report **"A"** that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-546)**

Signed:

Senator:

LIBBY of Cumberland

Representatives:

CARMICHAEL of Greenbush  
LAVIGNE of Berwick  
QUINT of Hodgdon  
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

Five Members of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report **"B"** that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senators:

GROHOSKI of Hancock  
CHIPMAN of Cumberland

Representatives:

HASENFUS of Readfield  
MATLACK of St. George  
RANA of Bangor

Comes from the House with Report **"B"**, **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**, **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock moved the Senate **ACCEPT** Report **"B"**, **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**, in concurrence.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, 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 Androscoggin, Senator Brakey.

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I will be very, very uncharacteristically brief. Grave robbery is a bad thing, and we should minimize it as much as possible. Thank you.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair recognizes the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Daughtry, match that.

Senator **DAUGHTRY:** Thank you, Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen. I merely rise to congratulate the good Senator from Androscoggin. It took less time than it did to start my stopwatch, so you're definitely clocking under ten seconds.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#363)**

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

NAYS: Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senator: KEIM

22 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 12 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **GROHOSKI** of Hancock to **ACCEPT** Report **"B"**, **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

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**Divided Report**

Six Members of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** on RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Change the Length of Legislators' Terms to 4 Years

H.P. 542 L.D. 852

Reported in Report **"A"** that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-541)**

Signed:

Senators:

HICKMAN of Kennebec  
BRENNER of Cumberland

Representatives:

BOYER of Poland  
COLLINGS of Portland  
MONTELL of Gardiner  
RIELLY of Westbrook

Six Members of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report **"B"** that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:

TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin

Representatives:

SUPICA of Bangor  
ANDREWS of Paris  
MALON of Biddeford  
RISEMAN of Harrison  
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

Comes from the House with Report **"B"**, **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**, **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec moved the Senate **ACCEPT** Report **"A"**, **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-541)**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On further motion by same Senator, 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 Kennebec, Senator Hickman.

Senator **HICKMAN:** Thank you, Mr. President. Women and men of the Senate, this constitutional amendment has been amended in committee in Report "A" to allow for those of us in this Chamber to serve four-year terms beginning in 2026, to run concurrently with the election of the Governor. Thirty-eight states, 38 states in the country have four-year terms for Senators, only 12 have two - all the New England states, including New York, Arizona, Georgia, Idaho, North Carolina, and South Dakota. I believe having four-year terms for Senators in the State of Maine is a great idea to increase institutional memory and the professionalization of this Chamber, which is the negative to the Other Chamber according to our Constitution, and I think we would be a stronger institution with four-year terms. We don't have the final say. If this were to miraculously get two-thirds of a vote in the Senate and the House, it would go to the people, and they would decide. And so, Mr. President, women and men of the Senate, I ask you to join me in voting for Report "A" to strengthen the institution that we currently serve in today. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, I rise in concurrence with my good friend from Kennebec County. I think this is actually one of the ideas that I think was going to be kicked around in the study bill that I talked about earlier this session. And I think it's really important because otherwise, I just feel like, you know, we've got two Chambers, they're both two-year terms, we've got term limits, those are four-year terms, so we're just really cycling through a tremendous amount of institutional knowledge and if the whole point of having a bicameral style of legislative branch was to have one that addresses the current political winds and the wills of the people, and then one that is actually supposed to be retaining that institutional knowledge and maybe pump the brakes a little bit on some things that might be out of hand a little quickly, which was my understanding, reading the Federalist Papers, the whole point of the Senate, then it doesn't make any sense what we're doing right now. And so, I agree wholeheartedly that this is something that we should be proposing to the people of Maine, I think there's a lot of really compelling arguments, and I support the pending motion. So, thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **BENNETT**: Thank you, Mr. President. Request permission to pose a question through the Chair?

**THE PRESIDENT**: So moved.

Senator **BENNETT**: Thank you, Mr. President. The - if the - I was just wondering if the committee contemplated the effect of this beginning date of four-year terms beginning in 2026, on the reapportionment system. Because it would seem that the date for after reapportionment would be about three years after the apportionment is done. Is that - was that discussed by the committee and I'm wondering what the conversations might've yielded. Thank you, Mr. President.

**THE PRESIDENT**: The Senator from Oxford, Senator Bennett, has posed a question through the Chair to anyone who may answer. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Kennebec, Senator Hickman.

Senator **HICKMAN**: Thank you, Mr. President. I would request that the Good Senator from Oxford repeat his question, because I did not hear it.

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

Senator **BENNETT**: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm wondering if the committee contemplated the affect of this change, particularly the dates chosen - 2026, 2030, 2034 - as it relates to the reapportionment process which would occur in the odd-numbered year after the census.

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

Senator **HICKMAN**: Thank you, Mr. President. We considered it and we went with this amendment, anyway.

**THE PRESIDENT**: The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of Report "A", Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-541). A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#364)**

**YEAS:** Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, LIBBY, MOORE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

**NAYS:** Senators: FARRIN, LYFORD, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING

**EXCUSED:** Senator: KEIM

30 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 4 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec to **ACCEPT** Report "**A**", **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-541)**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**, **PREVAILED**.

