

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
25th Legislative Day
Thursday, March 30, 2017

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

Prayer by Rabbi Erica Asch, Temple Beth El, Augusta.
National Anthem by Foxcroft Academy Chorus, Dover-Foxcroft.

Pledge of Allegiance.
Doctor of the day, Robyn Ostrander, M.D., Falmouth.
The Journal of Tuesday, March 28, 2017 was read and approved.

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Resolution: (S.P. 402)
**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MARCH 2017 AS
BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, bleeding disorders, which are distinguished by the inability to form a proper blood clot, are characterized by extended bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma or menstruation and can lead to significant morbidity and can be fatal if not treated effectively; and

WHEREAS, many individuals with hemophilia became infected with HIV and hepatitis C in the 1980s due to the contamination of the blood supply and blood products; and

WHEREAS, the federal Department of Health and Human Services designated March 2017 as National Bleeding Disorders Month, a designation that formalizes and expands upon the designation 31 years ago of March 1986 as Hemophilia Awareness Month by President Ronald Reagan; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will generate greater awareness and understanding of not only hemophilia but all inheritable bleeding disorders, including von Willebrand disease, which alone affects an estimated one percent of the U.S. population or more than 3.2 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will foster a greater sense of community and shared purpose among individuals with all inheritable bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month will elevate awareness of and engagement in the inheritable bleeding disorders journey to the general public, enabling the prevention of illness, unnecessary procedures and disability; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize March as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month.

Came from the Senate, **READ** and **ADOPTED**.
READ and **ADOPTED** in concurrence.

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 404)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services shall report out, to the Senate, a bill to review the Mental Health Homicide, Suicide and Aggravated Assault Review Board.

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

Bill "An Act To Enact the Uniform Emergency Volunteer Health Practitioners Act"

(S.P. 314) (L.D. 958)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Curb Drug-impaired Driving"

(S.P. 269) (L.D. 824)

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

Came from the Senate, with the Bill and accompanying papers **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

Bill and accompanying papers **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED** in concurrence.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act Concerning the Property Tax Levy Limit"

(H.P. 16) (L.D. 15)

Majority (7) **OUGHT TO PASS** Report of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in the House on March 23, 2017.

Came from the Senate with the Minority (6) **OUGHT NOT TO PASS** Report of the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT READ** and **ACCEPTED** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

The House voted to **INSIST**.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act To Separate the Authorities under the Licenses for Property and Casualty Insurance Adjusters and Workers' Compensation Insurance Adjusters"

(S.P. 323) (L.D. 984)

REFERRED to the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** in the House on March 16, 2017.

Came from the Senate with that Body having **ADHERED** to its former action whereby the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

The House voted to **INSIST**.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 108)

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

March 29, 2017

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (l) (a), I have temporarily appointed Representative Michelle Ann Dunphy of Old Town to the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development for the

duration of the absence of Representative Donna R. Doore of Augusta effective immediately. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this temporary appointment. Sincerely,
S/Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 105)
**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

March 30, 2017
Honorable Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear Speaker Gideon:

Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the Committee on State and Local Government has approved the request by the sponsor, Representative Martin of Sinclair, to report the following "Leave to Withdraw":

L.D. 234 An Act To Clarify the Status of a Certain Section of the Pelletier Road in the Town of Frenchville as a Town Way

Sincerely,
S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 106)
**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

March 30, 2017
Honorable Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333
Dear Speaker Gideon:

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

Criminal Justice and Public Safety
L.D. 443 An Act To Allow Municipally Funded Hospitals To Prohibit the Presence of Firearms on Their Property (EMERGENCY)

L.D. 597 An Act To Make the Reimbursement Rate for Transfers of Inmates from County Jails Equal to the Federal Reimbursement Rate

L.D. 598 An Act To Strengthen Maine Citizens' Right to Self Defense

Education and Cultural Affairs
L.D. 333 An Act To Stabilize Maine's Educational Leadership and Vision

L.D. 462 An Act To Require a Capstone Project as a Condition of High School Graduation

L.D. 680 An Act To Allow the Employment or Service in a School of a Spouse of a School Board or Committee Member

L.D. 682 An Act To Eliminate the Regional Adjustment for Public School Systems

L.D. 736 An Act To Create Equity in Funding of Rural Schools

Energy, Utilities and Technology
L.D. 240 An Act To Increase Transparency in Maine's Electricity Market

L.D. 259 An Act To Limit Rates Charged by Competitive Electricity Providers

Environment and Natural Resources
L.D. 450 An Act To Prevent Oil Spills in Casco Bay

L.D. 452 An Act To Remove the Reformulated Gasoline Requirement

L.D. 683 An Act To Fund the Maine Solid Waste Diversion Grant Program and To Phase Out Certain Containers from the Bottle Redemption Laws

Judiciary
L.D. 644 An Act To Improve Citizen Access to Legal Representation

L.D. 698 An Act To Allow Persons 70 Years of Age and Older To Opt Out of Jury Duty

Transportation
L.D. 371 An Act To Allow a Truck Carrying Perishable Products To Operate on a Posted Road without a Permit

L.D. 434 An Act To Allow Certain Vehicles To Make a Right Turn on a Red Light Even When Prohibited

L.D. 495 An Act To Protect Historic Places and Structures on the Federal Aid Highway System

L.D. 786 An Act To Require Center Line Markings on All State and State Aid Highways

Veterans and Legal Affairs
L.D. 339 An Act To Reduce Restrictions on Wine Shipments

L.D. 544 An Act To Expand Wine and Beer Tastings at Retail Establishments

L.D. 713 Resolve, Authorizing Legislation To Streamline the Laws Governing the Licensing and Conduct of Beano and Games of Chance

L.D. 833 An Act To Streamline the Gaming Permit Process for Veterans' Organizations

L.D. 853 An Act To Allow Beano at Campgrounds

L.D. 879 An Act To Allow Any Person To Purchase Voter Registration Lists

Sincerely,
S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of House

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 107)

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

March 29, 2017

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Please be advised that pursuant to his authority, Governor Paul R. LePage has nominated the following:

On March 29, 2017

Geoffrey A. Rushlau, Esq. of Dresden for appointment as a District Court Judge.

Pursuant to Title 4 MRSA §157, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary.

Sincerely,

S/Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

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

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

First Day

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

(S.P. 409) (L.D. 1218) Bill "An Act To Allow the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Change the Closing Date of Fishing Seasons" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-13)**

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

There being no objection, the Senate Paper was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended** in concurrence.

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

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

Representative **KORNFIELD**: I would like everyone to recognize Dr. Robert Hanson who has been --

The SPEAKER: The member will defer. Would the member like unanimous consent to address the House on the record?

Representative **KORNFIELD**: Please.

The SPEAKER: The Representative has requested unanimous consent to address the House on the record. Hearing no objection, the Member may proceed.

Representative **KORNFIELD**: I would like everyone to recognize Dr. Robert Hanson, who has been confirmed by the other body. I am speaking for all of the Education Committee when I say that we are thrilled to have Dr. Hanson, Dr. Hasson, I beg your pardon. I'm nervous. Has been, that he was confirmed by the other body today. He is eminently qualified to do this job. He's been a teacher, a director of special

education, principal, assistant superintendent, and superintendent. He has the background and leadership style that will really make wonderful changes in education for the State of Maine. And I really could not be happier and I think everyone on the Education Committee feels the same way, as well as the people in the Department of Education. So, I would like you to recognize Dr. Hasson.

ORDERS

On motion of Representative FREDETTE of Newport, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 855) (Cosponsored by President THIBODEAU of Waldo and Representatives: BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, Speaker GIDEON of Freeport, LYFORD of Eddington, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, WALLACE of Dexter, Senators: DESCHAMBAULT of York, JACKSON of Aroostook, KEIM of Oxford)

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING
MAINE'S CREDIT UNIONS**

WHEREAS, Maine's credit unions are member-owned and member-operated financial cooperatives with an unwavering commitment to serving the needs of their members and communities. The nonprofit structure of credit unions provides each member with an equal voice and representation in the operations of the credit union. Serving members in all 16 Maine counties and in every community, Maine's credit unions are focused on the needs of their member owners with the primary purpose of benefiting the more than 685,000 Maine consumers who use credit unions; and

WHEREAS, the economic benefit that Maine's credit unions provide to Maine consumers is approximately \$45,000,000 annually, as a result of lower and fewer fees on products and services, lower interest rates on loans and higher interest rates on savings; and

WHEREAS, Maine is ranked as the nation's 5th strongest credit union state based on the percentage of population that uses a credit union, a position Maine has held for 14 consecutive years, and credit unions serve more than half the residents of the State; and

WHEREAS, the 2,250 full-time and part-time employees of Maine's credit unions and the more than 1,000 unpaid volunteers who serve on credit union boards and committees demonstrate the core credit union values, philosophy and mission of people helping people by contributing to the communities they serve, not just with financial services but by fostering a spirit that strengthens communities; and

