Pursuant to the provisions of Article IV, Part Third, Section 1 of the Constitution and the laws of the State of Maine, the Senate convened in the Senate Chamber at 10:00 am in the Morning and was called to order by President MICHAEL D. THIBODEAU of Waldo County.

Prayer by Pastor Aaron Martin, Winterport Baptist Church.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Senator Garrett Paul Mason of Androscoggin County.

Doctor of the day, Angus Christie, M.D. of Falmouth.
QUORUM CALL

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator MASON of Androscoggin, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 23

Ordered, that a message be sent to Governor Paul R. LePage, informing him that a quorum of Senators is assembled in the Senate Chamber for the consideration of such business as may come before the Senate.

Out of order and under suspension of the Rules, on motion by Senator VOLK of Cumberland, the following Senate Order:

S.O. 24

Ordered, that a message be sent to the House of Representatives informing that Body that a quorum of Senators is present for the consideration of such business as may come before the Senate.
November 27, 2017

Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate
128th Legislature

Honorable Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House
128th Legislature

Dear President Thibodeau and Speaker Gideon:

On November 27, 2017, five bills were received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to a Joint Standing Committee on November 27, 2017, as follows:

**Marine Resources**

Bill “An Act To Authorize the Commissioner of Marine Resources To Limit the Number of Shrimp Licenses That May Be Used in Certain Seasons” (S.P. 609) (L.D. 1652) (Sponsored by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock)

**Appropriations and Financial Services**

Bill “An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Retirement Benefits for Capital Police Officers” (S.P. 610) (L.D. 1653) (Sponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec)

**Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development**

Bill “An Act To Protect Economic Competitiveness in Maine by Extending the End Date for Pine Tree Development Zone Benefits” (S.P. 611) (L.D. 1654) (Sponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Representative FREDETTE of Newport and Senator: CUSHING of Penobscot, Representatives HARRINGTON of Sanford, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, STANLEY of Medway.)
Taxation

Bill “An Act To Update References to the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986 Contained in the Maine Revised Statues” (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 612) (L.D. 1655) (Sponsored by Senator DOW of Lincoln)

Insurance and Financial Services

Bill “An Act To Improve the Regulation of Debt Collectors” (S.P. 613) (L.D. 1663) (Sponsored by Senator WHITTEMORE of Somerset)

Sincerely,

S/Heather J.R. Priest
Secretary of the Senate

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
December 11, 2017

Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate
128th Legislature

Honorable Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House
128th Legislature

Dear President Thibodeau and Speaker Gideon:

On December 11, 2017, a bill was received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, this bill was referred to a Joint Standing Committee on December 11, 2017, as follows:

**Energy, Utilities and Technology**

Bill “An Act To Authorize the Public Utilities Commission To Determine the Amount of the E-9-1-1 Surcharge” (S.P. 615) (L.D. 1671) (Sponsored by Senator WOODSOME of York)

Sincerely,

S/Heather J.R. Priest
Secretary of the Senate

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

_________________________________
December 20, 2017

Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau  
President of the Senate  
128th Legislature

Honorable Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House  
128th Legislature

Dear President Thibodeau and Speaker Gideon:

On December 19, 2017, 37 bills were received by the Secretary of the Senate.

Pursuant to the provisions of Joint Rule 308.2, these bills were referred to a Joint Standing Committee on December 19, 2017, as follows:

Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Bill “An Act To Correct a Technical Error Pertaining to the Dairy Improvement Fund” (EMERGENCY) (GOVERNOR’S BILL) (S.P. 617) (L.D. 1681) (Sponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis) (Cosponsored by Representative DUNPHY of Old Town)

Resolve, Authorizing the Lease of the Colonial Pemaquid State Historic Site (S.P. 638) (L.D. 1739) (Sponsored by Senator DOW of Lincoln) (Cosponsored by Representative DEVIN of Newcastle and Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DILL of Penobscot)