Resolution **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-541) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-541)**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

Six members of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Prevent Opioid Overdose Deaths by Establishing Safe Consumption Sites" H.P. 878 L.D. 1364

Reported in Report "**A**" that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-548)**.

Signed:

Senator:  
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox

Representatives:  
SALISBURY of Westbrook  
LOOKNER of Portland  
MADIGAN of Waterville  
MATHIESON of Kittery  
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

Five members of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report "**B**" that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:  
HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:  
ARDELL of Monticello  
NEWMAN of Belgrade  
NUTTING of Oakland  
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

One member of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report "**C**" that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-549)**.

Signed:

Representative:  
HASENFUS of Readfield

Comes from the House with Report "A", **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-548)**, READ and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-548)**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending **ACCEPTANCE OF ANY REPORT**.

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**Divided Report**

Seven members of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** on Bill "An Act to Provide Funding for a Chapel at the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Augusta"  
H.P. 889 L.D. 1375

Reported in Report "A" that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-308)**.

Signed:

Senators:  
HICKMAN of Kennebec  
TIMBERLAKE of Androscoggin

Representatives:  
BOYER of Poland  
COLLINGS of Portland  
HYMES of Waldo  
RIELLY of Westbrook  
RUDNICKI of Fairfield

Four members of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report "B" that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:  
BRENNER of Cumberland

Representatives:  
SUPICA of Bangor  
MALON of Biddeford  
MONTELL of Gardiner

One member of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report "C" that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-309)**.

Signed:

Representative:  
RISEMAN of Harrison

Comes from the House with Report "A", **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-308)**, READ and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-308)**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **HICKMAN** of Kennebec, Report "A", **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-308)**, **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-308) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-308)**, in concurrence.

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**Senate**

**Ought to Pass As Amended**

Senator **CARNEY** for the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act Removing the Statute of Limitations on Criminal and Civil Actions Involving Sexual Abuse of Minors"  
S.P. 715 L.D. 1790

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-342)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (S-342) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Sent down for concurrence.

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

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

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**House**

**Divided Report**



The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit Government Officials from Maintaining Records Related to Firearms Owners"  
H.P. 401 L.D. 624

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

Signed:

Senator:  
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox

Representatives:  
SALISBURY of Westbrook  
HASENFUS of Readfield  
LOOKNER of Portland  
MADIGAN of Waterville  
MATHIESON of Kittery  
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-522)**.

Signed:

Senators:  
HARRINGTON of York  
LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec

Representatives:  
ARDELL of Monticello  
NEWMAN of Belgrade  
NUTTING of Oakland  
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#365)**

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, DAUGHTRY, GROHOSKI, INGWERSEN, LAWRENCE, PIERCE

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CURRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senator: KEIM

10 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 24 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence, **FAILED**.

The Minority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **ACCEPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-522) **READ** and **ADOPTED**.

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

Ordered sent down forthwith for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Allow Bail Commissioners to Carry Firearms in Correctional Facilities and Jails"  
H.P. 443 L.D. 674

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-243)**.

Signed:

Representatives:  
SALISBURY of Westbrook  
ARDELL of Monticello  
HASENFUS of Readfield  
LAJOIE of Lewiston  
NEWMAN of Belgrade  
NUTTING of Oakland  
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

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

Signed:

Senator:  
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox

Representatives:  
LOOKNER of Portland  
MATHIESON of Kittery  
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-243)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#366)**

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

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING

EXCUSED: Senator: KEIM

20 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 14 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox to **ACCEPT** the Minority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in **NON-CONCURRENCE, PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Enhance Privacy and Prohibit Shipping Companies from Maintaining Records of Firearm and Ammunition Shipments"

H.P. 590 L.D. 943

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

Signed:

Senators:  
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox  
LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec

Representatives:  
SALISBURY of Westbrook  
HASENFUS of Readfield  
LOOKNER of Portland  
MADIGAN of Waterville  
MATHIESON of Kittery  
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-513)**.

Signed:

Senator:  
HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:  
ARDELL of Monticello  
NEWMAN of Belgrade  
NUTTING of Oakland  
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#367)**

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

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senator: KEIM

21 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 13 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

On motion by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland, **TABLED** until Later in Today's Session, pending the motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence. (Roll Call Ordered.)

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Sale or Possession of Rapid-fire Modification Devices"  
H.P. 854 L.D. 1340

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-512)**.

Signed:

Senator:  
BEEBE-CENTER of Knox

Representatives:  
SALISBURY of Westbrook  
HASENFUS of Readfield  
LOOKNER of Portland  
MADIGAN of Waterville  
MATHIESON of Kittery  
MILLIKEN of Blue Hill

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

Signed:

Senators:  
HARRINGTON of York  
LaFOUNTAIN of Kennebec

Representatives:  
ARDELL of Monticello  
NEWMAN of Belgrade  
NUTTING of Oakland  
PERKINS of Dover-Foxcroft

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-512)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

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

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit All State Subsidies for Electric Vehicles"  
H.P. 1048 L.D. 1623

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

Signed:

Senator:  
LAWRENCE of York

Representatives:  
ZEIGLER of Montville  
BOYLE of Gorham  
KESSLER of South Portland  
RUNTE of York  
WARREN of Scarborough

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-550)**.