WHEREAS, since 1990 Maine's credit unions and their members have raised \$7,200,000 to help end hunger in Maine, including a record-setting \$674,193 in 2016. One hundred percent of all money that is raised through the Maine Credit Unions' Campaign for Ending Hunger stays in Maine and goes directly to assist thousands of Maine families and individuals who otherwise would go hungry. In addition to contributing thousands of dollars to food pantries in communities across the State, Maine's credit unions also help to provide funds for statewide initiatives to help end hunger, such as being the primary source of funding for the State's first Food Mobile, which has delivered more than 5,200,000 pounds of food to food pantries in every Maine county since 2005; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with the Good Shepherd Food Bank, Maine's credit unions, as major supporters of the Backpack Program and the School Pantry Program, have demonstrated a renewed commitment to ending childhood hunger. The support of Maine's credit unions has helped these programs to grow to serve more than 120 schools and more

than 3,500 students weekly and to provide significant help to the one in 4 Maine children who might otherwise go hungry; and

WHEREAS, in 2016 Maine's credit unions contributed more than \$1,700,000 to a variety of causes and organizations, including financial literacy programs such as Youth Financial Fitness Fairs, which were delivered to a record-setting 6,904 high school students during the past school year, the Maine children's cancer program, the Red Cross, Special Olympics and countless organizations in communities across Maine. In the past 14 years, Maine credit unions have contributed more than 430,000 volunteer hours, including nearly 41,000 hours last year, to their communities, an effort that makes a significant and positive impact not only on the organizations that receive this assistance but also on the people who are served by and benefit from the services and resources that they provide; and

WHEREAS, since 1921 Maine's credit unions have been contributing to the betterment of the lives of thousands of Maine people, who have been helped to achieve financial success and stability. Throughout Maine, credit unions continue to play a vital economic and socially responsible role in the lives of individuals and remain a local, significant and stable presence in the communities they serve; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, take this opportunity to recognize the Maine Credit Union League and Maine's credit unions for their positive contributions and the significant role they have played in the lives of Maine citizens and their communities for more than 95 years. Maine is a better place because of the service, dedication and contributions of Maine's credit unions; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Maine Credit Union League and its member credit unions.

READ and ADOPTED.

Sent for concurrence.

On motion of Representative GROHMAN of Biddeford, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 884) (Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: DEVIN of Newcastle, FARRIN of Norridgewock, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, PARRY of Arundel, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, WALLACE of Dexter, Senator: WHITTEMORE of Somerset)

JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING VIETNAM VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY ON MARCH 30, 2017

WHEREAS, the Vietnam War was fought in the Republic of South Vietnam from 1961 to 1975 and the United States Armed Forces became involved in Vietnam to provide direct military support for the Republic of South Vietnam to defend itself against the growing communist threat from North Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, 8,744,000 military personnel served on active duty during the Vietnam War and 2,594,000 personnel served within the borders of South Vietnam between January 1, 1965 and March 28, 1973; and

WHEREAS, on March 30, 1973, the United States Armed Forces completed the withdrawal of combat units and combat support units from South Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, the State of Maine has 343 names etched on the black granite wall of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in the Nation's capital, and 12 of our soldiers are still missing in Southeast Asia; and

WHEREAS, March 30th of each year is Vietnam War Remembrance Day in Maine, to honor the service and sacrifice of those veterans of the United States Armed Forces who served during the Vietnam War; and

WHEREAS, as with veterans returning from today's battlefields, those who served in Vietnam came home with both physical and unseen injuries of war, and many of those unseen injuries went undiagnosed and were not as well initially understood by the medical community and citizenry as they are now; and

WHEREAS, we must continue to honor the millions of men and women who served with valor during the Vietnam War, including those who suffered unseen injuries; and

WHEREAS, Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day specifically honors the 7,200,000 living Vietnam War veterans and the 9,000,000 families of those veterans; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Maine now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to join in the observance of Vietnam Veterans Appreciation Day in order to honor the contributions of living veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces in Vietnam; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Department of Defense, Veterans and Emergency Management.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Biddeford, Representative Grohman.

Representative **GROHMAN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to address the Vietnam Veterans here and watching. This day commemorates the date in 1973 when the last of our combat troops left Vietnam. In just speaking to those veterans, I know it's not easy for you to be here, I know that you get by by keeping the memories just under the surface and bringing them back at an event like today, even 50 years later, is not easy and it feels like a risk. And I know you fought at a war that at times, it felt meaningless and pointless, the war of attrition. I know that you feel like you could have done more or that you should have been the one who didn't make it back. I know you're thinking in your head and cannot say and could never tell me about the friends who are not here. The ones who should have made it, who were six days from heading home and still went into that fight with you. But then when you did come back, our nation did not honor you as it should have. We actually told you not to wear your uniform. I hope that this ceremony today is a small part of righting that wrong. And I'm not a Veteran myself, I'm a farm kid who's seen and done some difficult things, but nothing like you. And I honor, love, and respect all of you. On behalf of the people of this State of Maine, thank you for your service, you do us proud.

Subsequently, the Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.

Sent for concurrence.

On motion of Representative LONGSTAFF of Waterville, the following House Order: (H.O. 28)

ORDERED, that Representative Bruce A. Bickford of Auburn be excused March 14 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative David G. Haggan of Hampden be excused March 21 and 23 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Lloyd C. Herrick of Paris be excused March 23 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Victoria P. Kornfield of Bangor be excused March 21 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Stephen J. Wood of Greene be excused March 16 for personal reasons.

READ and PASSED.

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Enhance Pretrial Justice through Risk-based Decision Making with Enhanced Diversion, Release and Treatment Options for Eligible Defendants"

(H.P. 880) (L.D. 1268)

Sponsored by Representative MALABY of Hancock.

Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin and Representatives: CHACE of Durham, MADIGAN of Waterville, PERRY of Calais, SANDERSON of Chelsea.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Ensure That Charter School Students Have Access to Extracurricular Activities"

(H.P. 850) (L.D. 1228)

Sponsored by Representative POULIOT of Augusta.

Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox, Senator LANGLEY of Hancock and Representatives: GINZLER of Bridgton, TURNER of Burlington.

Bill "An Act To Provide Veterans and Gold Star Families Free Admission to the Maine State Museum"

(H.P. 856) (L.D. 1233)

Sponsored by Representative SHEATS of Auburn.

Cosponsored by Senator CARSON of Cumberland and Representatives: CASÁS of Rockport, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, MADIGAN of Rumford, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, STROM of Pittsfield, Senator: CARPENTER of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act To Amend Maine's Truancy Laws by Specifying Penalties for Noncompliance"

(H.P. 857) (L.D. 1234)

Sponsored by Representative GERRISH of Lebanon.

Cosponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington and Representatives: HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, O'CONNOR of Berwick, SAMPSON of Alfred, STEARNS of Guilford, STEWART of Presque Isle.

Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Concerning Pavement Sealing Products"

(H.P. 858) (L.D. 1235)

Sponsored by Representative DAUGHTRY of Brunswick.

Cosponsored by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland and Representatives: DUCHESNE of Hudson, HARLOW of Portland, O'NEIL of Saco, TUCKER of Brunswick, Senator: GRATWICK of Penobscot.

Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Improve Maine's Heritage Fish List"

(H.P. 859) (L.D. 1236)

Sponsored by Representative BLACK of Wilton.

Cosponsored by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin and Representatives: DUNPHY of Old Town, HILLIARD of Belgrade, LYFORD of Eddington, MARTIN of Sinclair, SKOLFIELD of Weld, Senator: DILL of Penobscot.

Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Ensure Life Insurance Claims Are Paid"

(H.P. 851) (L.D. 1229)

Sponsored by Representative TERRY of Gorham.

Cosponsored by Representatives: McCREIGHT of Harpswell, RILEY of Jay, VACHON of Scarborough.

Bill "An Act To Require Insurance Coverage for Contraceptive Supplies"

(H.P. 860) (L.D. 1237)

Sponsored by Representative McCREIGHT of Harpswell.

Cosponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec and Representatives: DENNO of Cumberland, DEVIN of Newcastle, MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth, PERRY of Calais, TEPLER of Topsham, TERRY of Gorham, Senators: CHIPMAN of Cumberland, VOLK of Cumberland.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Permit the Expungement of Records Relating to Proceedings That Do Not Result in Convictions"

(H.P. 861) (L.D. 1238)

Sponsored by Representative COOPER of Yarmouth.

Cosponsored by Representatives: DUCHESNE of Hudson, RYKERSON of Kittery, WARREN of Hallowell, Senators: JACKSON of Aroostook, MIRAMANT of Knox.

Bill "An Act To Increase Efficiency in Enforcement of the Maine Human Rights Act"

(H.P. 862) (L.D. 1239)

Sponsored by Representative TUELL of East Machias.

Cosponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec and Representatives: COOPER of Yarmouth, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, TALBOT ROSS of Portland, WARREN of Hallowell, Senator: BELLOWS of Kennebec.

Bill "An Act To Provide Immunity to Medical Professionals Who Provide Free Health Care Services to Uninsured and Underserved Populations of the State"

(H.P. 863) (L.D. 1240)

Sponsored by Representative GINZLER of Bridgton.

Cosponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington and Representatives: DILLINGHAM of Oxford, HYMANSON of York, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, TUELL of East Machias, WHITE of Washburn.

Bill "An Act To Encourage Child Support Accountability"

(H.P. 864) (L.D. 1241)

Sponsored by Representative DeCHANT of Bath.

Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and Representatives: BABBIDGE of Kennebunk, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, Senator: VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Maine Length of Service Award Program Board of Trustees"

(H.P. 866) (L.D. 1243)

Sponsored by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.

Cosponsored by Senator CYRWAY of Kennebec and Representatives: FECTION of Biddeford, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, NADEAU of Winslow, THERIAULT of China, Senators: CARSON of Cumberland, MAKER of Washington.

Bill "An Act To Support Small Manufacturers in the State"

(H.P. 867) (L.D. 1244)

Sponsored by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.

Cosponsored by Senator VOLK of Cumberland and Representatives: FECTION of Biddeford, GROHMAN of Biddeford, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, SANBORN of Portland, VACHON of Scarborough, Senators: LIBBY of Androscoggin, WOODSOME of York.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Prevent Abusive Debt Collection Tactics by Debt Buyers"

(H.P. 865) (L.D. 1242)

Sponsored by Representative COOPER of Yarmouth.

Cosponsored by Representative: RYKERSON of Kittery, Senator: MIRAMANT of Knox.

Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** suggested.

On motion of Representative FECTION of Biddeford, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Ensure the Effectiveness of Tax Expenditures"

(H.P. 868) (L.D. 1245)

Sponsored by Representative FECTION of Biddeford.

Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** suggested.

On motion of Representative FECTION of Biddeford, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Allow a Local Option Sales Tax on Meals and Lodging"

(H.P. 852) (L.D. 1230)

Sponsored by Representative HUBBELL of Bar Harbor.

Cosponsored by Senator VOLK of Cumberland and Representatives: JORGENSEN of Portland, MAREAN of Hollis, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, POULIOT of Augusta, SCHNECK of Bangor, Senators: COLLINS of York, HILL of York, LIBBY of Androscoggin.

Bill "An Act To Provide Landowners a Property Tax Exemption for Certain Trails"

(H.P. 869) (L.D. 1246)

Sponsored by Representative STANLEY of Medway.

Cosponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, COLLINGS of Portland, SHERMAN of Hodgdon.

Bill "An Act To Repeal the Income Tax on Pick-up Contributions Paid to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System and To Clarify the Taxation of Pick-up Contributions Distributed in the Form of a Rollover"

(H.P. 870) (L.D. 1247)

Sponsored by Representative POULIOT of Augusta.

Submitted by the Department of Administrative and Financial Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act To Allow Municipalities To Include Itemized Fees on Property Tax Bills"

(H.P. 882) (L.D. 1270)

Sponsored by Representative MOONEN of Portland.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Improve Public Transportation in Maine"

(H.P. 871) (L.D. 1248)

Sponsored by Representative McLEAN of Gorham.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FAY of Raymond, FOLEY of Wells, JORGENSEN of Portland, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, WINSOR of Norway, Senator: VOLK of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Include the Vehicles of Emergency Medical Services Persons in the Firefighter Registration Plate Program"

(H.P. 872) (L.D. 1249)

Sponsored by Representative HEAD of Bethel.

Cosponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington and Representatives: CRAIG of Brewer, HERRICK of Paris, MADIGAN of Rumford, PERKINS of Oakland, PERRY of Calais, PICKETT of Dixfield, SKOLFIELD of Weld, TIMBERLAKE of Turner.

Bill "An Act To Ensure That Handicapped Parking Is Properly Enforced"

(H.P. 873) (L.D. 1250)

Sponsored by Representative RILEY of Jay.

Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot and Representatives: AUSTIN of Skowhegan, SHEATS of Auburn, Senator: COLLINS of York.

Bill "An Act To Require Timely Notification of Owners of Motor Vehicles That Have Been Towed"

(H.P. 874) (L.D. 1251)

Sponsored by Representative McLEAN of Gorham.

Bill "An Act To Permit the Operation of Certain All-terrain Vehicles on Public Ways"

(H.P. 875) (L.D. 1252)

Sponsored by Representative MARTIN of Sinclair.

Cosponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook and Representative: STANLEY of Medway.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Mental Health Care for Maine Veterans"

(H.P. 853) (L.D. 1231)

Sponsored by Representative GOLDEN of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Senator LIBBY of Androscoggin and Representatives: FECTEAU of Biddeford, Speaker GIDEON of Freeport, HERBIG of Belfast, LUCHINI of Ellsworth, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, PARKER of South Berwick, Senator: CARSON of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Require the Secretary of State To Automatically Register Nonregistered Persons Who Are Qualified To Vote through Records of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles"

(H.P. 854) (L.D. 1232)

Sponsored by Representative GOLDEN of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representatives: McLEAN of Gorham, O'NEIL of Saco, PIERCE of Falmouth, RYKERSON of Kittery, Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, CHENETTE of York, MIRAMANT of Knox and Representatives: FECTEAU of Biddeford, HICKMAN of Winthrop.

Bill "An Act To Make Maine's Casinos More Competitive by Authorizing Extensions of Credit"

(H.P. 876) (L.D. 1253)

Sponsored by Representative WADSWORTH of Hiram.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FARRIN of Norridgewock, HARRINGTON of Sanford, HERRICK of Paris, PIERCE of Dresden, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, WHITE of Washburn, WINSOR of Norway.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Law Regarding Super Cribbage Tournaments" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 877) (L.D. 1254)

Sponsored by Representative WARD of Dedham.

Cosponsored by Senator MASON of Androscoggin and Representatives: CASÁS of Rockport, DILLINGHAM of Oxford, FARRIN of Norridgewock, HANINGTON of Lincoln, LUCHINI of Ellsworth, TURNER of Burlington.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Bill "An Act Authorizing an Instant Lottery Game with Proceeds To Benefit Early Childhood Education"

(H.P. 878) (L.D. 1255)

Sponsored by Representative DAUGHTRY of Brunswick.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FECTEAU of Biddeford, McLEAN of Gorham, MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth, MOONEN of Portland.

Resolve, To Establish the Task Force To Implement Ranked-choice Voting

(H.P. 879) (L.D. 1256)

Sponsored by Representative CHAPMAN of Brooksville.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Certification Process for Direct Initiatives and People's Veto Referenda"

(H.P. 883) (L.D. 1271)

Sponsored by Representative KINNEY of Limington.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: CAMPBELL of Orrington, COREY of Windham, HANLEY of Pittston, PIERCE of Dresden, SIROCKI of Scarborough, STROM of Pittsfield, TUJELL of East Machias, Senator: SAVIELLO of Franklin.

Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Adjust the Timing for Recounts in Certain Municipal and Local School Elections"

(H.P. 881) (L.D. 1269)

Sponsored by Representative PARRY of Arundel.

Cosponsored by Representatives: DEVIN of Newcastle, FARRIN of Norridgewock, O'CONNOR of Berwick, TURNER of Burlington, Senators: COLLINS of York, DESCHAMBAULT of York, MASON of Androscoggin.

Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** suggested.

On motion of Representative LUCHINI of Ellsworth, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

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

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

In accordance with House Rule 519 and Joint Rule 213, the following items:

Recognizing:

John G. Murphy, of Scarborough, who is retiring as President of the Maine Credit Union League after 44 years of service, including service over the past 25 years as President and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Murphy worked tirelessly on behalf of Maine's credit unions and their members as an advocate and a champion to strengthen the credit union movement in Maine. He oversaw the tremendous growth in credit union membership to 685,000 members and was instrumental in supporting and implementing initiatives such as the Campaign for Ending Hunger and the "SurF Network" and in promoting financial literacy. We extend to Mr. Murphy our congratulations on his retirement and offer him our best wishes;

(HLS 151)

Presented by Representative FREDETTE of Newport.

Cosponsored by Speaker GIDEON of Freeport, President THIBODEAU of Waldo, Senator JACKSON of Aroostook, Senator WHITTEMORE of Somerset, Representative LAWRENCE of South Berwick, Senator VOLK of Cumberland, Senator MILLETT of Cumberland, Representative McLEAN of Gorham, Representative SIROCKI of Scarborough, Representative VACHON of Scarborough.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative FREDETTE of Newport, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Newport, Representative Fredette.

