

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
7th Legislative Day
Thursday, January 19, 2017

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

Prayer by Pastor Michael Lynn, West Hampden Baptist Church, Hampden.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Marshall Chamberlin, M.D., Sanford.

The Journal of Tuesday, January 17, 2017 was read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 23)

**MAINE MUNICIPAL AND RURAL ELECTRIFICATION
COOPERATIVE AGENCY**

January 13, 2017

Honorable Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

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

Dear Speaker Gideon and President Thibodeau:

Pursuant to 5 M.R.S.A., Section 12023, please consider this the letter of transmittal for the required report from the Maine Municipal and Rural Electrification Cooperative Agency due by February 1, 2017.

Please contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
S/Scott M. Hallowell
MMRECA

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

The Following Communication: (H.C. 24)

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

January 19, 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 January 17, 2017

Lisa Marchese Eames of Cumberland and
Kelly A. Martin of Fort Kent for appointment to the Board of Trustees, University of Maine System.

Pursuant to P&SL 1967, Chapter 229, these appointments are contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Honorable Karl W. Turner of Cumberland Foreside for reappointment to the Board of Trustees, University of Maine System.

Pursuant to P&SL 1967, Chapter 229, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs.

Eric A. Cioppa of South China for reappointment as the Superintendent of Insurance.

Pursuant to Title 24-A, MRSA §201, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services.

Honorable Michael J. Timmons of Cumberland for appointment to the Land for Maine's Future Board.

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

On January 18, 2017

David J. Daigler of Portland and
Timothy P. Nightingale of Rockport for appointment to the Finance Authority of Maine.

Pursuant to Title 10, MRSA §965, these appointments are contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Christopher A. Pierce of Cumberland Foreside for reappointment to the Finance Authority of Maine.

Pursuant to Title 10, MRSA §965, this reappointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development.

Thomas J. Zuke of Saco for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority Board of Directors.

Pursuant to Title 23, MRSA §1964-A, this appointment is contingent on the Maine Senate confirmation after review by the Joint Standing Committee on Transportation.

Sincerely,
S/Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House

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

The following item was 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, January 17, 2017, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Joint Order, Establishing the Joint Select Committee on Marijuana Legalization Implementation

(H.P. 96)

TABLED - January 17, 2017 (Till Later Today) by Representative GOLDEN of Lewiston.

PENDING - **PASSAGE.**

Representative FREDETTE of Newport inquired if a Quorum was present.

The Chair ordered a quorum call.

More than half of the members responding, the Chair declared a Quorum present.

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

Representative **FREDETTE**: Ladies and Gentlemen, Speaker of the House, the issue before us in establishing this Joint Select Committee on Marijuana Legalization Implementation seeks to create a Joint Select Committee so that we can address many of the complex issues that are cross jurisdictional in committee and whatnot. And, quite frankly, the reason why I rise, Madam Speaker, is because I'm very frustrated. I'm frustrated because we have a bill that came forward from a referendum process, that was some 30 pages long, that I suspect most people didn't read, that passed by the narrowest of margins. And it's now the job of this Legislature to try to figure out how we are going to legalize marijuana, and we are going to create a Joint Select Committee for that. You know, when I was a boy in Danforth, Maine growing up, when I came downstairs every morning there was a picture of John F. Kennedy on the wall. And I admired John F. Kennedy because John F. Kennedy provided a vision of what government could do in a positive way. And he said we can put a man on the moon. And he took all our great resources of the nation, our great minds, our legislative and congressional authority and power and made that a great accomplishment for this country. And it is one of the reasons why I wanted to go into public service, because I felt that there was a great positive good that government could play in people's lives and in this nation and in this world. I ran for the Legislature and I ran and I lost and then I ran and I won. And never in my mind did I think that in January of 2017, the biggest task before the Maine State Legislature would be establishing a Joint Select Committee for the legalization of pot. That's not why I ran for public service; that's why I didn't run for public government, to do that. We are going to spend a huge amount of time, resources, legislative time on implementing whether or not someone is high and can they operate a vehicle or a piece of equipment, what's the definition of marijuana, the definition of cannabis, and we are going to spend a year doing that. And as I was laying in bed last night thinking about today's work that we had to do as legislators on this issue, I thought about growing up in Washington County, the great poverty in Washington County as a child and the poverty that still continues to exist. We are not creating a Joint Select Committee on children's poverty in Maine, we are creating a Joint Select Committee on pot because that is where we are today, folks. The power rests in the people in the State of Maine. And I accept the fact that they voted and they passed this and it's an issue that we have to deal with, but quite frankly, I do it very grudgingly because I know there are great issues in this state that we need to deal with to move Maine forward, to provide better jobs, to provide better education for kids, to help kids get out of poverty. And I don't believe spending a year, a year and a half figuring out on how somebody in Danforth, Maine can buy a nickel bag of pot at the local store is doing any of those things. And that frustrates me because that is not moving Maine forward. And I understand the people voted and I accept that and, yes, I understand we have the responsibility, but quite frankly, where is the outrage? Where is the outrage that this is what we are going to do and we are going to spend our time on this session? Yes, we are going to spend our time on other issues but we are going to spend an inordinate amount of time on a very complex bill, on many issues, and quite frankly, it's not necessarily the reason why I ran for public service or the Legislature. And I understand that's part of my responsibility and I embrace it because it is part of my responsibility, but, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, if anybody here thinks

that this ought to be the top priority for this Legislature or for the people of the State of Maine, I challenge you to visit Washington County. Madam Speaker, I will be voting in favor of this, and again, I do it grudgingly because I think it's an issue that we have to deal with because it's before us, but quite frankly, we have a person dying every day in Maine because of drug overdoses. We have families that are destroyed every day in Maine because people are on drugs and they are addicted to drugs. There are far greater issues that this legislative body will and has to deal with and it just frustrates me that we're going to have to deal with this now because I don't necessarily think it ought to be the top priority of this legislative session. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