Signed:

Senator:  
HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:  
BABIN of Fort Fairfield  
DUNPHY of Embden  
FOSTER of Dexter  
PAUL of Winterport

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **LAWRENCE** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#368)**

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

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senator: KEIM

24 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 10 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **LAWRENCE** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Ensure the Quality of Bottled Water" H.P. 796 L.D. 1248

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-389)**.

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  
JAVNER of Chester  
LEMELIN of Chelsea

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-389) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-483)** thereto.

Reports **READ**.

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

Senator **BALDACCI:** Thank you, Mr. President. I wanted to ask a question first through the Chair or the Secretary of the Senate about whether - are we going to address House Amendment "A" now or do we address it later? Do I make the motion now to include House Amendment "A"?

**THE PRESIDENT:** You move the report and then.

Senator **BALDACCI:** And then we can do that. Okay.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-389) **READ**.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair would advise that is where we would adopt House Amendment "A".

Senator **BALDACCI:** I would move this Chamber, this Senate, to adopt House Amendment "A".

House Amendment "A" (H-483) to Committee Amendment "A" (H-389) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-389) as Amended by House Amendment "A" (H-483) thereto, **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

Under suspension of the Rules, **READ A SECOND TIME** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-389) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-483)** thereto, in concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Allow a Qualifying Religious Organization to Self-insure for Automobile Insurance" H.P. 640 L.D. 1004

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

Signed:

Senator:  
BAILEY of York

Representatives:

PERRY of Calais  
ARFORD of Brunswick  
CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham  
MASTRACCIO of Sanford  
MATHIESON of Kittery  
PRINGLE of Windham

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-216)**.

Signed:

Senator:

BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

CYRWAY of Albion  
MORRIS of Turner  
NUTTING of Oakland  
SWALLOW of Houlton

Comes from the House with the Minority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-478)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BAILEY** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, 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 Androscoggin, Senator Brakey.

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I rise in opposition to the Ought Not to Pass motion. This is legislation that was brought to us on behalf of the Mennonite community who have religious - religious objections to participating in automobile insurance as is generally devised. They've asked for their right to self-insure to be respected and the alternate report we could be voting on simply studies the issue to see if we can find a resolution. When we vote on this bill - on this motion today, I would like us to also consider that there have been other bills that have come forward from the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee that have sought to make reasonable accommodations for peoples' religious convictions, including a - I believe it was a unanimous report that we unanimously adopted in this Body and in committee around banking services for members of the Muslim community who have religious objections to current banking standards. I think we always try to look and be compassionate towards peoples' religious beliefs - well, we try to, anyway; sometimes we're more understanding than others. But I think for sheer consistency, I think this at least merits further study. And so, I hope that we will

reject the pending motion and move on to the Ought to Pass as Amended Report. Thank you.

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

Senator **BAILEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I would just like to point out to the Chamber that there already is a mechanism in law for members of the Mennonite community to get their coverage without purchasing insurance by depositing securities or cash with the Secretary of the Treasurer. That's available to them and to others. The bill seeks to allow them to use that same process but to do it at lower limits than the rest of us. Thank you.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#369)**

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

**NAYS:** Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, HICKMAN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

**EXCUSED:** Senator: KEIM

20 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 14 Senators having voted in the negative, with 1 Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **BAILEY** of York to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**, **PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Ensure the Accuracy of Vital Records with Respect to Gender" H.P. 962 L.D. 1507

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-559)**.

Signed:

Senators:

CARNEY of Cumberland  
BAILEY of York  
BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

MOONEN of Portland  
KUHN of Falmouth  
LEE of Auburn  
MORIARTY of Cumberland  
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:

Representatives:

ANDREWS of Paris  
HAGGAN of Hampden  
HENDERSON of Rumford  
POIRIER of Skowhegan

(Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Minority **Ought Not To Pass** Report.)

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-559)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#370)**

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

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senator: KEIM

25 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 9 Senators having voted in the negative, with Senator being excused, the motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-559) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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

Senate at Ease.

The Senate was called to order by the President.

Off Record Remarks

**RECESSED** until the sound of the bell.

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

**ORDERS OF THE DAY**

The Chair laid before the Senate the following Tabled and Later Today Assigned matter:

HOUSE REPORTS - from the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit the Sale or Possession of Rapid-fire Modification Devices" H.P. 854 L.D. 1340

Majority - **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-512)** (7 members)

Minority - **Ought Not To Pass** (6 members)

Tabled - June 16, 2023, by Senator **DAUGHTRY** of Cumberland

Pending - motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence (Roll Call Ordered)

(In House, June 15, 2023, the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-512)**.)

(In Senate, June 16, 2023, Reports **READ**.)