Representative **FREDETTE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I've had the honor and the privilege for nearly 20 years now to serve as a member of a Board of Sebasticook Valley Federal Credit Union, which has a branch both in Newport and in Pittsfield, and as part of the process of being on that Board, I've had an opportunity to see the true impact that credit unions have in a local community. And as I grew in my time and experience with the credit union, I began to learn about what credit unions are doing throughout the state. And one good example of that, for example, is shared banking, which is an example where if you belong to Sebasticook Valley Federal Credit Union in Newport, you can be down here in Augusta and go to a local branch and do the same banking there as you could if you were in Newport. That's just one example of the growth of what's really gone on. While at my local level, I just sort of think all that stuff happens by magic, it really doesn't, and it's people like John Murphy that have helped lead, quite frankly, a dramatic growth in credit union membership in this state. I had an opportunity to travel with John down to Washington D.C. a couple of years ago, and I forget what we called that trip, it's a, I think, Take the Hill they call it. But it was an opportunity where we went down and when we went to all four congressional members' offices, whether they be Democrat or Republican alike, when we walked in, the first thing they said was, "Hi John, how are you?" John was on a first-name basis with these folks, communicated with them regularly on state issues, how they were being dealt with nationally in regards to federal credit unions and, it truly impressed me in terms of what he has done to create those important relationships with the state and our federal delegation, in terms of doing that. You know, it's no small matter that we just came through probably the biggest economic crisis of most of our lifetimes, barring the Great Depression. And it's really, I don't think it's any small testament to the importance of credit unions in this state that there was no significant major fiscal financial crisis in this state because so many of us, quite frankly, bank at local credit unions. And when the financial crisis hit Maine, or hit the nation, it didn't hit Maine quite so bad, quite frankly, because, I think, Maine credit unions were there to continue the work that they'd been doing for so long. And I think that's again the testament to someone like John Murphy, who has been the President and the CEO of the Credit Union League for 25 years. You know, in my local community, it's a community where our local school district, 70 percent of our students get free and reduced lunch. What that means is when people go to get a new car, or buy a new four-wheeler, or to want to buy a home, sometimes they go in with not the best credit in the world. But that local credit union, knowing those local relationships, has the opportunity to do face-to-face, and person-to-person, banking, which is unlike what is done nationally now and globally. And so, I want to honor John Murphy for what he has done, because quite frankly, if there's anything I've learned in my short lifetime, is that leadership matters and John Murphy has provided that leadership to the Maine Credit Union League and its credit unions. And I want to thank him for his service.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Scarborough, Representative Vachon.

Representative **VACHON**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I rise to pay tribute to my constituent, John Murphy, to thank him personally and thank him publicly for his 44 years of committed leadership and dedication championing strong credit union membership, not only here in Maine, but around the world. During his tenure here in Maine, he grew membership by 90 percent. John is a visionary that has left no potential member untapped. He initiated the Young and Free Maine Initiative to attract 18 to 25-year-olds to credit unions while promoting financial literacy. For home buyers, he supported and developed the CU Promise Program, an innovative product that has helped Mainers buy homes while greatly reducing fees had they gone to a bank. Today, credit unions make more home loans to consumers than any single bank. This is a short list of his many contributions. Throughout John's career, he has served on many boards; the list is notable and long and I won't read it. But suffice it to say, John has forged impressive relationships to put credit unions in the forefront. With a regular presence in Washington, our congressional delegation know John as a resource when they seek input on legislation that affects credit unions. In 2011, John was inducted into the Credit Union House Hall of Leaders for making a significant impact on the credit union movement at the local, state, and national level. In 2013, John received the Farley League Leadership Award, presented annually by the American Association of Credit Union League, an individual recognition for demonstrating visionary leadership at the state and national levels. John has collaborated globally as well. In 2012, he hosted the Association of British Credit Unions Limited, where he assisted them in developing a central technology business model. Additionally, he has hosted officials from Rwanda and the Caribbean credit union movements. It is with both joy and gratitude that I congratulate John on his many great contributions and wish him the very best in a well-deserved retirement. Thank you, John Murphy.

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

Representative **PICCHIOTTI**: I would like to welcome everybody to the Maine Credit Union Day at the State House. It's fitting that we are recognizing the President of the Maine Credit Union League, John Murphy, today for his long-standing service at the same event he created over twenty years ago. Today deserves reflection as such, as recognition of John's retirement. Devoting 44 years of your life as part of a dedicated team at the Maine Credit Union League, it is an amazing feat. Someone once said that when a man retires, his wife gets twice the husband but only half the income. Upon your retirement, the Maine Credit Union League and credit union family get 20-fold the organization when you started. The current strength of this organization is the cornerstone of John Murphy's legacy to the Credit Union League. The Legislature and the credit union family thanks you for it today. John has inspired a spirit of integrity and veracity into those who take the reins at the Maine Credit Union League. These are gifts that will ripple through this organization for years to come and will be embraced by tomorrow's young leaders within Maine credit unions and the communities they serve. How far will the next 18-year-old to start in a print shop at the Maine Credit Union League go? Whoever that is, they will work in a dynamic organization that was built upon pursuit of excellence by John Murphy and those who shared the vision with him. As current Board of KSW Federal Credit Union, I know the importance of being part of the community. John's work within the campaign to end hunger and his guidance in

the area of financial education highlights his command of understanding that investing in the health of students contributes to the healthy communities in the future. John's service and leadership in the Maine Credit Union League is unequated and today we say, thank you for your service. You deserve all the best and we wish you well.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Berwick, Representative Lawrence.

Representative **LAWRENCE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. It's also a pleasure to rise and add my voice to congratulations to John Murphy. With 685,000 members in Maine, it's hard to think of Maine without credit unions and the role they serve in our important financial structure. But credit unions have not been around that long. It was only 109 years ago when the first credit union was established by immigrants from Quebec in the City of Manchester, New Hampshire. Under the leadership of Monsignor Hevey and the attorney, Joseph Boivin, and they brought Alphonse Desjardins from Quebec, the father of credit unions in Quebec, and established the first La Caisse Populaire, the French name for The Peoples Bank. And they established it in Manchester. From that small beginning, credit unions have spread around New England and around this country. In no small part due to the contributions of immigrants from Quebec who came here with the idea of establishing Les Caisses Populaires. Now John Murphy was not there for the entire 109 years of history, but I can tell you he was there for 44 years, having started out in a print shop at the Maine Credit Union League. He has dedicated his life to this cause. A quarter of that time, 25 years, as the CEO and President of the Maine Credit Union League. But it's not just his service in that role; it was his passion for the concept of credit unions that helped credit unions form on the floors of factories, in people's living rooms, in churches, all across Maine and indeed all across this country. He has contributed locally, in the state, nationally, and internationally to the concept of getting financial services through credit unions to people who really need them, and we are very lucky to have a citizen of Maine who has made such a significant contribution to the establishment of credit unions in this country, and I'm pleased to honor him here today.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lebanon, Representative Gerrish.

Representative **GERRISH**: Thank you, Madam Speaker and Men and Women of the House, it's a true pleasure to rise today to recognize John Murphy of Scarborough and President of the Maine Credit Union League. Being a literal lifetime member of Maine's credit unions, since my childhood, first at the small credit union within Sprague Electric Company, my mom's place of employment in Sanford, then at 19 and a college student, I became a part-time teller in York County, then Teachers Federal Credit Union, now York County Federal Credit Union, in Sanford. That hire began a 28-year relationship with York County Federal. Through that opportunity, I began to see the true positive impact that Maine credit unions have on Maine people's lives. It was a pleasure to raise thousands and thousands of dollars through our Ending Hunger Campaign. Additionally, time and time again, I've seen Maine people denied lending opportunities for a variety of reasons at other financial institutions. To watch them come in our doors at the credit union, and have them looked at, the whole picture and as an individual, finding a way to help them, often times changing their lives. I've watched my small credit union grow and thrive through my 28-year tenure. John Murphy being at the helm of Maine credit unions has everything to do with their success. I cannot thank him enough

for his innovative thinking and leadership here in Maine for our credit unions. I wish him well in his well-deserved retirement. Thank you.

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

Recognizing:

the Wells High School Boys Varsity Basketball Team, of Wells, which won the 2016-17 Class B South Championship. Members of the team include players Owen Berry, Riley Dempsey, Tyler Dewey, Keegan Reidy, Deandre Woods, Liam Bell, Cameren Cousins, John Harris, Christian Saulnier, Channing Wang, Tyler Bridge, Matt Sherburne and Dylan Whitney; managers Katie Reidy, Liv Talevi and Covy Dufort; assistant coaches Nick Charles, Tim Roche, Rob Berry and AJ Dufort; and head coach Troy Brown. We extend to all the members of the team our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 170)

Presented by Representative FOLEY of Wells.

Cosponsored by Senator COLLINS of York, Senator HILL of York, Representative HYMANSON of York.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative FOLEY of Wells, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Wells, Representative Foley.