Resolve, To Establish a Task Force To Examine Agricultural Issues (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 646) (L.D. 1747) (Sponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake and Senators: CARPENTER of Aroostook, DAVIS of Piscataquis, DILL of Penobscot, SAVIELLO of Franklin, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representatives: FREDETTE of Newport, TUELL of East Machias)
Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Bill “An Act To Increase the Penalty for Visual Sexual Aggression against a Child” (S.P. 627) (L.D. 1728) (Sponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc) (Cosponsored by Representative PIERCE of Dresden and Senators: CARSON of Cumberland, DESCHAMBAULT of York, KATZ of Kennebec, MILLETT of Cumberland, Representatives: DeCHANT of Bath, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, PERRY of Calais, VACHON of Scarborough)

Bill “An Act To Authorize Regional Medical Control Committees To Have Access to Maine Emergency Medical Services Data for Purposes of Quality Improvement” (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 634) (L.D. 1735) (Sponsored by President THIBODEAU of Waldo) (Cosponsored by Representative TIMBERLAKE of Turner and Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DESCHAMBAULT of York, DIAMOND of Cumberland, VOLK of Cumberland, Representatives: DENNO of Cumberland, GILLWAY of Searsport, GOLDEN of Lewiston, MAREAN of Hollis)


Bill “An Act Regarding the Victims' Compensation Fund” (S.P. 650) (L.D. 1751) (Sponsored by Senator ROSEN of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative WARREN of Hallowell and Senators: CYRWAY of Kennebec, DIAMOND of Cumberland, Representatives: COREY of Windham, GROHMAN of Biddeford, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, MAREAN of Hollis, NADEAU of Winslow)

Education and Cultural Affairs

Bill “An Act Forbidding Food Shaming, Food Denial and the Use of Food as Discipline Involving Any Child in Maine's Public Schools” (S.P. 620) (L.D. 1684) (Sponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington) (Cosponsored by Representative TUELL of East Machias and Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, CARSON of Cumberland, DESCHAMBAULT of York, LIBBY of Androscoggin, MILLETT of Cumberland, Representatives: PERRY of Calais, POULIOT of Augusta, VACHON of Scarborough)


Bill “An Act To Recognize the Accreditation of Certain Private Schools” (S.P. 630) (L.D. 1731) (Sponsored by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative KORNFIELD of Bangor and Senator: MASON of Androscoggin, Representative: HUBBELL of Bar Harbor)

Bill “An Act Concerning Locations for Career and Technical Education Regions and Centers” (S.P. 632) (L.D. 1733) (Sponsored by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative KORNFIELD of Bangor and Senator: WOODSOME of York)
Bill “An Act To Shorten the Residency Requirements for In-state Tuition” (S.P. 648) (L.D. 1749) (Sponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox) (Cosponsored by Representative HANLEY of Pittston and Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, JACKSON of Aroostook, SAVIELLO of Franklin, Representatives: GATTINE of Westbrook, Speaker GIDEON of Freeport, GOLDEN of Lewiston, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, STANLEY of Medway)

Energy, Utilities and Technology


Bill “An Act Regarding Compensation by Large Transmission and Distribution Utilities” (S.P. 628) (L.D. 1729) (Sponsored by Senator KEIM of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham)

Bill “An Act To Protect Maine Citizens from an Out-of-state Entity's Misleading Use of In-state Telephone Numbers” (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 631) (L.D. 1732) (Sponsored by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock) (Cosponsored by Representative VACHON of Scarborough and Senators: MASON of Androscoggin, WOODSOME of York, Representatives: COREY of Windham, HARRINGTON of Sanford, KORNFIELD of Bangor, ORDWAY of Standish, STETKIS of Canaan)


Bill “An Act To Ensure That Low-income Residents of the State Have Access to Telephone Services” (S.P. 645) (L.D. 1746) (Sponsored by Senator WOODSOME of York) (Cosponsored by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham and Senator: JACKSON of Aroostook, Representative: POULIOT of Augusta)