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

Senator **CARNEY:** Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, colleagues of the Senate. I rise in support of the pending motion. This bill, much like the intent of the one co-sponsored by Maine's Senator Collins in the U.S. Senate, makes the possession, transfer, distribution, sale, or importation into the state of a rapid-fire modification device a Class D crime. A rapid-fire modification device is a binary trigger system, bump stock, a burst trigger system, trigger crank, auto sear or other device that's designed to accelerate the rate of fire of a semi-automatic firearm. There are many reasons to support this bill, and I thank you for your attention. Please support this bill if you support law enforcement. I would like to read an excerpt from the testimony of Kennebec County District Attorney Maeghan Maloney, who supports this bill. 'On December 22, 2019, at approximately 1 p.m., a Waterville police officer responded to a shoplifting complaint at Walmart. When the officer followed the suspect's vehicle out of the Walmart parking lot, he was not expecting a regular - he was not expecting a regular traffic stop to result in numerous rounds of gunfire being shot at him and a high-speed chase covering both Kennebec and Somerset Counties. The officer was not expecting to be shot twice, once in each arm, effectively incapacitating him. Other law enforcement officers took up the pursuit. In the process, a total of nine officers dodged bullets before the suspect could be subdued. Why were so many officers required? They were required because the suspect was using a binary trigger system.' That day, one officer was physically shot twice, all of the officers suffered severe trauma. Four of the officers who testified at sentencing spoke of trying to return to law enforcement. They talked of the pride they felt protecting our community and they testified to the constant nightmares and shaking when putting on their uniforms after that December 22nd. Today, these officers are civilians. A handgun or a hunting rifle could not have caused this assault to the physical and mental wellbeing of those who strive every day to protect us. Their job is hard enough, we don't need to make it harder. And again, those are the words of Kennebec County DA Maeghan Maloney. So, when opponents ask you what a difference - what difference a bill like this would make, just ask those officers. Second, support this bill if you recognize the value of supporting sensible gun safety laws that are found in red states, blue states, and purple states. This bill does not attempt to classify these devices as machineguns, that was a proposal by former President Trump and remains mired in the courts. Instead, this bill aligns directly with the efforts of 16 other states. These include states such as Florida and Virginia, New York and Washington State, as well as our New England neighbors, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Massachusetts. These states vary in the strength of their gun safety laws, but they are aligned on this issue of banning these harmful devices. Third, you can also support this bill if you support the Second Amendment and Maine's Constitution. This bill does not address firearms, it addresses accessories. There have been no cases striking down rapid-fire modification devices. As DA Maloney said at the end of her testimony, a handgun or a hunting rifle could not have caused this assault on the physical and mental wellbeing of those who strive every day to protect us. Their job is hard enough; we don't need to make it any harder. So, I urge you to

support our law enforcement officers and our community and support the motion before us. Thank you.

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

Senator **HARRINGTON:** Thank you, Mr. President. Ladies and gentlemen of the Senate, as a 16-year veteran of law enforcement in Maine, I can assure you there is no correlation between passing this legislation and ensuring the safety of me and my fellow officers. This legislation will ban rapid-fire modification devices. These are commonly owned by many Mainers and myself. These devices include but are not limited to bump stocks and binary triggers that are used in a wide array of legal activities including competitive and recreational shooting. These accessories are incredibly helpful in training individuals with various disabilities. Lastly, this bill would require Mainers to give up incredibly valuable property, to the tune of tens of thousands of dollars. These are - this would affect individuals with ATF permits for fully automatic rifles. They go through an extensive background check to obtain these, these are incredibly expensive weapons, there would be no means to reimburse individuals for these accessories, so called, and firearms. And lastly, if the government seizes the private property of citizens, they should compensate them. It would turn individuals who lawfully own these devices into criminals. Thank you, Mr. President.

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

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. Request permission to pose a question?

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Senator from Oxford may proceed.

Senator **BENNETT:** Thank you, Mr. President. I see in the bill there are several defined devices, one is a binary trigger system, secondly is a bump stock device, third is a burst trigger system, fourth is a rapid-fire modification device, which I guess is a catch-all term, and then also semiautomatic firearm, but I'm aware what that is. Trigger crank is also defined here. Are these devices illegal under federal law currently? I heard the Senator from Cumberland, Senator Carney, say that some of these may be, it may be tied up in litigation, but I would like to understand what the construct of federal law is as it relates to these devices currently. Thank you, Mr. President.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Senator from Oxford, Senator Bennett, has posed a couple of questions through the Chair to anyone who can answer. The Chair recognizes the Senator from York, Senator Harrington.

Senator **HARRINGTON:** These - with the exception of the bump stock, which is currently in litigation in various stages throughout the country, these are all very commonly owned firearm accessories here in Maine. As I said, the sponsor of this legislation, when it was presented, made it sound like these were very cheap, inexpensive pieces of plastic to the tune of \$20. I assure you, binary triggers are hundreds of dollars and, as I said, these are used to -- for many people with disabilities use them for

a lighter trigger pull, it does not make them fully automatic, but it does enhance their ability with disabilities. Thank you.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair recognizes the Senator from Hancock, Senator Grohoski.