Representative **FOLEY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. It's an honor to welcome the Boys Varsity Basketball Team from Wells and congratulate them on their Southern Maine Class B Championship. Although I know that their visions of winning the state was not realized, I want them to know how proud I am, and the entire community of Wells is, on their achievements this year. It was a joy to follow them. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Coach Brown. The last time that the Wells team was able to win a regional championship, Coach Brown was a member of that team, back in the 1980s, and I congratulate him on that and on this. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

Recognizing:

the Central Maine Community College Women's Basketball Team, of Auburn, which won the United States Collegiate Athletic Association 2017 Women's Division II National Championship. This is the team's first national title. We extend to all the members of the team our congratulations on this significant achievement and offer them our best wishes;

(HLS 171)

Presented by Representative HANDY of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin, Representative SHEATS of Auburn, Representative BICKFORD of Auburn, Representative MELARAGNO of Auburn.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative HANDY of Lewiston, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

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

Representative **HANDY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Members of the House, this is a special day for all of us and we all are proud of our community colleges and what they do for the students who attend the schools that are in many of our

areas. It's a special honor for us, because we're talking about a team that has won a USAA national title. On that road to working toward that title, I must say I'm especially proud that Central Maine Community College beat our rival team, Southern Maine Community College, three times this season. In the championship game against Penn State Lehigh Valley, the women's team really knew how to play a game, with great coaching. It's often said the best defense is a good offense. Well the Central Maine Lady Mustangs had both going for them, forcing turnover after turnover in the National Championship game. They are indeed an inspiration to us all and an inspiration to young girls and women in our state, and I'm happy to recognize this extraordinary achievement of the Lady Mustangs. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Standish, Representative Ordway.

Representative **ORDWAY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker and Men and Women of the House. I'm proud to rise for my first time before this body, in celebration of the CMCC Lady Mustangs. Not only have they brought their first national title to us, they brought the first Women's Basketball National Title to the State of Maine. Quite an accomplishment. Many of you know I'm a faculty member of CMCC, so I stand a little bit prouder today, and a little CM proud aside, the only other national title that has ever, in college basketball, that's come to the State of Maine, was the CM men in 2002. We stand proud of our basketball teams, but to recognize these women in a tremendous job and tremendous effort that they did, that we as members of the House of Representatives and the Legislature, we should stand proud today because of the support that we give to the community colleges. So, today we can all be part of the team. We can walk with a little pep in our step, and congratulate these women, and celebrate their accomplishments, and I thank you.

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

In Memory of:

Sylvia D. Schroeder, of Cape Elizabeth. Mrs. Schroeder moved to Brunswick in 1985 and subsequently moved to South Portland, where she worked as a social worker, retiring from Community Counseling Services in 1998. She served on the board of the Governor Baxter School for the Deaf and was an active volunteer in the community. Mrs. Schroeder will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family, friends and colleagues;

(HLS 175)

Presented by Representative RECKITT of South Portland. Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland, Representative MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth, Representative HAMANN of South Portland.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative RECKITT of South Portland, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Portland, Representative Reckitt.

Representative **RECKITT**: Madam President, sorry, Madam Speaker, I'm sorry, I make mistakes. When I found out that Sylvia had died I was shocked. I was about to ask her to get involved in another campaign. Because, in January of 2015, I went to her home in the snow and the ice in January, and I said, "Sylvia, we've known each other forever, can you help me?" Sylvia was what we would all call, if we had the

capacity, a grand old lady. She was in her mid-80s and she had more energy than all of us put together, I swear. I spent some time with her, and she in fact helped me over the ice banks, because, as many of you know, I don't walk very well. And so, but Sylvia at 85 or so was helping me over the snowbanks to make sure I was safe. She's, I first knew her when she worked at Community Counseling Center in Portland, where she was extraordinarily helpful with the services that I was working to provide to abused women and children in the Portland area. She was a humble woman. She would be sort of horrified that I asked to do this today, because it's not something that she would have ever chosen, because she was in fact just doing what she felt was the most right thing to do. She was a social worker in the best sense of the word social worker, and I was admiring of her for that reason. My last memory of her was her insisting that I have a cup of tea before I went out and climbed the next snowbank. So, I think that she was my neighbor for years, she lived out behind my house, I frankly don't believe she really moved to Cape Elizabeth ever, I think she was in South Portland, but I could be argued. But, in any case, she was a true resident of both Brunswick, South Portland, and Cape Elizabeth because she was the kind of lady that everybody wanted to claim. And so, I'm claiming her today as a decades-long friend, and I wish her family and others a peaceful movement, because in reality my understanding is that Sylvia passed the way we all might like to do, peacefully, with her family and friends around her. And so, I appreciate the sentiment of the House today in her honor. Thank you very much.

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

The following item was taken up out of order by unanimous consent:

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

Resolve, To Allow the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife To Extend the 2017 Ice Fishing Season

(S.P. 409) (L.D. 1218)

(C. "A" S-13)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 133 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-17)** on Bill "An Act To Extend Internet Availability in Rural Maine" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 303) (L.D. 423)

Signed:

Senator:

DION of Cumberland

Representatives:

BERRY of Bowdoinham
 COOPER of Yarmouth
 DeCHANT of Bath
 RILEY of Jay
 RYKERSON of Kittery
 SANBORN of Portland

vote to support kids, to vote to support Washington County, and ultimately, I hope, to take that one step in a journey to support all of rural Maine. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Hiram, Representative Wadsworth.

Representative **WADSWORTH**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. You know, being a lifelong Oxford County resident, I can appreciate the challenges that Washington County faces. This bill appropriates \$50,000 for WiFi hotspots at Washington County Libraries, but it doesn't help other struggling libraries in rural counties, such as Oxford County. Yesterday, in the EUT Committee you passed the Maine School and Library Network Bill that benefits libraries throughout Maine. I see that bill as the proper vehicle for more equitable library and WiFi support. Thank you.

Representative ESPLING of New Gloucester **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Beals, Representative Alley.

Representative **ALLEY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker and my fellow colleagues in the House, I stand before you today in support of LD 423. Where I live in Washington County, it can be tough to get internet service. Internet availability has become more and more necessary, especially for students and small businesses in our town. It is a common occurrence to see our cars parked outside the Jonesport Library at night just so people inside, generally students, can access the WiFi they need. For the last two years, people have had another option. They can check in to WiFi hotspots out of the library, so they could have internet access at home. These little devices have been a real godsend. The only complaints I've heard were there weren't enough of them that they could have to check out and they had to be back in a limited time. The hotspots were paid for by a two-year grant from New York City Public Library. New York, mind you, took care of us. They wanted to see how well they would work in a rural environment. The answer was that they were a great success. Unfortunately, the grant has ended and the devices are being called back. This bill would simply extend the grant with General Fund money for another two years. Hopefully, by the end of that period the internet availability in the rural parts of the state will have improved enough by then so it won't need to be extended again. But as you know, the internet availability that people Downeast need to succeed just isn't readily available. The need isn't just in Washington County, I think we all know that. And, the devices have also been deployed to Aroostook County and even down in the Portland area. But there have been challenges even there. In some locations, they worked initially, then they stopped working. In other locations, they worked for a while and tapered off. They may still be able to be operated, but the librarians don't seem to know how to get them going again. Nevertheless, Janet McKenney, with the Maine State Library, says she wants to see every rural library with 2 or 3 devices designed for low-income families, but funding runs out in January and McKenney says that leaves local libraries with a tough decision. Can they go forward to keep offering these devices? I hope you will vote on this bill, because there's a lot of kids out there depending on you, and I would like to personally thank Marty Grohman for bringing up the Vietnam Veterans today. Thank you.

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

Signed:

Senators:

WOODSOME of York
 CUSHING of Penobscot

Representatives:

HANLEY of Pittston
 HARVELL of Farmington
 O'CONNOR of Berwick
 WADSWORTH of Hiram

READ.

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bowdoinham, Representative Berry.