Representative **COREY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, members of the House, I have been trying to wrap my head around this and have a lot of questions. Forming a Joint Select Committee is a comprehensive approach that denies another, whether working where their work is being done on a select or standing committee, both have their advantages and disadvantages. We should find ways to take advantage of both approaches. The advantage of a Select Committee is finding common themes and addressing multi-jurisdictional concerns. The advantage of a Standing Committee is addressing concerns within jurisdictional sections of statute, greater focus on how recreational marijuana fits into other areas of a committee's oversight and building knowledge on the committee for future legislatures. Just because a bill has marijuana in the title or content does not mean that all these bills are connected in any way. We already have referencing process that assigns bills to committees of jurisdiction. We run risks of with homogenizing these bills based on a single overarching theme. Trading on bills or trading of bills in committee happens, we've all seen it that have been here. Do we want a committee that may do it on cross-jurisdictional bills? Should we kill an Ag bill to get a criminal justice bill passed? Do we want the lobby in one single committee? Do we want them just to be able to focus their interests in one committee? I'm not sure that I'm too crazy about that idea. How are we going to find members to serve on this committee and still be attentive and accountable to their own committee work? The members of this Select Committee will come from committees that meet on different days. There are many questions that need to be answered prior to forming a Select Committee. If this committee's formed, I'd like to see a lot of those questions answered. I will likely be voting no on this, but I'm very interested in keeping engaged in the process as this unfolds. Thank you, Madam Speaker and members of the House.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, Representative Bear.

Representative **BEAR**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise today in support, urging you to support this, the passage of this Joint Order. However, I just wanted to comment that there are bills, one of which I am sponsoring, that will hopefully not be impacted by the overarching theme of marijuana legalization in the sense that it would delay some of the intended good consequences of the passage of this referendum by the people of the State of Maine, one of which is we have a demographic currently impacted by the previous or existing state law on marijuana. People have been convicted, people are in jail, people owe fines and we have to put our minds to them right now. The

people of Maine have spoken. Whatever happens today ought not delay, for example, people being released who are currently serving time for the very things that are now legal: marijuana possession, usable quantities, paraphernalia specifically, or the fines that they fail to pay from those convictions which keeps them in jail. I think about tribal members who are in jail or who have to pay fines, and unfortunately, in some regions of the jurisdiction tribal members happen to be a larger portion of people who have, you know, experienced these convictions than others in the past. So I urge that, whatever happens today, that this not be the reason why, beyond nine months or however long you're going to decide to have this study and this commission work through the details of implementing the referendum law, delay the release by way of considering my bill or other bills that will be similar of people who are serving time, who owe fines and who should benefit from the passage of the referendum. Madam Speaker, thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Dresden, Representative Pierce.

Representative **PIERCE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of House. I'm opposed to this Joint Order. Do we want to be known as the Legislature who wanted a Joint Select Committee on Marijuana where we have people dying every day of heroin overdoses, opioid addiction, we have drug addicted babies born every day, we've administered over 10,000 hits of Narcan this year? Do we want to be known as that? Because we didn't want them to go to their committees that specialize, like transportation. It's illegal to have or against federal law to have THC in your system if you work in the transportation industry, we have a lot of truckers, warehouse people this affects. Farmers, this is going affect farmers. We have 13 people on the Agriculture Committee that actually are experts on farming. We have 13 people on Transportation that are experts. We have VLA, we have 13 people who are experts on that. Not just one from each committee. We need these bills to go to the committee they were intended to go to so the people at Health and Human Services can actually vet, put this thing -- until it gives us institutional knowledge on these committees when this committee is dissolved because marijuana is not going away in this state. We are stuck with it. We are going to have to deal with it. Let the committees of reference see these bills for what they are, give them the institutional knowledge. Give the commissioners and the analysts and the people that are actually experts in these fields instead of one Joint Select Committee. I'm adamantly opposed to this bill and I hope you vote it down.

Representative FREDETTE of Newport **REQUESTED** a roll call on **PASSAGE**.

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 Scarborough, Representative Sirocki.

Representative **SIROCKI**: Thank you, Madam Chair. I rise in support of this measure, but again, like our Representative from Newport, grudgingly. I can see both sides to this. And I think that currently the structure that we have right now with the Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs, where we bring in committees of jurisdiction to provide information and guidance to us could be used in much the same fashion with the Joint Standing Committee on Marijuana Legalization and Implementation. It's a very complex issue. And I would also like to remind everyone here that this is in violation of federal law. And I

have a friend who's in the banking industry who said, this is really a big problem. How do we regulate an industry that can't open a bank account? They deal with large volumes of cash. And that's of great concern to me as well. Thank you.

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

Representative **HARVELL**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. It's interesting that we are sitting here talking about this being illegal. It is a Schedule 1 drug federally. But I was in this chamber when medicinal marijuana bill passed which was the same problem, it's a Schedule 1 drug federally. There are 28 states in the United States right now that have some form of either recreational or medicinal marijuana. This is not going away, and this ship has sailed, and where we are culturally. We're not prepared to do what it would take to actually stop the use of marijuana. Police Officers right now -- there's 10,000 caregivers, that's up from 3,500, just a short period of time, there's 10,000 caregivers that have 50,000 clients in this state that are using this. And every day that we wait and every day that we delay bringing this black market into a regulated market is a day we lose more and more control over it. And because you could have, if you didn't send this to a special select committee, you could have 13 committees that have reports that contradict each other, that aren't on the same page and are in nowhere near being able to put together a comprehensive plan. When this plan passes, guess what, it's going to have problems because we are opening new territory. It's not going to solve the same problem they've got today, that people are having to take \$10,000 in cash to pay a light bill. That is the federal issue. But that ship has sailed about where this State is in relation to this. And I urge you for a yes vote.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Belfast, Representative Herbig.

