

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
16th Legislative Day
Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Representative HERBIG of Belfast assumed the Chair.
The House met according to adjournment and was called to order by the Speaker Pro Tem.
Prayer by Pastor Brian H. Rebert, New Hope Baptist Church, Farmington.
National Anthem by Madison Contreras, Avon.
Pledge of Allegiance.
The Journal of Thursday, February 22, 2018 was read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 447)

**STATE OF MAINE
SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT
CUMBERLAND COUNTY COURTHOUSE
205 NEWBURY STREET, ROOM 139
PORTLAND, MAINE 04101-4125**

January 11, 2018
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:
I am pleased to accept your invitation to address a Joint Convention of the 128th Maine Legislature on Tuesday, February 27, 2018, at 11:00 a.m. I appreciate the courtesy of the Legislative Branch of government in inviting me to address the cause of justice in Maine.
I look forward to seeing you on February 27, 2018.
Sincerely,
S/Leigh I. Saufley
Chief Justice

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 448)

**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

February 27, 2018
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:"
Insurance and Financial Services
L.D. 1753 An Act To Protect Consumers from Bank Overdraft Fees by Prohibiting the Resequencing of Withdrawal Transactions

Transportation
L.D. 1750 An Act To Allow the Operation of Autocycles on Roads in Maine

Sincerely,
S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of House
READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Provide Incentives To Attract Trained Firefighters to Maine and To Retain Trained Firefighters by Expanding the Provision of Live Fire Service Training"
(H.P. 1282) (L.D. 1845)

Sponsored by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.
Cosponsored by President THIBODEAU of Waldo and Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, GOLDEN of Lewiston, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, NADEAU of Winslow, THERIAULT of China, Senators: CARSON of Cumberland, CYRWAY of Kennebec, MAKER of Washington.
Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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 Require the Provision of Photographic Identification by Voters"

(H.P. 1283) (L.D. 1846)

Sponsored by Representative FARRIN of Norridgewock. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Cosponsored by Senator WHITEMORE of Somerset and Representative: FREDETTE of Newport, Senators: COLLINS of York, MASON of Androscoggin, President THIBODEAU of Waldo.

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

Representative GOLDEN of Lewiston moved that the Bill be **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE**.

Representative ESPLING of New Gloucester **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **TABLE** pending **REFERENCE**.

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

The **SPEAKER**: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is to Table pending Reference. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 493

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

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

ABSENT - Bates, Bickford, Fredette, Grignon, Haggan, Herrick, Higgins, Lawrence, Martin R, Nadeau, Sanderson, Tepler, Wood, Madam Speaker.

Yes, 73; No, 64; Absent, 14; Excused, 0.

73 having voted in the affirmative and 64 voted in the negative, with 14 being absent, and accordingly the Bill was **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

At this point, a message came from the Senate borne by Senator MASON of Androscoggin of that Body, proposing a Joint Convention of both branches of the Legislature to be held in the Hall of the House at 10:45 in the morning for the purpose of extending to the Honorable Leigh I. Saufley, Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, and members of the Judiciary, an invitation to attend the Joint Convention and to make such communication as pleases the Chief Justice.

Thereupon the House voted to concur in the proposal for a Joint Convention to be held at 10:45 in the morning and the Speaker Pro Tem appointed Representative GOLDEN of Lewiston to convey this message to the Senate.

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:

Thomas Craig Watt, of Greenville, a member of Boy Scout Troop No. 120, who has attained the high rank and distinction of Eagle Scout. This is the highest award in Boy Scouting and is given for excellence in skills development, leadership, personal growth and community service. We extend our congratulations to him on this achievement;

(HLS 915)

Presented by Representative STEARNS of Guilford.

Cosponsored by Senator DAVIS of Piscataquis.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative STEARNS of Guilford, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Guilford, Representative Stearns.

Representative **STEARNS**: Madam Speaker, it's my true pleasure this morning to welcome the extended Watt family, from Greenville, to the chamber, in honor of Thomas Watt, a sophomore at Greenville High School recently achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. He's also joined by his brother, who is a senior, John Watt, who is also an Eagle Scout. As a matter of fact, while I'm on a roll, Troop 120 in Greenville has six boy

scouts. Four of them have achieved the rank of Eagle, and that's probably one of the highest troop percentages of Eagle Scouts in the United States. I think we're going to have to look into that. So I'm very pleased to have them here. Thomas is a great student of government and politics, and I'm sure that today's proceedings might give him impetus to further -- go further in that direction.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Kennebunk, Representative Babbidge.