Representative **BERRY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, the bill before us, "An Act to Extend Internet Availability in Rural Maine," is one of many that we'll be hearing regarding internet and also high-speed or broadband internet in rural Maine. Jobs, education, intelli-medicine are some of the reasons that we need high-speed internet in rural Maine, and some of the reasons that we have so many bills that we'll be bringing before you. This bill pertains specifically to education and to what has been called the digital divide between young people in our schools today. It would allocate \$50,000 from the General Fund over two years to extend the program, previously funded through a grant and currently under research by several university programs, that provides internet, not even super high-speed internet, but some level of internet to young people in Washington County so that they can do their homework, so that they can access the resources that increasingly are not available through textbooks but are available online. Washington County is not alone in its need for some internet, never mind high-speed internet, but it is certainly indicative of a larger need, and if we are able to pass this bill and to fund it, Madam Speaker, we will be able to understand its impact, we will be able to continue with the research that is pending on this program, understand whether these students who are now able to take their laptops home to do their homework, because before they weren't able to, and only by lack of but through this fund, are they now able to. We'll be able to understand what this program is doing and what it's accomplishing and whether it's something we want to do away with in the future, or continue and perhaps expand. The funds will be depleted at the end of March for the current program, so unless we act, this program will end and there are many, many students in Washington County today are depending on us to pass this bill, and I hope to go further later in the session. The journey of 1,000 miles they say begins with a single step, and this is really just one small step in Maine's journey to broadband access. But I think it's an important one. I thank the Representative from Beals for bringing it forward, the delegation from Washington County for bringing it forward. I think today we have the opportunity to

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

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I rise today in support of the pending motion, as well as my old herring choker buddy from Beals, in his attempt to help Washington County libraries provide badly needed technology in some of the state's most in-need, at-risk, families who just don't have access to online educational resources and opportunities. In rural Maine, where Representative Alley and I are from, it is all too common to see a bunch of cars in the library parking lot, trying to grab an internet signal. Some don't have access to quality internet in their part of the town; others don't have the resources to cough up \$30 or \$40 a month for that service. So, a few years ago, local libraries stepped up and put in for grant funding to provide hotspots to area families in need. That funding has run out and the cash-strapped communities that applied for the funding are having to discontinue the program at a time when many Washington County families have no other place to go. We talk a lot about broadband access. We also talk a lot about educational attainment. I would submit that continuing this program for two more years meets both goals, while Washington County's capacity for reliable broadband continues to improve. Some may say that the libraries ought to pony up the money and continue the program if they see it is worthwhile. And while I don't entirely disagree with this, if you have lived in Washington County any length of time, you would realize that, like many other basic resources in the area, libraries are hand-to-mouth operations, staffed by volunteers, who don't have big endowments and funding sources. They are stretched, depleted, and often the first thing to go when budgets are crunched and cut. There are only so many bake sales and benefit suppers you can do. Every charity in the area approaches the same businesses and community-minded individuals for help. And while many times people are more than willing to do so, the money gets stretched even thinner. It just isn't something that our area has the capacity to do on its own. So, if we're going to do carve-outs for specific areas of the state, maybe those of us from Washington County and rural Maine ought to stand up for this one. Realizing that if ever there was a part of the state that needed help, we are it. I urge your support for the pending motion. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bath, Representative DeChant.

Representative **DeCHANT**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I would like to rise in support of this motion, and because I think that people would probably not argue that broadband is an economic driver. We probably wouldn't argue that education is an economic driver. This is a place where there is a nexus between the two. I also agree that broadband is coming, and anyone who the political wheel is tipping in that measure, and it is followed with an enormous price tag, that there are a variety of creative approaches that we'll be considering as a body in the future. However, in this experience, this is a modest investment of \$50,000 over two years and the idea, and I echo Representative Tuell's comments and I do a lot of fundraising, and when folks say, "Well can't you go to a corporation? Can't you go to another entity?" This is a highly competitive and also an area of the state that isn't, doesn't really have a lot of options. And also, I would submit that we are not going to bake sale or car wash our way out of this. And in the time that broadband comes to hopefully more rural parts of the state, are we just going to say to students, well you just go on hiatus for a

couple of years and just don't worry about doing your homework with these hotspots?

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bowdoinham, Representative Berry.

Representative **BERRY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House, I apologize for rising a second time, but I just want to make clear because it was stated by my friend, the good Representative from Hiram, that there is another bill, and I appreciate the Representative's support for that bill and the sponsor of that bill who brought it forward and the hard work that was done around it. But, the other bill that was mentioned is not in fact germane to what we're discussing here today. It pertains to school and library access, not to access at home so that kids can do their homework. Many communities in Maine do not have a public library, I know that's true of at least one of the communities that I represent, and I suspect that many of us, especially in the rural areas, can relate to that. There is no library so, that's out. And the school building typically is not open at the time when our students need to be doing their homework and accessing those online resources. I'd encourage anyone that hasn't spent time in schools lately to go in there and talk to teachers and learn about just how much of the curriculum is now delivered online and has to be done at home by students who really are left out if they don't have that access. So, keep in mind we're talking about being able to take these devices home and to have some degree of access, not even necessarily high-speed access, but some degree of access to those online learning resources. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

Representative **O'CONNOR**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I'd love to give everybody everything. Unfortunately, we don't have a lot of money and with this bill, I find it to be inequitable. If we're going to give Washington County \$50,000 out of the General Fund, why don't we give the other 15 counties the same? So, that will bring the total to \$800,000. I just think this is a bad bill for that reason. Thank you.

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

ROLL CALL NO. 20

YEA - Ackley, Alley, Austin B, Babbidge, Bailey, Bates, Battle, Beebe-Center, Berry, Blume, Bryant, Campbell, Cardone, Chapman, Collings, Cooper, Corey, Daughtry, DeChant, Denno, Devin, Duchesne, Dunphy, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau, Frey, Fuller, Gattine, Golden, Grant, Grohman, Hamann, Handy, Harlow, Herbig, Hickman, Higgins, Hogan, Hubbell, Hymanson, Jorgensen, Kornfield, Kumiega, Lawrence, Longstaff, Luchini, Madigan C, Madigan J, Martin J, Martin R, Mastraccio, McCrea, McCreight, McLean, Melaragno, Monaghan, Moonen, O'Neil, Parker, Perry, Pierce T, Reckitt, Riley, Rykerson, Schneck, Sheats, Sherman, Skolfield, Spear, Stanley, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Tuell, Warren, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Austin S, Bickford, Black, Bradstreet, Cebra, Chace, Craig, Dillingham, Espling, Farrin, Foley, Fredette, Gerrish, Ginzler, Haggan, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Harvell, Hawke, Head, Hilliard, Johansen, Kinney M, Lockman, Lyford, Malaby, Marean, Mason, McElwee, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Picchiotti, Pickett, Pierce J, Pouliot, Prescott, Sampson, Sanderson, Seavey, Simmons, Sirocki, Stearns,

Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Sutton, Timberlake, Turner, Vachon, Wadsworth, Wallace, Ward, White, Winsor, Wood.

ABSENT - Brooks, Casas, Gillway, Grignon, Guerin, Herrick, Kinney J, Nadeau, Reed, Sanborn, Tepler, Theriault.

Yes, 80; No, 58; Absent, 12; Excused, 1.

80 having voted in the affirmative and 58 voted in the negative, with 12 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-17)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**. The Bill was assigned for **SECOND READING** Tuesday, April 4, 2017.

Majority Report of the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-16)** on Bill "An Act To Provide Matching Funds for Federal Community Development Block Grants"

(H.P. 123) (L.D. 165)

Signed:

Senator:

BELLOWS of Kennebec

Representatives:

FECTEAU of Biddeford
BATES of Westbrook
DOORE of Augusta
HANDY of Lewiston
MASTRACCIO of Sanford
SYLVESTER of Portland

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

Signed:

Senators:

VOLK of Cumberland
LANGLEY of Hancock

Representatives:

AUSTIN of Gray
LOCKMAN of Amherst
STETKIS of Canaan
VACHON of Scarborough

READ.

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

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

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

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

Representative **MADIGAN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I put forth this bill because as a town manager I've used the Community Development Block Grant Program in several towns that I've managed over the years. This is a critical, very important program that is just about the only grant program left out there that communities from east to west in this state, from north to south, all the states use. I want to give members here just a summary of how important this program is to all of us, and I don't believe that one of us doesn't represent a

community that has used and needed this vital program. Since 1983, the Federal Government has funded the Community Development Block Grant Program. Started out about \$11.5 million. It went down a little bit, it went up a little bit over the years, mostly up. The height of its funding was \$28 million in 2003. It then dropped a little, went back up again to about \$19 million in 2010, and then from then on, every year dropped in its value. The last two years, '15 and '16, \$9 million was available. In 2015, I had submitted a letter of intent to apply for a CDBG Grant, and I was informed by the Department of Economic and Community Development that there were over \$10 million in requests for the public infrastructure program and there was only \$3.5 million allocated to that portion of the CDBG Program. We ended up pulling our letter of intent fully expecting, I'm sorry, fully expecting to apply the next year. The next year when we applied, we were ready to apply, the program statement came out on the Public Infrastructure Program, said they will not be accepting any applications for that part of the program because there were so many applicants for such vital projects the year before. They awarded \$3 million they had allocated to those projects. Madam Speaker, since 1982, \$500,657,000 has been awarded to 342 municipalities across the state. On top of that, this kind of interest has been there and applications have been awarded for the counties for county projects or unorganized territory projects, for both of our Indian Reservations, they've received money over the years. The Regional Planning Agencies provide technical assistance, which is vital to the small towns that can't afford to have, you know, that kind of expertise, economic development departments. Not only did 342 communities apply for this money, but several of them many times. I found one town in there that had 62 separate grants over that, since 1982. Other towns, 50, 40, 20, I mean, these towns need this program, it's vital. Just to give you an idea, and I'll read down county by county: Eleven towns in Androscoggin County have been awarded \$12,614,000; Forty-nine towns in Aroostook County, \$102,915,000; Nineteen towns in Cumberland County, \$21,337,000; Eleven towns in Franklin County, \$13,320,000; Twenty-seven towns in Hancock County, \$27,000,211; Twenty towns in Kennebec County, thirty-nine million, eight hundred ninety-five...