Health and Human Services

Bill “An Act To Ensure the Quality of and Increase Access to Recovery Residences” (S.P. 618) (L.D. 1682) (Sponsored by Senator BELLOWS of Kennebec) (Cosponsored by Representative VACHON of Scarborough and Senators: CYRWAY of Kennebec, MAKER of Washington,
MILLETT of Cumberland, Representatives: BICKFORD of Auburn, FARNSWORTH of Portland, FAY of Raymond, GATTINE of Westbrook, HILLIARD of Belgrade)

Bill “An Act To Remove Veterinarians from the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program” (S.P. 629) (L.D. 1730) (Sponsored by Senator HAMPER of Oxford) (Cosponsored by Representative: BERRY of Bowdoinham)


Resolve, To Support Vulnerable Seniors by Funding Assisted Living Programs (S.P. 641) (L.D. 1742) (Sponsored by Senator DILL of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Representative FREDETTE of Newport and Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, MILLETT of Cumberland, MIRAMANT of Knox, Representatives: CEBRA of Naples, DUNPHY of Old Town, Speaker GIDEON of Freeport, KORNFIELD of Bangor, SCHNECK of Bangor)

Bill “An Act Regarding Rules Governing Family Child Care Provider Licensing” (S.P. 647) (L.D. 1748) (Sponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Representative POULIOT of Augusta and Senators: CARSON of Cumberland, DIAMOND of Cumberland, LANGLEY of Hancock, MAKER of Washington, Representatives: FARNSWORTH of Portland, GATTINE of Westbrook)

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife


Insurance and Financial Services

Bill “An Act To Protect Consumers from Bank Overdraft Fees by Prohibiting the Resequencing of Withdrawal Transactions” (S.P. 652) (L.D. 1753) (Sponsored by Senator CARPENTER of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Representative TERRY of Gorham and Senators: CARSON of Cumberland, CYRWAY of Kennebec, JACKSON of Aroostook, Representative: RILEY of Jay)

Taxation

Bill “An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Calculation of Excise Tax on Automobiles” (BY REQUEST) (S.P. 623) (L.D. 1687) (Sponsored by Senator DILL of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Representative STANLEY of Medway and Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DIAMOND of Cumberland, JACKSON of Aroostook, MASON of Androscoggin, MIRAMANT of Knox, Representatives: NADEAU of Winslow, TUELL of East Machias)
Bill “An Act To Clarify the Sales Tax Exemption for Vehicles Used in Interstate or Foreign Commerce” (S.P. 633) (L.D. 1734) (Sponsored by President THIBODEAU of Waldo) (Cosponsored by Speaker GIDEON of Freeport and Senators: DIAMOND of Cumberland, JACKSON of Aroostook, KATZ of Kennebec, VOLK of Cumberland, Representatives: ESPLING of New Gloucester, GILLWAY of Searsport, GOLDEN of Lewiston, TIMBERLAKE of Turner)

Bill “An Act To Create the Hire American Tax Credit for Businesses That Hire Residents of the United States” (S.P. 643) (L.D. 1744) (Sponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Representative STANLEY of Medway and Senators: CARPENTER of Aroostook, DAVIS of Piscataquis, DILL of Penobscot, MIRAMANT of Knox, SAVIELLO of Franklin, Representatives: HERBIG of Belfast, MARTIN of Eagle Lake)

Transportation

Bill “An Act To Create The Barbara Bush Children's Hospital Registration Plate” (S.P. 621) (L.D. 1685) (Sponsored by Senator COLLINS of York) (Cosponsored by Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland and Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DILL of Penobscot, JACKSON of Aroostook, Representatives: GILLWAY of Searsport, HARRINGTON of Sanford, ORDWAY of Standish, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, WHITE of Washburn)

Bill “An Act To Require That Railroads Grant Easements to Owners of Land That is Otherwise Inaccessible” (S.P. 624) (L.D. 1688) (Sponsored by Senator DILL of Penobscot) (Cosponsored by Representative STANLEY of Medway and Senators: DAVIS of Piscataquis, DIAMOND of Cumberland, JACKSON of Aroostook, MASON of Androscoggin, MIRAMANT of Knox, Representatives: MARTIN of Eagle Lake, NADEAU of Winslow, SCHNECK of Bangor)