Representative **BABBIDGE**: Thank you. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Forty-five years ago, I had the good fortune to move to the town of Greenville, and I became aware of the Watt family. Stuart, in this past half century, has become a great public citizen and asset to the community of Greenville. Years later, when I was judging the U.S. Senate Youth Fellowship Program, I was able to meet Craig, who I actually had known as a young child, but this time as a high school applicant for another superlative. Today, I honor Craig's son, who has become an Eagle Scout. My great affection for this family and their contributions I want to express today, and I congratulate Thomas Craig Watt. Thank you.

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

Subsequently, Representative GOLDEN of Lewiston reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

In Memory of:

Riley Henry Boulay, of Liberty, who passed away unexpectedly at 16 years of age. Riley loved to help all those in need: his family, his friends and even strangers. He was a junior at Mount View High School and a student in the electrical trades program at Waldo County Technical Center. He won first place in the Augusta ABC Electrical Competition this year. He had recently started working at O'Reilly Auto Parts in Belfast. Riley will be long remembered and sadly missed by his parents, Luke and Jackie, and by his family, his friends and all those whose lives he touched;

(SLS 718)

On **OBJECTION** of Representative KINNEY of Knox, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Knox, Representative Kinney.

Representative **KINNEY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I had the pleasure of knowing Riley and his family for over nine years. I'm going to have a really hard time getting through this. On Thursday, this memorial sentiment was presented in the other body, and there was not a dry eye in the room. Riley's accomplishments in Mount View sports were recognized, but I knew another side of Riley, for I was his sacramental preparation teacher at Saint Francis Catholic Church in Belfast.

From his second-grade year on, I watched Riley grow up in his faith, up until the Sunday morning prior to his death. He had a smile that was contagious. He was a considerate young man and cared for his community. During the October wind storm and subsequent power outage, Riley was working with the local volunteer fire department, and they were gathering generators to try to help those in need, and he knew of an elderly neighbor that was on oxygen and made sure that one of those generators made it over to that family so that they would have their oxygen and have power and heat.

I have never seen our church so packed as the day that Riley -- Riley's funeral was; not on Christmas, not on Easter. It was standing room only, and people -- it was to the point people couldn't even get into the church. His friends filled the body of the church. His love of his faith extended to his friends, and they came to say goodbye, only to be able to say "adieu." And, in French, the meaning of "adieu" is "to God," and that was said -- Riley had French heritage, and that was the way that we said goodbye to Riley. It wasn't goodbye. It was to see him later, and we will; and I couldn't let today go by without mentioning this special young man that has made such an impact on my heart. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was **ADOPTED** in concurrence.

In Memory of:

Eva Thompson, of Camden. A champion for end-of-life care and prominent local figure, Mrs. Thompson was a force in the Camden/Rockport area, working as a hospice volunteer, bereavement counselor and interfaith community minister. Mrs. Thompson will be long remembered and sadly missed by her family and friends and all those whose lives she touched;

(HLS 916)

Presented by Representative CASÁS of Rockport.

Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox, Senator KATZ of Kennebec.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative CASÁS of Rockport, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Rockport, Representative Casás.

Representative **CASÁS**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Women and Men of the House, on December 29th, two short months ago, my constituent, Eva Thompson, took her last breath on this plane of existence. She was surrounded by loved ones, yes, but loved ones who since 2013 had been dreading that very day.

In 2013, Eva was diagnosed with terminal metastatic colon cancer. When Eva reached out to me in 2016, she was quite matter-of-fact in telling me that she was living on borrowed time, and her medical team agreed. In those final years, after raising her family and finally closing in on retirement age, Eva chose to grapple with one final issue: being able to end her suffering at a time and in a way of her choosing. Now, one might think that someone advocating for a medical prescription that would surely end their life should be considered suicidal. However, this was not the case for Eva, and I'm guessing it's not the case for many terminally ill patients. In fact, I had to testify on Eva's behalf in favor of LD 347, "An Act To Support Death with Dignity." Why? Because Eva was in the cancer ward that day, continuing her treatment and fighting hard for every additional day that she could spend with her family. As Eva told me, she did not want to die, she was dying. And as Eva's daughter, Kayla, recently stated to me, there is an essential and fundamental difference between those two.