The **SPEAKER**: The member will defer. The House will be in Order while another member is speaking. The member may proceed.

Representative **MADIGAN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Fifteen towns in Knox County, \$31 million; Thirteen towns in Lincoln County, \$5,900,000; Twenty-one towns in Oxford County, \$23 million; Forty-two towns in Penobscot County, \$40 million; Eleven towns, Piscataquis County, \$19 million; Six towns in Sagadahoc County, \$18 million; Twenty-one towns in Somerset County, \$32.5 million; Twenty towns in Waldo County, \$16,200,000; Thirty-five towns in Washington County, \$53,267,000; Twenty-one towns in York County, \$42,467,000. That should open all our eyes as to how important this program is and if, over the years, the cost of projects have quadrupled and the funding has gone down, and I wanted to bring to the attention of the State of Maine, that the State of Maine needs to look at this seriously, because this is all that's out there and infrastructure is getting old, and it's breaking down, and the towns can no longer afford to maintain this stuff. These were all great programs back in the 60s with the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act, and all kinds of federal money and state help to build sewer treatment plants and put in pipes. Those pipes are falling apart now, and they are ten times more expensive. I put this in because it's a problem. It's a problem

that's going to have a long-term solution. My bill initially just puts in \$3 million at a one-time deal, but simply to be able to fund three, or four, or five more projects that are absolutely critical right now. I want to give you one example that, you know, part of the program allows economic development and business development. One example that all of us can really sink our teeth into when it comes to funding a program like this. Back in 1984, I was the City Manager of Eastport, and we were awarded a CDBG grant to help start aquaculture. The very first salmon were raised in a pen off the shore of Eastport. And if you look down the coast now, if you go on Google Earth and look down the coast, you'll find every cove along from Eastport probably all the way down, that has dozens of pens lashed together. We are farming the ocean. How many jobs and how much has been added to the state's economy because somebody took a gamble and a program like CDBG was available to help get that thing started? And I want to say, the first year we had a hurricane up there, and the pen broke and all the salmon escaped. Well, this Legislature allocated 100,000 salmon smolt. That's how valuable they thought that was to that project. That's just one example of all of the many, many examples that this program has provided, and it's definitely needed, it's definitely used, it's used by all our towns, and it's very important that we pass this legislation. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

ROLL CALL NO. 21

YEA - Ackley, Alley, Austin B, Babbidge, Bailey, Bates, Beebe-Center, Berry, Blume, Bryant, Cardone, Chapman, Collings, Cooper, Daughtry, DeChant, Denno, Devin, Duchesne, Dunphy, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau, Frey, Fuller, Gattine, Golden, Grant, Grohman, Hamann, Handy, Harlow, Herbig, Hickman, Hogan, Hubbell, Hymanson, Jorgensen, Kornfield, Kumiega, Lawrence, Longstaff, Luchini, Madigan C, Madigan J, Martin J, Martin R, Mastraccio, McCrea, McCreight, McLean, Melaragno, Monaghan, Moonen, O'Neil, Parker, Perry, Pierce T, Reckitt, Riley, Rykerson, Schneck, Sheats, Sherman, Spear, Stanley, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Warren, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Austin S, Bickford, Black, Bradstreet, Campbell, Cebra, Chace, Corey, Craig, Dillingham, Espling, Farrin, Foley, Fredette, Gerrish, Gillway, Ginzler, Haggan, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Harvell, Head, Higgins, Hilliard, Johansen, Kinney M, Lockman, Lyford, Marean, Mason, McElwee, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Picchiotti, Pickett, Pierce J, Pouliot, Prescott, Sampson, Sanderson, Seavey, Simmons, Sirocki, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Sutton, Timberlake, Tuell, Turner, Vachon, Wadsworth, Wallace, Ward, White, Winsor, Wood.

ABSENT - Battle, Brooks, Casas, Grignon, Guerin, Hawke, Herrick, Kinney J, Malaby, Nadeau, Reed, Sanborn, Tepler, Theriault.

Yes, 74; No, 62; Absent, 14; Excused, 1.

74 having voted in the affirmative and 62 voted in the negative, with 14 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended Report** was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-16)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

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

Under further suspension of the rules, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-16)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** reporting **Ought to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Allow Alternate Flashing Headlights on a School Bus"

(H.P. 29) (L.D. 28)

Signed:

Senators:

COLLINS of York
ROSEN of Hancock

Representatives:

McLEAN of Gorham
AUSTIN of Skowhegan
BRYANT of Windham
GRANT of Gardiner
PARRY of Arundel
PERKINS of Oakland
SCHNECK of Bangor
SHEATS of Auburn

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

Signed:

Senator:

MIRAMANT of Knox

Representatives:

CEBRA of Naples
GILLWAY of Searsport

READ.

On motion of Representative McLEAN of Gorham, the Majority **Ought to Pass Report** was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**.

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

Under further suspension of the rules, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Implement the National Popular Vote for President"

(H.P. 114) (L.D. 156)

Signed:

Senators:

MASON of Androscoggin
COLLINS of York

Representatives:

CASÁS of Rockport
DILLINGHAM of Oxford
FARRIN of Norridgewock
HANINGTON of Lincoln
WHITE of Washburn

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senator:

CARPENTER of Aroostook

Representatives:

LUCHINI of Ellsworth
 HICKMAN of Winthrop
 LONGSTAFF of Waterville
 MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth
 SCHNECK of Bangor

READ.

Representative LUCHINI of Ellsworth moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Minority **Ought to Pass** Report.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Farmington, Representative Harvell.

Representative **HARVELL**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. This might be well called "An Act To Make Maine Irrelevant." In 1895, about 100 years after the founding of the country, H.G. Wells wrote his book, *Time Machine*. And today I thank the good Lord that that is mere science fiction, and that a small state could not actually have delegates at the convention that would be advocating giving their power to big states. They say that in politics, timing is everything. The time for Maine to support this piece of legislation would have been while we were part of Massachusetts and one of the three largest states at the time of the founding of the country. In fact, little known fact or maybe most of you know it, Maine sought to leave Massachusetts because it felt that their population centers were taking us in directions we did not want to go. And along came the Missouri Compromise, and a likely and good divorce was effected. You might call this a jobs bill. Every single campaign season we see Republicans and Democrats alike, castigate outside money. Well the reason we all castigate outside money, but we all take it, is because we have no money. But, we're small and we're cheap. And one might ask themselves this question, what would bring a Manhattan socialite narcissist to Lisbon, Maine? It wasn't the National Popular Vote Act, I can tell you that. Lisbon, Maine has less than 10,000 people in it, and yet across the country there are 34 population centers with over 500,000 people in them. Why come here when we can make Maine come along for the ride with no reason? And, according to the rules, I've been standing here staring at the flag behind the Speaker, and I realize that's the state flag of Maine, and we always talk in this chamber about the will of the people of Maine. Now, before we allow the rest of the country to have their wicked way with us, let's at least make them take us out to dinner.

The SPEAKER: The House will be in order. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Newport, Representative Fredette.

Representative **FREDETTE**: I simply can't follow that Madam Speaker. And, usually I can make anything up. Look, once we start down this path, I mean, we might as well start to look at, you know, maybe allocating Senators based on population and doing all kinds of weird things. I mean the reality is, is that we have a system in place and it's been in place for our country's duration, for the most part, because it generally works. And because the underlying principles of the Electoral College fundamentally work, and the reality is, whether people like it or not, is that we just divided our electoral vote, and we were relevant. We were relevant for the first time in a long time, and that meant we had, we had candidates coming here, where they were talking, they were meeting local people, that's all a good thing. I was just down to Washington D.C. on Monday, and I was talking to folks down

there and they're already talking about Maine and Maine's electoral vote, or two votes, as it applies to the next coming election. So, we're relevant because of this system, and so, to really sort of throw this out the window and all of its history, I really find, I can't quite put to words why we're even having this conversation. But, Madam Speaker, I would request a roll call.

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

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Kittery, Representative Rykerson.

Representative **RYKERSON**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House, I rise in support of this motion. I have a few quick points. First, we elect the President of the United States, not the President of Maine or the President of Massachusetts in 1816. Second, would we really thwart the popular vote of the United States in order to bring a narcissist to Lisbon, Maine? Third, this is not about our last election. We had, many of us supported a very similar bill in the 126th Session of the Maine Legislature. Finally, if we call ourselves a democracy, we should be a democracy. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

Representative **SANDERSON**: Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House, I would like to clarify a point from the last speaker. The United States of America is not a democracy. We are a republic. And for many years, the republic has been protected.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bowdoinham, Representative Berry.