Representative **HERBIG**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. You know, I rise, and I think Representative Fredette and I have a lot things in common. We both grew up poor. And the one thing that my parents always said to me was, I don't need to like it, you just need to go do your job. So that is what we are all here to do, right? Some of us like this; some of us don't. Some municipalities like this, some don't. Some people in the state see this as an incredible opportunity; some people like this as much as they like, I don't know, anything terrible. However, what I would like to say is that there are a lot of important things we are going to do in this building. Marijuana is not the top priority here. There are lots of priorities. And we as responsible legislators need to create and strike a balance. We're going to be working on job creation, we're going to be working on economic development, we're going to be addressing poverty, we're going to be doing affordable education and supporting rural families. We're going to be doing all of these things. However, a Joint Select Committee is necessary. This was something that was agreed upon with bipartisan support between the House and the Senate. This is a responsible decision. This is us doing our jobs, because we need to strike a responsible balance between respecting the will of the people and doing our jobs in implementing this. This is what this is about. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Passage of the Joint Order. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 2

YEA - Ackley, Alley, Austin B, Babbidge, Bailey, Bates, Battle, Beebe-Center, Berry, Bickford, Black, Blume, Brooks, Bryant, Cardone, Casas, Chace, Chapman, Collings, Cooper, Daughtry, DeChant, Denno, Devin, Dillingham, Doore, Duchesne, Dunphy, Farnsworth, Farrin, Fay, Fecteau, Foley, Fredette, Frey, Fuller, Gattine, Gerrish, Gillway, Golden, Grignon, Hamann, Handy, Hanington, Harlow, Harrington, Harvell, Head, Herbig, Herrick, Hickman, Higgins, Hogan, Hubbell, Hymanson, Jorgensen, Kinney J, Kinney M, Kornfield, Kumiega, Lawrence, Longstaff, Luchini, Madigan C, Madigan J, Malaby, Marean, Martin R, Mastraccio, McCreight, McCreight, McLean, Melaragno, Monaghan, Moonen, Nadeau, O'Neil, Ordway, Parker, Perkins, Perry, Pickett, Pierce T, Prescott, Reckitt, Riley, Rykerson, Sampson, Sanborn, Sanderson, Schneck, Seavey, Sheats, Sirocki, Spear, Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Strom, Sutton, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Theriault, Timberlake, Tipping, Tucker, Tuell, Warren, White, Winsor, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Austin S, Bradstreet, Campbell, Cebra, Corey, Craig, Ginzler, Hanley, Hilliard, Johansen, Lockman, Lyford, Mason, McElwee, O'Connor, Parry, Picchiotti, Pierce J, Pouliot, Sherman, Simmons, Skolfield, Turner, Vachon, Wadsworth, Wallace, Ward, Wood.

ABSENT - Espling, Grant, Grohman, Guerin, Haggan, Hawke, Martin J, Reed, Stewart.

Yes, 114; No, 28; Absent, 9; Excused, 0.

114 having voted in the affirmative and 28 voted in the negative, with 9 being absent, and accordingly the Joint Order was **PASSED**. Sent for concurrence.

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

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Require the Reporting of Animal Cruelty or Neglect"

(H.P. 115) (L.D. 157)

Sponsored by Representative JOHANSEN of Monticello. Cosponsored by Senator ROSEN of Hancock and Representatives: HANLEY of Pittston, KINNEY of Knox, MARTIN of Sinclair, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, PIERCE of Dresden, RECKITT of South Portland, STEWART of Presque Isle, TUELL of East Machias.

Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** suggested and ordered printed.

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Maine's Community Colleges"

(H.P. 97) (L.D. 139)

Sponsored by Representative HUBBELL of Bar Harbor.

Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Support Entrepreneurial Activity, Attract Business and Enhance Demographic In-migration by Investing in High-speed Broadband Infrastructure and To Amend the Law Governing the Municipal Gigabit Broadband Network Access Fund"

(H.P. 98) (L.D. 140)

Sponsored by Representative HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft.

Cosponsored by Senator BELLOWES of Kennebec and Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, FOLEY of Wells, GROHMAN of Biddeford, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, STEWART of Presque Isle, Senators: DION of Cumberland, MAKER of Washington, WOODSOME of York.

Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** suggested.

On motion of Representative GATTINE of Westbrook, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

Bill "An Act Regarding Bringing Certain Criminal Charges"

(H.P. 99) (L.D. 141)

Sponsored by Representative SYLVESTER of Portland. (BY REQUEST)

Bill "An Act To Establish a Statewide Sexual Assault Forensic Examination Kit Tracking System"

(H.P. 100) (L.D. 142)

Sponsored by Representative PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: AUSTIN of Gray, HANLEY of Pittston, HAWKE of Boothbay Harbor, JOHANSEN of Monticello, NADEAU of Winslow, STROM of Pittsfield, WALLACE of Dexter, WARD of Dedham.

Bill "An Act To Support Sexual Assault Survivors"

(H.P. 125) (L.D. 169)

Sponsored by Representative MADIGAN of Waterville.

Cosponsored by Senator VOLK of Cumberland and Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, HYMANSON of York, O'NEIL of Saco, PARKER of South Berwick, WARREN of Hallowell, Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, CHIPMAN of Cumberland, VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

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 Provide Funding for Upgrades of Learning Spaces and Other Projects Funded by the School Revolving Renovation Fund"

(H.P. 101) (L.D. 143)

Sponsored by Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington and Representatives: BABBIDGE of Kennebunk, HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, PERRY of Calais, STEARNS of Guilford, Senators: CHIPMAN of Cumberland, MILLETT of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Improve the Certification and Evaluation of New Educators and Administrators by Consolidating Standards"

(H.P. 116) (L.D. 158)

Sponsored by Representative McCREA of Fort Fairfield.

Cosponsored by Senator LANGLEY of Hancock and Representatives: BABBIDGE of Kennebunk, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, FARNSWORTH of Portland, HARRINGTON of

Sanford, HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, KORNFIELD of Bangor, SAMPSON of Alfred, SHERMAN of Hodgdon.

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 To Prohibit the Mining of Massive Sulfide Ore Deposits under the Maine Metallic Mineral Mining Act"

(H.P. 118) (L.D. 160)

Sponsored by Representative DUCHESNE of Hudson.

Cosponsored by Senator SAVIELLO of Franklin.

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 Prohibit the Mining of Massive Sulfide Ore Deposits on State Lands"

(H.P. 117) (L.D. 159)

Sponsored by Representative DUCHESNE of Hudson.

Cosponsored by Senator DILL of Penobscot and Senator: SAVIELLO of Franklin.

Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** suggested.

On motion of Representative TUCKER of Brunswick, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

Bill "An Act To Create a Pilot Project To Reduce Substance Use Disorders among Youth in Piscataquis County To Be Used as a Model for All Maine Communities"

(H.P. 102) (L.D. 144)

Sponsored by Representative HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis and Representatives: BABBIDGE of Kennebunk, DUCHESNE of Hudson, LYFORD of Eddington, RYKERSON of Kittery, STANLEY of Medway, STEARNS of Guilford, TUELL of East Machias, VACHON of Scarborough.