Senator **GROHOSKI:** Thank you, Mr. President. I'll be very brief. I just wanted to share with you all that after our discussion this morning in our caucus, I decided to call my father. My father is a Vietnam veteran, he's the son of a career Air Force veteran. Many people in my family have served in the military. And this conversation is not one that I will share on the Floor because it included a lot of choice phrases that I think wouldn't be approved. But what he wanted to point out is that he feels very strongly, and this matched with a lot of veterans that I talked to on the campaign trail this year, he felt very strongly that untrained civilians should not have access to what can become essentially a military-grade weapon. It's not appropriate in our society and so, for this reason, I'm going to be voting for this motion and hope that some will follow that and just consider what this really means out in our streets and in our homes and in our communities. Thank you.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The pending question before the Senate is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

\_\_\_\_\_  
The Chair noted the absence of the Senator from Kennebec, Senator **HICKMAN**, and further excused the same Senator from today's Roll Call votes.

\_\_\_\_\_  
The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#371)**

YEAS: Senators: BAILEY, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, GROHOSKI, LAWRENCE, PIERCE, RENY, ROTUNDO

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, CURRY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, NANGLE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

EXCUSED: Senators: HICKMAN, KEIM

12 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 21 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **BEEBE-CENTER** of Knox to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence, **FAILED**.

The Minority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**House**

**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Streamline the Process for Amending a Birth Certificate of an Adult When Genetic Parentage is Not Disputed" H.P. 1049 L.D. 1624

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-567)**.

Signed:

Senators:

- CARNEY of Cumberland
- BAILEY of York
- BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representatives:

- MOONEN of Portland
- HAGGAN of Hampden
- HENDERSON of Rumford
- 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:

Representative:

- ANDREWS of Paris

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

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-567)**.

Reports **READ**.



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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-567) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Prohibit Discrimination Against Cannabis Establishment Owners and Employees and Cannabis Users" H.P. 1057 L.D. 1647

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

Signed:

Senators:  
CARNEY of Cumberland  
BAILEY of York

Representatives:  
MOONEN of Portland  
HAGGAN of Hampden  
HENDERSON of Rumford  
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 To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:  
BRAKEY of Androscoggin

Representative:  
ANDREWS of Paris

(Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe - of the House - supports the Majority **Ought Not To Pass** Report.)

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **CARNEY** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** on Bill "An Act to Allow Employees to Request Flexible Work Schedules" H.P. 516 L.D. 827

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-322)**.

Signed:

Senator:  
TIPPING of Penobscot

Representatives:  
ROEDER of Bangor  
GEIGER of Rockland  
GERE of Kennebunkport  
MALON of Biddeford  
RUSSELL of Verona Island  
SKOLD of Portland

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

Signed:

Representatives:  
DRINKWATER of Milford  
GALLETTA of Durham  
SOBOLESKI of Phillips

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-322)**.

Reports **READ**.

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

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

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

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The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#372)**

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

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE

21 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 11 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **TIPPING** of Penobscot to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-322) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Modernize the State Motor Vehicle Inspection Program"

H.P. 556 L.D. 900

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-497)**.

Signed:

Senators:

FARRIN of Somerset  
NANGLE of Cumberland

Representatives:

WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor  
ALBERT of Madawaska  
ANKELES of Brunswick  
CRAFTS of Newcastle  
MASON of Lisbon  
O'CONNELL of Brewer  
PARRY of Arundel  
THERIAULT of Fort Kent  
WHITE of Waterville  
WHITE of Guilford

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

Signed:

Senator:

CHIPMAN of Cumberland

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-497)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#373)**

YEAS: Senators: FARRIN, POULIOT

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

EXCUSED: Senators: HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE

2 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 30 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **BENNETT** of Oxford to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report, in concurrence, **FAILED**.

The Minority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Resolve, to Promote Passenger Rail for Commuters  
H.P. 742 L.D. 1170

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

Signed:

Senator:  
FARRIN of Somerset

Representatives:  
WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor  
ALBERT of Madawaska  
ANKELES of Brunswick  
CRAFTS of Newcastle  
MASON of Lisbon  
O'CONNELL of Brewer  
PARRY of Arundel  
THERIAULT of Fort Kent  
WHITE of Waterville  
WHITE of Guilford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-555)**.

Signed:

Senators:  
CHIPMAN of Cumberland  
NANGLE of Cumberland

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Resolve, to Provide for One Month of Free Passenger Rail Service in Maine

H.P. 1159 L.D. 1813

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

Signed:

Senator:  
FARRIN of Somerset

Representatives:  
WILLIAMS of Bar Harbor  
ALBERT of Madawaska  
ANKELES of Brunswick  
CRAFTS of Newcastle  
MASON of Lisbon  
O'CONNELL of Brewer  
PARRY of Arundel  
THERIAULT of Fort Kent  
WHITE of Waterville  
WHITE of Guilford

The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-471)**.

Signed:

Senators:  
CHIPMAN of Cumberland  
NANGLE of Cumberland

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

On motion by Senator **CHIPMAN** of Cumberland, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**, in concurrence.