Resolve, To Designate a Bridge in Surry the Old Surry Schoolhouse Bridge (AFTER DEADLINE) (S.P. 626) (L.D. 1727) (Sponsored by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock)

Bill “An Act To Allow the Operation of Autocycles on Roads in Maine” (S.P. 649) (L.D. 1750) (Sponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox) (Cosponsored by Representative GILLWAY of Searsport and Senators: CYRWAY of Kennebec, DIAMOND of Cumberland, JACKSON of Aroostook, President THIBODEAU of Waldo, Representatives: GOLDEN of Lewiston, HERBIG of Belfast, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, VACHON of Scarborough)

Bill “An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Pilotage Requirements for Passenger Ferry Service between Maine and Nova Scotia’ (S.P. 651) (L.D. 1752) (Sponsored by Senator DION of Cumberland)

Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Prioritize and Increase the Funding for Rural Roads (S.P. 653) (L.D. 1754) (Sponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook) (Cosponsored by Representative STANLEY of Medway and Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, DILL of Penobscot, MAKER of Washington, MIRAMANT of Knox, SAVIELLO of Franklin, Representatives: HERBIG of Belfast, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, TUELL of East Machias)
Veterans and Legal Affairs

Bill “An Act To Broaden Educational Opportunities for Members of the Maine National Guard” (S.P. 635) (L.D. 1736) (Sponsored by President THIBODEAU of Waldo) (Cosponsored by Representative POULIOT of Augusta and Senators: CYRWAY of Kennebec, DAVIS of Piscataquis, DESCHAMBAULT of York, DOW of Lincoln, Representatives: FARRIN of Norridgewock, GILLWAY of Searsport, GOLDEN of Lewiston, RYKERSON of Kittery)

Bill “An Act To Permit the Sale and Consumption of Alcohol in an Area That Is Not Contiguous to Licensed Premises” (S.P. 637) (L.D. 1738) (Sponsored by Senator DESCHAMBAULT of York) (Cosponsored by Representative HARRINGTON of Sanford and Senators: DIAMOND of Cumberland, DILL of Penobscot, MASON of Androscoggin, SAVIELLO of Franklin, VOLK of Cumberland, Representatives: GROHMAN of Biddeford, POULIOT of Augusta)

Bill “An Act To Modify the Number of Retail Liquor Licenses Allowed in a Jurisdiction per Person” (S.P. 642) (L.D. 1743) (Sponsored by Senator DION of Cumberland) (Cosponsored by Senator: BRAKEY of Androscoggin)

Sincerely,

S/Heather J.R. Priest
Secretary of the Senate

S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
December 21, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Suzanne J. M. Krauss of Brunswick for appointment as the Director, Maine Emergency Management Agency.

Pursuant to Title 37-B, MRSA §704, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 21, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Deborah L. Whitworth of Portland for reappointment to the Maine Human Rights Commission.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §4561, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 21, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Albert E. Hodsdon III of Fairfield for reappointment to the Efficiency Maine Trust Board.

Pursuant to Title 35-A, MRSA §10103, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 21, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Brian H. Noyes of South Freeport for reappointment to the Board of Trustees, Maine Public Employees Retirement System.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §17102, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 21, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Coleman R. Palmer of Phippsburg for reappointment to the Maine Rural Development Authority, Board of Trustees.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13120-D, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 21, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Michael A. Duguay of Waterville for appointment to the Maine Rural Development Authority, Board of Trustees.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13120-D, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Shawn J. Sage of Hollis Center for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

Pursuant to Title 12, MRSA §10151, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Brian D. Smith of East Machias for appointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

Pursuant to Title 12, MRSA §10151, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Lawrence D. Farrington of Greenville Jct. for reappointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

Pursuant to Title 12, MRSA §10151, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Matthew E. Thurston of Gorham for reappointment to the Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Advisory Council.

Pursuant to Title 12, MRSA §10151, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Herman A. Nichols of Bath for appointment to the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13083-I, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Lenora H. Burke of Brunswick for appointment to the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13083-I, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Rita M. Armstrong of Freeport for reappointment to the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13083-I, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Carl W. Flora of Presque Isle for reappointment to the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13083-I, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Matthew E. Moretti of Cape Elizabeth for appointment to the Marine Resources Advisory Council.