Bill "An Act To Remove the Treasurer of State from the Maine Vaccine Board"

(H.P. 119) (L.D. 161)

Sponsored by Representative PERRY of Calais.

Cosponsored by Senator CHIPMAN of Cumberland and Representatives: CHACE of Durham, FARNSWORTH of Portland, MALABY of Hancock, TUELL of East Machias.

Bill "An Act To Improve Care Provided to Forensic Patients" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 120) (L.D. 162)

Sponsored by Representative GATTINE of Westbrook.

Cosponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec and Representatives: HAMANN of South Portland, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, HYMANSON of York, JORGENSEN of Portland, Senator: BREEN of Cumberland.

Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Protect Consumers from Closure of Inactive Bank Accounts"

(H.P. 103) (L.D. 145)

Sponsored by Representative RYKERSON of Kittery.

Cosponsored by Senator CARSON of Cumberland and Representatives: BROOKS of Lewiston, COLLINGS of Portland, FOLEY of Wells, HOGAN of Old Orchard Beach, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, SANBORN of Portland.

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 Protect the Confidentiality of Local Government Employees' Private Information"

(H.P. 104) (L.D. 146)

Sponsored by Representative McCREIGHT of Harpswell.

Cosponsored by Senator CARSON of Cumberland and Representatives: BABBIDGE of Kennebunk, BATTLE of South Portland, BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, COREY of Windham, MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth, PIERCE of Dresden, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, Senator: VITELLI of Sagadahoc.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Maine Parentage Act"

(H.P. 105) (L.D. 147)

Sponsored by Representative PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield.

Cosponsored by Representatives: AUSTIN of Gray, GUERIN of Glenburn, HANLEY of Pittston, HAWKE of Boothbay Harbor, JOHANSEN of Monticello, NADEAU of Winslow, STROM of Pittsfield, WALLACE of Dexter.

Bill "An Act To Allow and Recognize a Legal Name Change upon Marriage"

(H.P. 126) (L.D. 170)

Sponsored by Representative BAILEY of Saco.

Cosponsored by Senator CHENETTE of York.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Allow Overhead Garage Door Installers To Install and Repair Dumbwaiters"

(H.P. 106) (L.D. 148)

Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington.

Cosponsored by Senator DILL of Penobscot and Representatives: DILLINGHAM of Oxford, HANINGTON of Lincoln, HANLEY of Pittston, HEAD of Bethel, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, NADEAU of Winslow, STANLEY of Medway, Senator: BREEN of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Strengthen the Enforcement of Maine's Labor Laws"

(H.P. 121) (L.D. 163)

Sponsored by Representative TUCKER of Brunswick.

Bill "An Act To Provide Matching Funds for Federal Community Development Block Grants"

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

Sponsored by Representative MADIGAN of Rumford.

Cosponsored by Senator KEIM of Oxford and Representatives: PICKETT of Dixfield, TUELL of East Machias.

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 Require Tamper-evident Packaging for Recreational Marijuana Products"

(H.P. 122) (L.D. 164)

Sponsored by Representative COREY of Windham.

Cosponsored by Senator WOODSOME of York and Representatives: CEBRA of Naples, CHACE of Durham, GRIGNON of Athens, HERRICK of Paris, HYMANSON of York, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, SANDERSON of Chelsea, Senator: DIAMOND of Cumberland.

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

On motion of Representative FECTEAU of Biddeford, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

Bill "An Act To Provide Additional Management for Limited-entry Lobster Zones"

(H.P. 107) (L.D. 149)

Sponsored by Representative HUBBELL of Bar Harbor.

Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Funding of Volunteer Fire Departments"

(H.P. 108) (L.D. 150)

Sponsored by Representative THERIAULT of China.

Cosponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington and Representatives: DEVIN of Newcastle, ESPLING of New Gloucester, FARRIN of Norridgewock, GERRISH of Lebanon, HILLIARD of Belgrade, STEWART of Presque Isle, WARD of Dedham.

Bill "An Act To Strengthen Intragovernment Communication"

(H.P. 110) (L.D. 152)

Sponsored by Representative MARTIN of Sinclair.

Cosponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, BRYANT of Windham, DOORE of Augusta, GOLDEN of Lewiston, KORNFIELD of Bangor, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, SPEAR of South Thomaston.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Resolve, To Authorize the Transfer of State-owned Property to the Town of St. Agatha

(H.P. 109) (L.D. 151)

Sponsored by Representative MARTIN of Sinclair.

Cosponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook and Representative: MARTIN of Eagle Lake.

Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** suggested.

On motion of Representative MARTIN of Sinclair, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

Bill "An Act To Reform Maine's Motor Vehicle Inspection Guidelines"

(H.P. 112) (L.D. 154)

Sponsored by Representative CEBRA of Naples.

Cosponsored by Senator MASON of Androscoggin and Representatives: COREY of Windham, DILLINGHAM of Oxford, ESPLING of New Gloucester, PRESCOTT of Waterboro, SUTTON of Warren.

Bill "An Act To Add the Air Medal as an Option for a Special Commemorative Decal on Special Veterans Registration Plates"

(H.P. 127) (L.D. 171)

Sponsored by Representative PIERCE of Falmouth.

Cosponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington and Representatives: DEVIN of Newcastle, FARNSWORTH of Portland, GOLDEN of Lewiston, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, McLEAN of Gorham, Senators: BREEN of Cumberland, LIBBY of Androscoggin.

Bill "An Act To Improve Officer Safety at Roadside Incidents"

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

Sponsored by Representative HARRINGTON of Sanford.

Cosponsored by Senator VOLK of Cumberland and Representatives: BATTLE of South Portland, CEBRA of Naples, COREY of Windham, GERRISH of Lebanon, McLEAN of Gorham, ORDWAY of Standish, WARREN of Hallowell, Senator: COLLINS of York.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Transportation of Methadone Patients"

(H.P. 111) (L.D. 153)

Sponsored by Representative LYFORD of Eddington.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CRAIG of Brewer, HANLEY of Pittston, HERRICK of Paris, HILLIARD of Belgrade, KINNEY of Knox, REED of Carmel, STEARNS of Guilford, TUELL of East Machias.

Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** suggested.

On motion of Representative McLEAN of Gorham, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Protect Voting Integrity by Establishing a Residency Verification Requirement for Purposes of Voting"

(H.P. 113) (L.D. 155)

Sponsored by Representative FREDETTE of Newport.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FARRIN of Norridgewock, PIERCE of Dresden.