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**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Joint Resolution "JOINT RESOLUTION MAKING APPLICATION TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES CALLING A CONVENTION UNDER ARTICLE V OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TO PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION TO IMPOSE FISCAL RESTRAINTS ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, LIMIT THE POWER AND JURISDICTION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND LIMIT THE TERMS OF OFFICE FOR ITS OFFICIALS AND FOR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS"

H.P. 1058

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

Signed:

Senators:  
NANGLE of Cumberland  
LYFORD 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 To Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:  
BALDACCI of Penobscot

Representatives:

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

Comes from the House with the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence.

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

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

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The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#374)**

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

NAYS: Senators: BALDACCI, BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, LYFORD, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: CURRY, HICKMAN, KEIM

21 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 11 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **NANGLE** of Cumberland to **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report, in concurrence, **PREVAILED**.

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**Divided Report**

Six members of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** on Resolve, to Study the Effects of 5G Technology on Bird, Bee and Insect Populations and the Effects of Long-term Exposure on Children

H.P. 466 L.D. 697

Reported in Report **"A"** that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-237)**.

Signed:

Senator:  
HARRINGTON of York

Representatives:  
BABIN of Fort Fairfield  
DUNPHY of Embden  
FOSTER of Dexter  
GEIGER of Rockland  
PAUL of Winterport

Five members of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report **"B"** that the same **Ought Not to Pass**.

Signed:

Senator:  
LAWRENCE of York

Representatives:  
ZEIGLER of Montville  
BOYLE of Gorham  
KESSLER of South Portland  
RUNTE of York

One member of the same Committee on the same subject reported in Report **"C"** that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-238)**.

Signed:

Representative:  
WARREN of Scarborough

Comes from the House with Report **"A"**, **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-237)**, **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE GROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-237)**.

Reports **READ**.

Senator **LAWRENCE** of York moved the Senate **ACCEPT** Report **"B"**, **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, 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 apologize, I was thinking there was going to be other folks speaking on it. I just wanted to clarify this, I know that I had worked closely with the Representative in the House, and this bill, the - I know we're on the Ought Not to Pass and I'm rising to talk against the motion that is currently on the Floor. The actual bill itself was just asking

for an independent commission composed of legislators and credentialed persons and educators with relative - relevant expertise to review and compile data and to report back their findings concerning 5G technology on bird, bee, insect, and other wildlife populations, and to study the effects of long-term and acute exposure on children. I had a lot of conversation with a number of different ham radio operators, the amateur radio operators, the very ones that we actually honored here in the Senate itself. And I'm - I am assured that our current public radiation exposure limits are set by the FCC in 1996, they account for thermal or heat effects from manmade radiofrequency. Ham radios and emergency radios services are in this group, with information widely available and accepted. This bill does nothing to interfere with those services, and I just wanted to bring that up. As I understand, the bill itself focuses more so on non-ionizing radiation concerns, with the current science regarding if there are any biological effects on wildlife, the environment, and probably our most sensitive human population, our children. We need to stop and consider the incredible rapid proliferation of this ever-changing technology. So, that's why I will be voting against the motion on the Floor. Thank you so much, Mr. President.

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

The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#375)**

**YEAS:** Senators: BAILEY, BALDACCI, BEEBE-CENTER, BRENNER, CARNEY, CHIPMAN, CURRY, DAUGHTRY, DUSON, FARRIN, GROHOSKI, INGWERSEN, LAFOUNTAIN, LAWRENCE, NANGLE, PIERCE, POULIOT, RAFFERTY, RENY, ROTUNDO, TIMBERLAKE, TIPPING, VITELLI, PRESIDENT JACKSON

**NAYS:** Senators: BENNETT, BLACK, BRAKEY, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, LYFORD, MOORE, STEWART

**EXCUSED:** Senators: HICKMAN, KEIM

24 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 9 Senators having voted in the negative, with 2 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **LAWRENCE** of York to **ACCEPT** Report "**B**", **OUGHT NOT TO PASS**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**, **PREVAILED**.

Sent down for concurrence.

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

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**House**

**Ought to Pass As Amended**

The Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Promote Seamless and Flexible Home and Community Supports Across the Lifespan for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities or Autism"

H.P. 428 L.D. 659

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-558)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-558)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-558) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Joint Select Committee on **HOUSING** on Bill "An Act to Repurpose Vacant Shopping Mall and Retail Space to Mixed-use Housing and Retail"

H.P. 309 L.D. 492

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-557)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-557)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-557) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

The Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** on Bill "An Act to Clarify and Amend the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Licensing Laws"

H.P. 271 L.D. 438

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-556)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-556)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-556) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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The Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** on Bill "An Act to Ban the Video Hosting Service TikTok on All State-owned Devices" (EMERGENCY)

H.P. 643 L.D. 1007

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-570)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-570)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-570) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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The Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** on Bill "An Act to Advance the State's Public Transit Systems by Reinvigorating the Public Transit Advisory Council and Increasing Funding"

H.P. 1004 L.D. 1559

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-568)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-568)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-568) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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

## PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE

### Non-Concurrent Matter

An Act to Comprehensively and Equitably Reform Electricity Rates

H.P. 347 L.D. 542

In Senate, June 12, 2023, on motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, Report "**C**", **OUGHT NOT TO PASS, READ** and **ACCEPTED**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Comes from the House, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-277) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-526)** thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc moved the Senate **RECEDE** and **CONCUR**.