Pursuant to Title 12, MRSA §6024, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Peter Mourmouras of Biddeford for appointment to the Marine Resources Advisory Council.

Pursuant to Title 12, MRSA §6024, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Wilson G. Hess, Ph.D. of Freedom for reappointment to the State Board of Education.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §401, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Donald A. Kleiner of Union for reappointment to the Land for Maine’s Future Board.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §6204, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUGUSTA, MAINE

December 28, 2017

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating David M. Coit of Cape Elizabeth for appointment to the Board of Trustees, Maine School of Science and Mathematics.

Pursuant to Title 20-A, MRSA §8204, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
January 2, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Miles R. Williams of Caribou for reappointment to the Loring Development Authority.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13080-B, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
January 2, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Steven H. Levesque of Farmingdale for reappointment to the Loring Development Authority.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13080-B, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor

_________________________________
January 2, 2018

The Honorable Michael Thibodeau
President of the Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

This is to inform you that I am today nominating Dana A. Saucier, Sr. of Eagle Lake for reappointment to the Loring Development Authority.

Pursuant to Title 5, MRSA §13080-B, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Sincerely,

S/Paul R. LePage
Governor
December 14, 2017

The Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau 
President of the Senate 
3 State House Station 
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Dear President Thibodeau,

The following is a summary of the results of the November 7, 2017 Referendum Election, as derived from the accompanying copies of the Governor's Proclamations and the Secretary of State's Official Tabulation of the election results. The Governor signed all Proclamations on December 4, 2017.

**Question 1: Citizen Initiative**
Number of Votes in Favor 57,538 
Number of Votes Opposed 286,847

**Question 2: Citizen Initiative**
Number of Votes in Favor 203,080 
Number of Votes Opposed 141,436

**Question 3: Bond Issue**
Number of Votes in Favor 246,828 
Number of Votes Opposed 96,017

**Question 4: Constitutional Amendment**
Number of Votes in Favor 208,924 
Number of Votes Opposed 122,545

Sincerely,

S/Matthew Dunlap 
Secretary of State
December 14, 2017

The Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau, President
Maine State Senate

The Honorable Sara Gideon, Speaker
Maine House of Representatives
State House
Augusta, Maine  04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Speaker Gideon:

Pursuant to Joint Order S.P. 210 of the First Regular Session of the 128th Legislature, the Task Force to Address the Opioid Crisis in the State is pleased to submit its final report. Copies of the full report have been distributed to committees or individuals as directed by law and copies have been placed on file with the Law and Legislative Reference Library. Others may access the full report on-line through the website of the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis at www.legislature.maine.gov/opla.

The task force respectfully requests your leadership in keeping the issue of the opioid crisis in the forefront of the legislative agenda. Because some of our recommendations may take time to develop and implement, it is critically important that the Legislature stays focused on taking actions to stem this crisis in Maine.

We welcome the occasion to talk with your further about the work of the task force and its recommendations. Thank you for the opportunity to work on this important issue affecting our state.

Sincerely,

Senate Chair  House Chair

_________________________________
STATE OF MAINE
ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
TASK FORCE ON MAINE'S 21st CENTURY ECONOMY AND WORKFORCE

December 19, 2017

The Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau
Maine State Senate
The Honorable Sara Gideon, Speaker
Maine House of Representatives
State House
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Thibodeau and Speaker Gideon:

Pursuant to SP 294, the Task Force on Maine's 21st Century Economy and Workforce is pleased to submit its final report. Copies of the full report will be distributed to relevant policy committees and copies have been placed on file with the Law and Legislative Reference Library. Others may access the full report on-line through the website of the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis at www.legislature.maine.gov/opla.

Sincerely,

S/Hon. Brian D. Langley
Senate Chair

S/Hon. Erin D. Herbig
House Chair
November 3, 2017

Hon. Michael Thibodeau,
President Maine Senate
3 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333

Dear President Thibodeau:

Enclosed please find a copy of the Finance Authority of Maine's Fiscal Year 2017 Annual Report as required by 10 M.R.S.A. § 974.