Bill "An Act To Implement the National Popular Vote for President"

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

Sponsored by Representative RYKERSON of Kittery.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, COOPER of Yarmouth, ZEIGLER of Montville, Senator

MIRAMANT of Knox and Representative: BLUME of York, Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, GRATWICK of Penobscot.

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.

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

ORDERS

On motion of Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 124) (Cosponsored by Representatives: ACKLEY of Monmouth, ALLEY of Beals, AUSTIN of Skowhegan, AUSTIN of Gray, BABBIDGE of Kennebunk, BAILEY of Saco, BATES of Westbrook, BATTLE of South Portland, BEAR of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, BERRY of Bowdoinham, BICKFORD of Auburn, BLACK of Wilton, BLUME of York, BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, BROOKS of Lewiston, BRYANT of Windham, CAMPBELL of Orrington, CARDONE of Bangor, CASAS of Rockport, CEBRA of Naples, CHACE of Durham, CHAPMAN of Brooksville, COLLINGS of Portland, COOPER of Yarmouth, COREY of Windham, CRAIG of Brewer, DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, DeCHANT of Bath, DENNO of Cumberland, DEVIN of Newcastle, DILLINGHAM of Oxford, DOORE of Augusta, DUCHESNE of Hudson, DUNPHY of Old Town, ESPLING of New Gloucester, FARNSWORTH of Portland, FARRIN of Norridgewock, FAY of Raymond, FECTEAU of Biddeford, FOLEY of Wells, FREDETTE of Newport, FREY of Bangor, FULLER of Lewiston, GATTINE of Westbrook, GERRISH of Lebanon, Speaker GIDEON of Freeport, GILLWAY of Searsport, GINZLER of Bridgton, GOLDEN of Lewiston, GRANT of Gardiner, GRIGNON of Athens, GROHMAN of Biddeford, GUERIN of Glenburn, HAGGAN of Hampden, HAMANN of South Portland, HANDY of Lewiston, HANINGTON of Lincoln, HANLEY of Pittston, HARLOW of Portland, HARRINGTON of Sanford, HARVELL of Farmington, HEAD of Bethel, HERBIG of Belfast, HERRICK of Paris, HICKMAN of Winthrop, HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, HILLIARD of Belgrade, HOGAN of Old Orchard Beach, HUBBELL of Bar Harbor, HYMANSON of York, JOHANSEN of Monticello, JORGENSEN of Portland, KINNEY of Limington, KINNEY of Knox, KORNFIELD of Bangor, KUMIEGA of Deer Isle, LAWRENCE of South Berwick, LOCKMAN of Amherst, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, LUCHINI of Ellsworth, LYFORD of Eddington, MADIGAN of Waterville, MADIGAN of Rumford, MALABY of Hancock, MAREAN of Hollis, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MARTIN of Sinclair, MASON of Lisbon, MASTRACCIO of Sanford, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, McELWEE of Caribou, McLEAN of Gorham, MELARAGNO of Auburn, MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth, MOONEN of Portland, NADEAU of Winslow, O'CONNOR of Berwick, O'NEIL of Saco, ORDWAY of Standish, PARKER of South Berwick, PARRY of Arundel, PERKINS of Oakland, PERRY of Calais, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, PICKETT of Dixfield, PIERCE of Dresden, PIERCE of Falmouth, POULIOT of Augusta, PRESCOTT of Waterboro, RECKITT of South Portland, REED of Carmel, RILEY of Jay, RYKERSON of Kittery, SAMPSON of Alfred, SANBORN of Portland, SCHNECK of Bangor, SEAVEY of Kennebunkport, SHEATS of

Auburn, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, SIROCKI of Scarborough, SKOLFIELD of Weld, SPEAR of South Thomaston, STANLEY of Medway, STEARNS of Guilford, STETKIS of Canaan, STEWART of Presque Isle, STROM of Pittsfield, SUTTON of Warren, SYLVESTER of Portland, TEPLER of Topsham, TERRY of Gorham, THERIAULT of China, TIMBERLAKE of Turner, TIPPING of Orono, TUCKER of Brunswick, TUELL of East Machias, TURNER of Burlington, VACHON of Scarborough, WADSWORTH of Hiram, WALLACE of Dexter, WARD of Dedham, WARREN of Hallowell, WHITE of Washburn, WINSOR of Norway, WOOD of Greene, ZEIGLER of Montville, Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, BRAKEY of Androscoggin, BREEN of Cumberland, CARPENTER of Aroostook, CARSON of Cumberland, CHENETTE of York, CHIPMAN of Cumberland, COLLINS of York, CUSHING of Penobscot, CYRWAY of Kennebec, DAVIS of Piscataquis, DESCHAMBAULT of York, DIAMOND of Cumberland, DILL of Penobscot, DION of Cumberland, DOW of Lincoln, GRATWICK of Penobscot, HAMPER of Oxford, HILL of York, JACKSON of Aroostook, KATZ of Kennebec, KEIM of Oxford, LANGLEY of Hancock, LIBBY of Androscoggin, MAKER of Washington, MASON of Androscoggin, MILLETT of Cumberland, MIRAMANT of Knox, ROSEN of Hancock, SAVIELLO of Franklin, President THIBODEAU of Waldo, VITELLI of Sagadahoc, VOLK of Cumberland, WHITTEMORE of Somerset, WOODSOME of York)

JOINT RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

WHEREAS, January 16, 2017 marks the national and state holiday in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., commemorating his birth on January 15, 1929; and

WHEREAS, Martin Luther King, Jr., advocated the furtherance of civil rights for black Americans through nonviolence; and

WHEREAS, this man of powerful voice and spirit showed this country a dream of "an oasis of freedom and justice"; and

WHEREAS, for his tireless work to ensure equality and justice, Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, a high and honorable distinction, in 1964; and

WHEREAS, his eloquence, his perseverance and his faith moved mountains and brought about sweeping changes by appealing to the better instincts and consciences of his fellow human beings; and

WHEREAS, the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., which ended so tragically on April 4, 1968, is a shining example to Americans and citizens of the world at large of uncompromising dedication to the highest ideals; 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 acknowledge the extraordinary life and works of this teacher, reformer and humanitarian, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and pause in our deliberations to recognize and commemorate the occasion of his birth.