Representative **BERRY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House, in the Declaration of Independence, our founding fathers wrote: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal," and it goes on from there. And, since that was written, I think we've all come to understand that phrase as including women, as including people of color, as including 18-year-olds, who are now defined as adults and able to vote. All created equal should mean that all have an equal vote. And I think that that is what this bill would do at its root. But, there's another aspect of this which has been referred to, and that is the phenomenon of the swing state. Maine has not always been a swing state nor will it always be a swing state. And there are many states that are overlooked in the current Presidential campaigns, Madam Speaker, simply because they are fundamentally blue or fundamentally red, and that is unfortunate because their needs, their economies, their people are overlooked. They are not seen as equal, even though we pay lip service to the idea that they are created equal. And so, Madam Speaker, I will be proudly supporting the pending motion because I know that in the larger history of this country, and of this state, it is essential that every vote be counted equally. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair will note that there are two people in queue, but on the record, I want to take a moment to just review some rules of debate and decorum. First, when any member is speaking, all other members should defer to that member and remain quiet so that the rest of the members in the body can hear a member. If anyone has a need for conversation, they can exit the chamber and have that conversation outside the chamber. Comments during debate when a member rises to speak should always be directed through the Speaker rather than somebody else on one's own

side of the aisle or the other side of the aisle. And finally, when during debate a comment is made, if it upsets a member, if they feel that there is a violation of the rules, they can rise on a Point of Order to question and state that violation. But I would ask that people do not verbally make noises or comments to express their dissatisfaction. And I will enforce all of these rules of decorum during debate.

The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lincoln, Representative Hanington.

Representative **HANINGTON**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise today to oppose this motion. We have heard many times in VLA that one voice, one vote, one people. If we pass this popular vote yes, we'll be 12 states in the Union, but in my mindset, the majority that's going to decide the outcome is going to be the other states that don't have popular vote. It's still going to be based on the Electoral College so, I can't support this because I feel that it puts us on a path that our voice is going to be stagnant when it comes to other issues because, you know, we pick and choose what we do in this body and we have to be cognizant of what our objective is and, you know, I just can't support this so, thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Weld, Representative Skolfield.

Representative **SKOLFIELD**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Members of the House, I rise in opposition to this as well. If you look at the Constitution of the United States, you will find that nowhere in that document is the word democracy used. We are a representative republic, and if we go this route, we will become irrelevant in the Presidential process in my view. And, we need not to break something that isn't broken, currently. I think that we need to take all of these factors into account in going forward. This would be a bad measure. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Kittery, Representative Rykerson.

Representative **RYKERSON**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I apologize for rising a second time. I think there's a little misinformation here that, what I said was if we call ourselves a democracy, I have heard hundreds of times leaders of our country calling ourselves a democracy. Whether we are technically a democratic republic or not is irrelevant. We call ourselves a democracy. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

ROLL CALL NO. 22

YEA - Ackley, Alley, Austin B, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Berry, Blume, Bryant, Cardone, Chapman, Collings, Cooper, Daughtry, Devin, Duchesne, Dunphy, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau, Frey, Fuller, Gattine, Golden, Grant, Hamann, Handy, Harlow, Herbig, Hickman, Hogan, Hubbell, Hymanson, Jorgensen, Kornfield, Kumiega, Lawrence, Longstaff, Luchini, Madigan C, Madigan J, Martin J, Martin R, Mastraccio, McCrea, McCreight, McLean, Melaragno, Monaghan, Moonen, O'Neil, Parker, Perry, Reckitt, Riley, Rykerson, Schneck, Spear, Stanley, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Warren, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Austin S, Babbidge, Bates, Battle, Bickford, Black, Bradstreet, Campbell, Cebra, Chace, Corey, Craig, DeChant, Denno, Dillingham, Espling, Farrin, Foley, Fredette, Gerrish, Gillway, Ginzler, Grohman, Haggan, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Harvell, Hawke, Head, Higgins, Hilliard, Johansen,

Kinney M, Lockman, Lyford, Malaby, Marean, Mason, McElwee, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Picchiotti, Pickett, Pierce J, Pierce T, Pouliot, Prescott, Sampson, Sanderson, Seavey, Sheats, Sherman, Simmons, Sirocki, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Sutton, Timberlake, Tuell, Turner, Vachon, Wadsworth, Wallace, Ward, White, Winsor, Wood.

ABSENT - Brooks, Casas, Grignon, Guerin, Herrick, Kinney J, Nadeau, Reed, Sanborn, Tepler, Theriault.

Yes, 66; No, 73; Absent, 11; Excused, 1.

66 having voted in the affirmative and 73 voted in the negative, with 11 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly the Minority **Ought to Pass** Report was **NOT ACCEPTED**.

Subsequently, on motion of Representative LUCHINI of Ellsworth, the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** and sent for concurrence.

**CONSENT CALENDAR
First Day**

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

(S.P. 49) (L.D. 130) Bill "An Act To Provide Funding for Costs Associated with Requiring the Licensing of Midwives" Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-9)**

(S.P. 157) (L.D. 460) Bill "An Act To Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2018" Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-8)**

(H.P. 245) (L.D. 331) Bill "An Act To Correct the Maine Uniform Trust Code Concerning Certain Beneficiaries" Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

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

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

**ENACTORS
Acts**

An Act To Amend the Law Governing Special Amusement Permits for Liquor Licensees

(H.P. 31) (L.D. 30)
(C. "A" H-11)

An Act To Authorize Podiatrists To Perform Certain Routine Procedures

(S.P. 51) (L.D. 132)

An Act To Improve Officer Safety at Roadside Incidents

(H.P. 128) (L.D. 172)

An Act To Enable the Maine Employers' Mutual Insurance Company To Better Serve Maine Employers by Eliminating the High-risk Program

(S.P. 207) (L.D. 592)

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following matter, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment Tuesday, March 28, 2017, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Bill "An Act To Use Taxes on Nonmedical Marijuana and Increase the Tax on Cigarettes To Partially Offset the 3% Income Tax Surcharge"

(H.P. 499) (L.D. 708)

- In House, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION** on March 9, 2017.

- In Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

TABLED - March 28, 2017 (Till Later Today) by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.

PENDING - **FURTHER CONSIDERATION**.

Subsequently, the House voted to **RECEDE AND CONCUR**.

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 419)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the House and Senate adjourn they do so until Tuesday, April 4, 2017, at 10:00 in the morning.

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

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Forensic Examination Kits"

(S.P. 410) (L.D. 1219)

Bill "An Act To Repeal the Former Interstate Compact for Juveniles"

(S.P. 411) (L.D. 1220)

Bill "An Act To Clarify and Amend Certain Provisions of Law Regarding Victim Services"

(S.P. 412) (L.D. 1221)

Bill "An Act To Facilitate the Continued Operation of the Department of Corrections Intensive Mental Health Unit" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 414) (L.D. 1223)

Bill "An Act To Protect Minors from Sex Trafficking"

(S.P. 424) (L.D. 1261)

Bill "An Act To Transfer Operations and Ownership of County Jail Facilities to the State"

(S.P. 429) (L.D. 1266)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Allow for Greater Energy Competition in Maine by Amending the Law Governing Electric Generation or Generation-related Assets by Affiliates"

(S.P. 415) (L.D. 1224)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Modernize the Voluntary Response Action Program Funding Process"

(S.P. 421) (L.D. 1258)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Pay Equality"

(S.P. 422) (L.D. 1259)

Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Create a Plan for the Establishment of a Probate Court System with Full-time Judges

(S.P. 423) (L.D. 1260)

Bill "An Act To Protect Licensing Information of Medical Professionals"

(S.P. 430) (L.D. 1267)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** in concurrence.

Resolve, To Increase the Affordability of Safe Drinking Water for Maine Families

(S.P. 426) (L.D. 1263)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Minimize Hardship by Prohibiting the State from Reducing the Wages of a State Employee To Recoup Payments the State Made in Error"

(S.P. 420) (L.D. 1257)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Restore to Five Percent the State-Municipal Revenue Sharing Distribution and Create a Matching Fund for Local Road and Bridge Construction, Maintenance and Reconstruction"

(S.P. 418) (L.D. 1227)

Bill "An Act To Allow the Creation of a Local Option Sales Tax by Referendum"

(S.P. 428) (L.D. 1265)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TAXATION** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **TAXATION** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Motor Vehicle Inspection Program Requirements for New Rental Vehicles First Registered in Maine"

(S.P. 416) (L.D. 1225)

Bill "An Act To Keep Maine's Transportation Infrastructure Safe by Providing More Sources of Revenue for the Highway Fund"

(S.P. 417) (L.D. 1226)

Came from the Senate, **REFERRED** to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** in concurrence.

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

On motion of Representative MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth, the House adjourned at 12:44 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 4, 2017, pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 419) and in honor and lasting tribute to Sylvia D. Schroeder, of Cape Elizabeth.