Please let me know if you have questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

S/Bruce Wagner
Chief Executive Officer

_________________________________
The Following Communication:  

S.C. 723

STATE OF MAINE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
AUGUSTA, MAINE

December 30, 2017

Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau  
President of the Senate  
3 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0003

Dear President Thibodeau,

Pursuant to 5 MRSA § 12009, I am submitting to you the Boards and Commissions Report for appointments or reappointments for calendar year 2018. Additionally, I am providing a report that list appointments or re-appointments that have not been made from previous years through December 31, 2017, and where vacancies actually exist on a board or commission that need a new appointment. If you need a breakdown by your appointments only, we can provide that to you as well.

If you have any question concerning these reports or need additional information, please contact me or Cathy Beaudoin in the Bureau of Corporations. Elections and Commissions at 624-7748.

Sincerely,

S/Matthew Dunlap  
Secretary of State

SENATE PAPERS

(3-1) Bill "An Act To Stabilize Vulnerable Families"  
S.P. 658  L.D. 1771

Presented by Senator VOLK of Cumberland.  
Cosponsored by Representative VACHON of Scarborough and Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, JACKSON of Aroostook, KEIM of Oxford, President THIBODEAU of Waldo, Representatives: ESPLING of New Gloucester, Speaker GIDEON of Freeport, HERBIG of Belfast.  
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Committee on HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES suggested and ordered printed.
(3-2) Bill "An Act To Reduce Impairment on the Job and Improve Workplace Safety by Amending the Laws Governing Employment Practices Concerning Substance Use Testing"

Presented by Senator VOLK of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, LANGLEY of Hancock, Representatives: ESPLING of New Gloucester, VACHON of Scarborough.
Submitted by the Department of Labor pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

S.P. 655  L.D. 1768

(3-3) Bill "An Act To Conform the Laws Regarding a Salaried Employee Who Is Exempt from Overtime and Minimum Wage Requirements to Federal Law"

Presented by Senator VOLK of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Senator: LANGLEY of Hancock, Representatives: ESPLING of New Gloucester, VACHON of Scarborough.
Submitted by the Department of Labor pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

S.P. 656  L.D. 1769

(3-4) Bill "An Act To Revise Laws Regarding Unemployment That Were Amended or Affected by Recently Enacted Legislation" (EMERGENCY)

Presented by Senator VOLK of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representatives: CRAIG of Brewer, ESPLING of New Gloucester, STETKIS of Canaan, VACHON of Scarborough.
Submitted by the Department of Labor pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

S.P. 657  L.D. 1770

(3-5) Bill "An Act To Establish a Study Commission To Examine the Implied Warranty Laws and the Arbitration Process for Those Laws"

Presented by Senator MASON of Androscoggin.
Cosponsored by Representative ESPLING of New Gloucester and Senators: DESCHAMBAULT of York, DILL of Penobscot, Representatives: BICKFORD of Auburn, MASON of Lisbon, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, STANLEY of Medway, VACHON of Scarborough, WHITE of Washburn.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

Committee on LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT suggested and ordered printed.
ORDERS

Joint Order

An Expression of Legislative Sentiment recognizing:

(4-1) United States Army First Sergeant Ryan McCarthy, of Belgrade Lakes, who won the title Noncommissioned Officer of the Year in the Department of the Army Best Warrior Competition, a prestigious Army-wide competition including warriors ranked corporal through sergeant first class from active duty, National Guard and reserve units. We extend to First Sergeant McCarthy our congratulations and best wishes;

SLS 658

Sponsored by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BLACK of Wilton, HILLIARD of Belgrade.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

SPECIAL STUDY TABLE

1.

Emergency
Resolve, To Establish the Study Committee To Develop a Disposition Plan for Future Surplus State Property in York County

H.P. 723  L.D. 1021
(C "A" H-67)

Tabled - May 9, 2017, by Senator CUSHING of Penobscot
Pending - FINAL PASSAGE
SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TABLE

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