READ.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Talbot Ross.

Representative **TALBOT ROSS**: Madam Speaker, I'd like to express the honor it is to be able to speak before you today as a member of this chamber. I humbly present this Joint Resolution as a 9th generation Mainer of African descent, with the pride that the tradition of recognizing the life of a great American, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will

continue. As we begin a new year, which would be Dr. King's 88th birthday, it is important to place him in an accurate history that not only teaches us about Dr. King but of the many African Americans who fought for the freedoms we all enjoy and continue to protect today. Freedom fighters like Frederick Douglass, the great abolitionist, W.E.B. Du Bois, Sojourner Truth, Fannie Lou Hamer, the great Shirley Chisholm, Barbara Jordan and Representative John Lewis. The first effort to commemorate Dr. King's life and legacy came just four days after his unfortunate death. Then every year after that for a period of seven years, until 1973, Illinois became the first state to establish a legal holiday. It would then take another ten years before the national holiday passed in 1983. Mainers should know, however, that steps to establish the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday in this state preceded the national holiday, and in 1975 under the 107th Legislature, we passed an act designating a commemorative day in remembrance of Martin Luther King, Jr., presented by Mr. Talbot, Mr. Gerald E. Talbot, my father, of Portland. It reads, be enacted by the people of the State of Maine as follows: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. January 15th of each year shall be designated as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, and the Governor shall annually issue a proclamation inviting and urging the people of the State of Maine to observe the day in schools and other suitable places with appropriate ceremony and activity. The Department of Educational and Cultural Services shall make appropriate information available to the people and the schools within the limits of their budget. Madam Speaker, knowing one's history, our history, America's history, is important. I thank the Members of this body for their support in acknowledging the prophetic leadership and life of a man who not only knew his history, but contributed in ways that will forever make this country the most greatest country in the world. Thank you.

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

Representative **HAMANN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House, I rise to share a few thoughts about Dr. King and universalized ability of his message. Which I think can be summed up in one word, Ubuntu. Ubuntu is an African word that means, I am because you are. Arch Bishop Desmond Tutu describes Ubuntu as; an interconnectedness, where a person is a person in through other people. We might think of it as the golden rule, do unto others as you'd have them do unto you. But Ubuntu is more than that. Martin Luther King said it best: "We are tied together in the single garment of destiny caught in an inescapable network of mutuality. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. We are all links in the great chain of humanity." That's closer to what Ubuntu is. Ubuntu speaks to an interconnectedness of the human experience. For matters of life and death, to peace and war, from issues of education, to health care, to the environment, economic justice, racial justice, social justice, Ubuntu suggests that our humanity is inextricably linked to the humanity of others, and our Ubuntu might be measured by our commitment to the humanity of those around us. King said, "As long as there's poverty in the world, I can never be rich. As long as millions of people are inflicted with debilitating diseases, I can never be totally healthy." That is Ubuntu. It's seeking justice for the children born into poverty because their poverty is our own. But for people whose skin color disqualified them from particular places in our society, we are a weaker country today by virtue of their exclusion in the past. Defending labor, fighting for good jobs, fair wages, safe working conditions, and respect, he fought for voting rights, housing, awakened a

collective consciousness from a nightmare of ignorance and helped us understand that we can be a better country if we simply remember our interconnectedness. I am because you are. Dr. King said, "No man is an island entire of itself. Every man is a piece of the continent. Any man's death diminishes me because I'm involved in mankind." I think of that every time I'm reminded that black lives matter: Every man's death diminishes me because I'm involved in mankind. We celebrate Martin Luther King not only for the things he accomplished but for the way he accomplished them, combating violent racial injustice through nonviolent resistance. He taught us that true patriotism is a peaceful and determined insistence upon the ideals at the center of America's founding. This same story can be told by people from South Africa to South Asia, from Eastern Europe to Indonesia. It's a story with a simple truth, that violence is a dead end. Violence is not how moral authority is claimed, it's how it's surrendered. King protested power structures not to weaken them or tear them down but to make them stronger, to make them better, to help evolve our society into one more worthy of being called the United States. He insisted on holding his country to a higher standard, a standard of Ubuntu. And he was truly a revolutionary in the best sense, for providing a vision of what government could do. I say thank you. We are a stronger nation for his descent and his courage. And finally, as Dr. King taught us, at times in America we find ourselves at a cross roads, redefining who we are, what we believe, how we speak about and to each other. Times when we transform our social fabric, test our fundamental character, from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War, from slavery to segregation, to Selma, the Trail of Tears, the Great Depression, 9/11, now. Sometimes we prevail, sometimes we fail. Too often we fail. But it's how we react to these trials and transitions that defines our national character. And we have a golden opportunity right now in this country, in this state, in this State House, in this chamber. And as King said, we have made of this world a neighborhood, and yet we have not had the ethical commitment to make of it a brotherhood. But somehow and in some way, we've got to do this. We must all learn to live together as brothers or we will perish together as fools. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

Representative **HYMANSON**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. My mother was born in 1921 to Italian immigrants. When she was 22 she gave up her Italian last name Ferioli and became Mrs. Campbell. Her husband died and ten years later she gave up Campbell and became Mrs. Locuratola, rejoining an Italian last name with a lot of syllables and many vowels. Locuratola is my maiden name and my professional name. I kept it to honor my heritage. My mother told me she was treated with more privilege when she was a Campbell than when she was a Ferioli or a Locuratola, just because of the name. I thought if you never said your name, no one would know that you are from an Italian immigrant family. But if you had dark skin it was always there, upfront all the time. Martin Luther King in his "I Have a Dream" speech said, "I look to the day when people will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character." Thank you, Madam Chair.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Orrington, Representative Campbell.

Representative **CAMPBELL**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. This last Friday night I had both an inspirational and a frustrating experience. I went to the movies. And, Madam Speaker, if I could ask for a show

of hands? How many people know the names Katherine Goble Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson? Impressed, truly impressed. These people were the inspiration that we should be looking to. These are people who made it based on not their gender, not their color but their true assets, inspiration and passion in what has become truly an event in our history that we can celebrate. And for those who don't know, they were part of the early NASA program. These three women, in 1961, are the only reason that John Glenn both got up into space and came back. These three women made it because of who they are, not the color or gender but because they were brilliant people. Martin Luther King was a true inspiration, true inspiration. His ability to bring people together for the right reasons because it was the right thing to do is what we should be all about. Unfortunately, some of these advocacy groups have gotten away from his true passion and message. So in my hope for this Legislature is to come together for the real reasons that we should, as you mentioned in your opening message to us. So if you don't know Katherine Goble Johnson or Dorothy Vaughan or Mary Jackson, go to the movies this weekend and see *Hidden Figures*. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Winthrop, Representative Hickman.