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

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Mr. President. Refresh my memory, Insist is a higher motion or a lower motion?

**THE PRESIDENT:** Lower.

Senator **STEWART:** Then I would request a roll call. Thanks.

On motion by Senator **STEWART** of Aroostook, 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 Hancock, Senator Grohoski.

Senator **GROHOSKI:** Thank you, Mr. President. Senate colleagues, I just wanted to give an update on this bill, which I did speak against earlier, I think it was this week. I worked with the sponsor of this bill to reduce it to just the portion of the bill that would study - have the Public Utilities Commission study time of use rates. So, all the concerns that I had and that I spoke to about the bill are no longer in the bill. So, it's a study and the PUC will report back to the Legislature on their findings around time of use.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The pending question before the Senate is Recede and Concur. A roll call has been ordered. Is the Senate ready for the question?

---

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

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The Doorkeepers secured the Chamber.

The Secretary opened the vote.

**ROLL CALL (#376)**

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

NAYS: Senators: BLACK, BRAKEY, FARRIN, GUERIN, HARRINGTON, LIBBY, LYFORD, POULIOT, STEWART, TIMBERLAKE

EXCUSED: Senators: HICKMAN, KEIM, LAWRENCE

22 Senators having voted in the affirmative and 10 Senators having voted in the negative, with 3 Senators being excused, the motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc to **RECEDE** and **CONCUR PREVAILED**.

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**Non-Concurrent Matter**

An Act to Increase Reimbursement Under the General Assistance Program (EMERGENCY)

S.P. 669 L.D. 1664  
(C "A" S-209)

In Senate, June 7, 2023, Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-209)**.

Comes from the House, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-209) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-535)** thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc moved the Senate **RECEDE** and **CONCUR**.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Brakey.

Senator **BRAKEY:** Thank you, Mr. President. I'm not going to ask for a roll call or anything, I just wanted to express some concerns about this legislation on the record before it leaves this Body and presumably ends up in front of the Appropriations Committee. I understand the struggles that many of our municipalities are facing with our overwhelmed and overburdened

general assistance program. I just I have concerns about raising the reimbursement rates without doing anything to actually do structural reforms to the program. It's like throwing water into a leaky bucket. And I think we see right now that some of our policies in place are contributing to our overwhelmed system. I mean, including the fact that we have policies that have been established for a number of years now that basically - that basically mean that anyone from any of the billions of people on this planet who show up in Maine can qualify on day one for general assistance benefits. And we can see in many of our municipalities that the results of that policy is leading to a real strain on the system. So, I just wanted to put that on the record and say that if this ends up on the Appropriations Table, I hope that in any discussions and negotiations about funding this, we will also be looking at real reforms, structural welfare reforms to our general assistance program to make -- so we're not just throwing money into a leaky bucket. Thank you.

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

Senator **BALDACCI:** Thank you. I just want to kind of respond to my good friend from Androscoggin. This is - this bill is actually sponsored by my good friend from Washington County and a number of us have supported and passed unanimously in the committee. But the committee has taken the approach that yes, we do need structural reforms, we have carried over a number of bills on that to deal with in January, we know it's going to take some time to get everybody around the table and figure this out. This program was created 70+ years ago, in like the early 50s, and was mandated upon all municipalities, and we - it needs to be updated. So, I just want to let you know that this is a priority for Health and Human Services, and I know that my good friend from Washington County who just has been wonderful to deal with and she shares those same concerns and plans - we all plan on working on that. This was done unanimously, knowing that we had this plan and these bills set aside to specifically work on. But - and I think the administration did not include a full appropriation for the second half of this biennium for that express reason of trying to get some reforms done. So, I just want to rise and kind of respond to your concerns because they're extremely legitimate, and let you know that we are trying to work on them and trying to have some sort of longer-term solution built in. Thank you.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the Senate **RECEDE** and **CONCURRED**.

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

**PAPERS FROM THE HOUSE**

**Non-Concurrent Matter**

Resolve, to Establish a Public Safety Health and Wellness Grant Pilot Program

H.P. 1187 L.D. 1857  
(C "A" H-539)

In Senate, June 15, 2023, Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-539)**.

Comes from the House, **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-539) AS AMENDED BY HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" (H-571)** thereto, in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, the Senate **RECEDED** and **CONCURRED**.

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

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**House**

**Ought to Pass**

The Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act to Amend the Membership of the Somerset Woods Trustees"  
H.P. 1265 L.D. 1968

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.

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

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**Ought to Pass As Amended**

The Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Expand Services for Women Who Experience Gender-based Trauma and Violence"  
H.P. 687 L.D. 1092

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-574)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-574)**.

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

Bill **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-574) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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The Committee on **TAXATION** on Resolve, Directing the Office of Tax Policy to Study Maine's Mining Excise Tax  
H.P. 1185 L.D. 1855

Reported that the same **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-572)**.

Comes from the House with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Resolve **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (H-572)**.

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

Resolve **READ ONCE**.

Committee Amendment "A" (H-572) **READ** and **ADOPTED**, in concurrence.

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

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

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**Senate**

**Divided Report**

The Majority of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** on Bill "An Act to Address the Shortage of Direct Care Workers for Children with Disabilities in Maine" (EMERGENCY)  
S.P. 371 L.D. 874

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

Signed:

Senators:

INGWERSEN of York  
MOORE of Washington

Representatives:

MEYER of Eliot  
CRAVEN of Lewiston  
FREDERICKS of Sanford  
GRAHAM of North Yarmouth  
GRIFFIN of Levant  
JAVNER of Chester  
LEMELIN of Chelsea  
MADIGAN of Waterville  
SHAGOURY of Hallowell  
ZAGER of Portland



The Minority of the same Committee on the same subject reported that the same **Ought To Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-343)**.

Signed:

Senator:  
BALDACCI of Penobscot

Reports **READ**.

Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot moved the Senate **ACCEPT** the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report.

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

Senator **BALDACCI:** Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen of the Senate. Despite the admonition of my seatmate who told me not to speak, I will still speak and address the Senate. But seriously, I'm going to be moving the Ought Not to Pass Report of this. I just want to explain to the Senate and on the record why I'm doing that. This is a very important issue. It's an issue that I have been working on with others for a number of years. The State of Maine has been cited by the Department of Justice for a number of years, under the last administration and under the current administration, for violating the Civil Rights Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act because of the failure to really provide the resources to provide help to particularly children with - who have severe disabilities, and avoiding their institutionalization by not providing services in the home. The only reason - the reason I voted this way was to make sure the other bill, there's another bill that will be coming, that does this, that has fewer administrative hurdles, and it is being sponsored by a member of the Appropriations Committee, so we thought that was a winning formula for success. So, I am moving the Ought Not to Pass Report.

On motion by Senator **BALDACCI** of Penobscot, the Majority **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report **ACCEPTED**.

Sent down forthwith for concurrence.

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

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Off Record Remarks  
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**THE PRESIDENT:** Seeing no further announcements, the Chair would like to say that obviously Monday is a holiday, I hope everyone enjoys the long weekend. At this point, and I hear this from a number of people throughout the legislative world about, you know, coming to an end of this legislative session and Wednesday being the adjournment date, don't really know what's going to happen on Wednesday, but I do know that all of you have, despite how you may have voted or what your position was,

you know, have remained vigilant and tried to do what you could to move paper. Again, even despite what your position was on it, and it seems like there may be a thought that - and I don't really care about myself - but there may be a thought that we're not moving paper. At this point, we actually have four bills in our possession, just four, and we have Monday morning to start up. And honestly, out of those four, probably only two would ever be - well, not ever be debated, but could be debated today. And so, I just want to thank you for your work, and I certainly want to make this public that the Senate is doing everything it can to get finished on an appropriate time, and I know the Appropriations Committee is doing all they can to try and put together a budget for us before that, which has got to be incredibly hard. So, with that, the Chair recognizes the Senator from Aroostook, Senator Stewart.

Senator **STEWART:** Thank you, Mr. President. And I just have to say, too, that as we've been approaching this deadline, I want to commend you for - and your leadership team as well - to continue to push to drive this work forward here and my hats off to you, I know it's not an easy job being the presiding officer up there and then trying to work both in here and down the hallway and down the staircase as well. So, you know, I - it's a team effort here, but we wouldn't be in the position that we're in, I think, in the Senate at least, to meet our adjournment deadline and I certainly appreciate all of the work that you've done to make sure that we could stay on track for that regardless of what might be happening down the hallway and hopefully they hear that message, and we can shoot to get out of here still on time. Thank you.

**THE PRESIDENT:** The Chair recognizes the Senator from Androscoggin, Senator Timberlake.

Senator **TIMBERLAKE:** So, was that your polite way of saying that we're going to be in here on Tuesday, we'll be here on Friday? Because that's the standard operating procedure?

**THE PRESIDENT:** The good Senator from Androscoggin is fairly accurate in the fact that that is an issue that happens often, but my intention was to get us done on Wednesday, which in the past, obviously, when you were in leadership, we actually have done over the past consecutive - two consecutive sessions. I honestly don't know where we're headed on Wednesday, but with that said, I still appreciate very much all the members in here, I appreciate Senator Stewart's words and him and Senator Keim's willingness to push through, too. So, again, I just want to say that I know it's not always easy to miss meals, miss your family, be stuck here and things like that, or to wait around, and I do very much appreciate that and, like I said, I have only admiration for the members and the staff who obviously put so much more - the Secretary's office - so much more effort, and I just wanted to say that. So, I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday morning at 10:00.

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On motion by Senator **VITELLI** of Sagadahoc, **ADJOURNED**, pursuant to the Joint Order, until Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 10:00 in the morning.