Representative **HICKMAN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Women and Men of the House, I am honored and humbled to rise to pay tribute to a man whom history has already decided is among the greatest of men. And so today, if you would indulge me Madam Speaker, I would like to go back and remember the words of wisdom delivered to a nation divided. I would like to recite the opening and closing passages of Dr. King's last public speech "I've Been to the Mountaintop" regarding the Memphis sanitation strike delivered at the Mason Temple in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 3, 1968 the day before he was assassinated. And so I quote: "As I listen to Ralph Abernathy in his eloquent and generous introduction and then thought about myself, I wondered who he was talking about. It's always good to have your closest friend and associate to say something good about you, and Ralph Abernathy is the best friend that I have in the world. I am delighted to see each of you here tonight in spite of a storm warning. You reveal that you are determined to go on anyhow. Something is happening in Memphis, something is happening in our world. If I were standing at the beginning of time with the possibility of a general and a panoramic view of the whole human history up to now, and the Almighty said to me, Martin Luther King, which age would you like to live in? I would take my mental flight by Egypt through or rather across the Red Sea through the wilderness on toward the Promised Land. And in spite of its magnificence, I wouldn't stop there. I would move on by Greece and take my mind to Mount Olympus and I would see Plato, Aristotle, Socrates, Euripides, and Aristophanes, a symbol to round the Parthenon, as they discuss the great and eternal issues of reality. But I wouldn't stop there. I would go on even to the great heyday of the Roman Empire and I would seek developments around there through various Emperors and leaders. But I wouldn't stop there. I would even come up to the day of the Renaissance and get a quick picture of all that the Renaissance did for the cultural and esthetic life of man. But I wouldn't stop there. I would even go by the way that the man for who I am named had his habitat, and I would watch Martin Luther as he tacked his 95 Theses on the door at the church in Wittenberg. But I wouldn't stop there. I would come on up even through 1863 and watch a vacillating President by the name Abraham Lincoln finally come to the conclusion that he had to sign the Emancipation Proclamation. But I wouldn't

stop there. I would even come up to the early 30's and see a man grappling with the problems of the bankruptcy of his nation and come with an eloquent cry that we have nothing to fear but fear itself. But I wouldn't stop there either. Strangely enough, I would turn to the Almighty and say, if you allow me to live just a few years in the second half of the twentieth century, I will be happy. Now, that's a strange statement to make, because the world is all messed up. The nation is sick. Trouble is in the land, confusion all around. So that's a strange statement. But I know somehow that only when it is dark enough can you see the stars. And so whatever the people are assembled today, whether they are in Johannesburg, South Africa; Nairobi, Kenya; Accra, Ghana; New York City; Atlanta, Georgia; Jackson, Mississippi; or Memphis, Tennessee, the cry is always the same. We want to be free. And so let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness, let us stand with a greater determination and let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation. And I want to thank God once more for allowing me to be here with you. You know, several years ago, I was in New York City autographing the first book that I had written. And while sitting there autographing books a demented black woman came up, the only question I heard from her was, "Are you Martin Luther King?" And I was looking down writing and I said yes. And the next minute I felt something beating on my chest. Before I knew, I had been stabbed by this woman. I was rushed to Harlem Hospital. It was a dark Saturday afternoon. And that blade had gone through, and the x-rays revealed, that the tip of the blade was on the edge of my aorta, the main artery. And once that's punctured, you drown in your own blood. That's the end of you. It came out in the New York Times the next morning that if I had sneezed I would have died. Well, about four days later they allowed me, after the operation, after my chest had been opened, and the blade had been taken out, to move around in the wheelchair in my hospital. They allowed me to read some of the mail that came in. And from all over the states and all over the world, kind letters came. I read a few, but one of them I will never forget. I had received one from the President and the Vice President. I had forgotten what those telegrams said. I had received a visit and a letter from the Governor of New York, but I had forgotten what that letter said. But there is another letter that came from a little girl, a young girl, who was a student at the White Plains High School. And I looked at that letter and I will never forget it. It said simply, 'Dr. King, I'm a ninth-grade student at the White Plains High School. While it should not matter, I would like to mention that I am a white girl. I read in the paper of your misfortune and of your suffering, and I read that if you had sneezed you would have died. And so I'm simply writing you to say that I am so happy that you didn't sneeze.' And I want to say tonight, I want to say that I am happy that I didn't sneeze too. Because if I had sneezed I wouldn't have been around here in 1960 when students all over the South started sitting in at lunch counters, and I knew that as they were sitting in, they were really standing up for the best in the American dream and taking the whole nation back to those great wells of democracy which were dug deep by the founding fathers in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. If I had sneezed, I wouldn't have been around in 1962 when Negroes in Albany, Georgia, decided to straighten their backs up. And whenever men and women straighten their backs up, they're going somewhere because a man can't ride your back unless it is bent. If I had sneezed, I wouldn't have been here in 1963 when the black people of Birmingham, Alabama aroused the

conscience of this nation and brought into being the Civil Rights Act. If I had sneezed, I wouldn't have had a chance later that year in August to try to tell America about a dream that I had had. If I had sneezed, I wouldn't have been down in Selma, Alabama, been in Memphis, to see the community rally around those brothers and sisters who are suffering. I'm so happy that I didn't sneeze. Now it really doesn't happen, what matters. I left Atlanta this morning and as we got started on the plane, there were six of us, the pilot said over public address system, "We are sorry for the delay but we have Dr. Martin Luther King on the plane. And to be sure all the bags were checked, and to be sure that nothing would be wrong with the plane, we had to check out everything carefully. And we've had the plane protected and guarded all night." And then I got to Memphis and some began to say the threats, or the talk about the threats. Oh, I don't know. What would happen to me from some of our sick brothers? I don't know what will happen now. We've got some difficult days ahead. But it doesn't matter, because I have been to the mountaintop. And I don't mind -- like anybody I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about all of that now. I just want to do God's will. And he has allowed me to go up to the mountain, and I have looked over and I have seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you but I want you to know tonight that we as a people, we will get to the Promised Land. And I'm happy tonight. I'm not worried about anything. I'm not fearing any man for mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord." Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

Representative COLLINGS: Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I am so very honored today to recognize the life of Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Someone who undoubtedly has had an impact to every corner of this world, including when I was a boy, up along the St. John River on the Canadian border in Fort Kent, Dr. King was a personal hero of mine. And a lot of the work I did in politics and advocacy was due to his influence he had on me. So therefore, years later it was such a pleasure when I was able to meet the widow Coretta Scott King. Representative Talbot Ross introduced me to her at an event. And during the dinner I looked up at her at the podium and she looked at me and smiled. And after, when she was leaving, I was introduced to her personally and she said, I know, I recognized you. I looked down at the table saw all these beautiful people there. And I think she meant my date with me. I don't think she was talking about me. But anyway, that was such a great honor to have met someone who was part of that legacy, one of the greatest legacies in this country. And so I guess it's very timely that we talk about Dr. King today, with so many challenges that we do face here in Maine and across this country. And I think if we go back and listen to some of his wisdom, it could serve us well today. And I just would like to have one more moment to say -- I think it's relevant that I bring up three of his greatest lessons that may do good for us here in this Legislature. The first one I would say is about apathy, and what I mean is speaking about being silent. We all here need to speak up in times of injustice for those who don't have a voice. And as Dr. King said, we'll never remember the actions of our oppressors as much as we will remember the silence of our friends. The second point I'd like to say, to address, is faith. Obviously, this was a man of great faith, and that faith allowed him to move mountains. And he put his faith into action and really changed this world. And no matter what the challenge that was before him, his faith carried him through. And I think that is a good

reminder for all of us here today. And I think one of the last and most important lessons I'll share from Dr. King's legacy was about love and forgiveness and his comparison between liking someone and loving someone. And what he reminded us in his life was that you are not always going to like people, you are not going to agree on the politics, you may not like the way they dress, the way they talk, the way they look, but he said that we are commanded to love and forgive one another. And I think that's something we always must remember in all of our work. And I'd just like to close, Madam Speaker, by saying I hope that the memory of Dr. King can inspire all of us in this Legislature every day to do great things for all people in this great State of Maine. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Subsequently, the Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED**.
Sent for concurrence.

On motion of Representative LONGSTAFF of Waterville, the following House Order: (H.O. 17)

ORDERED, that Representative Frances M. Head of Bethel be excused January 11 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Timothy S. Theriault of China be excused January 11 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Karleton S. Ward of Dedham be excused January 11 for personal reasons.

READ and PASSED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The following matters, in the consideration of which the House was engaged at the time of adjournment Tuesday, January 17, 2017, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Joint Order To Amend Joint Rule 316

(H.P. 40)

(Joint Select Committee on **JOINT RULES** suggested)
TABLED - January 11, 2017 (Till Later Today) by Representative CHAPMAN of Brooksville.
PENDING - **PASSAGE.**

Subsequently, Representative CHAPMAN of Brooksville moved that the Joint Order and all accompanying papers be **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED.**

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Brooksville, Representative Chapman.

Representative CHAPMAN: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Friends and Colleagues of the House, I want to take just a moment to explain what this Joint Order was intended to do and why I'm proposing to Indefinitely Postpone it. Very briefly, this has to do with the tribal members of the House and their ability relative to voting for the Speaker of the House, the Clerk of the House, and the Assistant Clerk of House. We had a little confusion on this matter a couple of years ago, and I sought to clarify that confusion by introducing this House Order. At the same time, there are valid questions, it's not definitive but there are valid questions concerning the constitutionality of what I had proposed in the Joint Order. And I'd rather not delve into the constitutional arguments because to me that would be a distraction from the primary purpose for which I introduced the Order. And that primary purpose is to remind us that the relationship between the state and the tribes in the state are a matter of responsibility for all members of government and all branches of government, and therefore I

think it important for us to be able to recognize that when we have an opportunity to improve the state tribal relations, I would like that we take those opportunities. And so my purpose in bringing this forward primarily was to remind us of the importance of our responsibility in improving the relationships between the state government and the tribal governments. And having done that by being allowed to speak right at this moment, I will conclude by saying that I think the matter should be Indefinitely Postponed. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, Representative Bear.

Representative BEAR: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Just briefly, I agree with my friend's motion to postpone indefinitely. And the reasons are, we must obey the Constitution of the State of Maine as to all of these matters within the jurisdiction. The important reminder is that we are, as Representatives, invited by you to be here which we very much appreciate. I acknowledge and appreciate the mention of the need to always look to maintain good relations, to improve on relations, to clear up misunderstandings, whenever they occur. And I have proposals, if you've seen the list, to recommend we do just that this session. But I want to thank the member for proposing the resolve. And his intent is good, but in my view unnecessary in the sense that we clearly know our role. And it's outside the Constitution that we are here as a privilege extended by you to us, and we very much appreciate that today. And I will continue to appreciate that into the future, Madam Speaker, and to all of you. Thank you.

Subsequently, the Joint Order and all accompanying papers were **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED** and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Eliminate Retirement Benefits and Paid Health Insurance for Legislators Elected after 2017"

(H.P. 18) (L.D. 17)

TABLED - January 17, 2017 (Till Later Today) by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.

PENDING - **FURTHER CONSIDERATION.**

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

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

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 61)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 10:00 in the morning.

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

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Fund Animal Control Officers and Animal Shelters"

(S.P. 59) (L.D. 167)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Sex Offender Registry"

(S.P. 57) (L.D. 138)

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 Increase Reimbursement for Child Care Services"

(S.P. 58) (L.D. 166)

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 Increase the Safety of Motorists on Public Ways"

(S.P. 56) (L.D. 137)

Resolve, Directing the Department of Transportation To Install a Caution Light in New Sweden

(S.P. 60) (L.D. 168)

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

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

Bill "An Act Regarding the Eviction Process"

(S.P. 55) (L.D. 136)

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

On motion of Representative HERBIG of Belfast, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** in concurrence and later today assigned.

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

On motion of Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland, the House adjourned at 11:43 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 24, 2017, pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 61) and in honor and lasting tribute to the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.