Now, I cannot imagine what a family goes through when dealing with something as personal as this, but one could speculate that after a life well-lived and with a diagnosis of terminal, one's brain might focus on those very last moments and how they would like them to go. But, in spite of this knowledge of the impending end, Eva's final days were not how she envisioned. Eva's daughter, Kayla, shared with me her thoughts on those final days, and Kayla said "There were no deathbed revelations or profound conversations as you see

in the movies. She was not conscious. Those last three days were not living. Instead, she was jaundiced, she was unable to eat, she was unable to move on her own. My mother, the most private and independent person I knew, had to be bodily lifted and bathed, and have water dripped into her mouth, and her pain kept at bay by morphine that she was unable to ask for. In my selfish love for her, I wanted to steal every second that I could with her, but still, if I could have spared her those last few days of lying helpless and in pain, I would have."

Now, Eva was an interfaith minister and hospice and palliative care provider who had also been diagnosed with terminal cancer, so she had set at a junction few of us can ever have claimed to have seen. End-of-life decisions are delicate, and rightfully so. Those departing might have a different perspective than those remaining, which makes these conversations that much harder. So, I do not ask, Madam Speaker, anything of anyone in this body, other than this: do your best to see other's perspectives, especially those hard and uncomfortable perspectives. Do not compromise on your values, but continue to strive to see those other perspectives.

I will leave you all with these words, and they are not my words, they are not the words of a renowned medical professional or the words of a family member who struggled for years in preparation for their loved one's end. They are Eva Thompson's words, spoken a few brief months before her final breath. Eva said, "For me, it comes down to rights and freedom. You might have views of this from a religious standpoint, from a political standpoint, but until you're the person dying, I don't think you can fully appreciate how important it is to have control over how the end goes." Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

Representative **HYMANSON**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I learned of and spoke with and had interactions with Eva Thompson through the Death with Dignity bill, in Health and Human Services, and she became a signator, along with me, to endorse moving forward the planned Death with Dignity Citizen's Referendum that she, as a hospice and palliative care professional and a minister, cared so deeply about. Thank you.

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

The Speaker resumed the Chair.

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

At this point, the Senate came and a Joint Convention was formed.

In Convention

The President Pro Tem of the Senate, the Honorable Roger J. Katz in the Chair.

The Convention was called to order by the Chair.

On motion by the Senator of Waldo, President THIBODEAU, under unanimous consent, it was

ORDERED, that a Committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable Leigh Ingalls Sautley, Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, the Justices of the Supreme Judicial Court and members of the Judiciary and inform them that the

two branches of the Legislature are in Convention assembled, ready to receive such communications as pleases the Chief Justice.

The Order was **READ** and **PASSED**.

The Chair will appoint the following:

The Senator from Oxford, Senator KEIM

The Senator from Somerset, Senator WHITTEMORE

The Senator from York, Senator HILL

The Representative from Portland, Representative MOONEN

The Representative from Harpswell, Representative McCREIGHT

The Representative from Kennebunk, Representative BABBIDGE

The Representative from Saco, Representative BAILEY

The Representative from Bangor, Representative CARDONE

The Representative from South Portland, Representative RECKITT

The Representative from Glenburn, Representative GUERIN

The Representative from Hodgdon, Representative SHERMAN

The Representative from Vassalboro, Representative BRADSTREET

The Representative from Monticello, Representative JOHANSEN

Subsequently, Senator KEIM of Oxford, for the Committee reported that the Honorable Leigh Ingalls Saufley, Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court, and the Honorable members of the Judiciary will attend forthwith.

The Chair welcomed to the Convention the Honorable members of the Judiciary.

The Chair recognized the Justices of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court: Associate Justice Donald G. Alexander, Associate Justice Andrew M. Mead, Associate Justice Ellen A. Gorman, Associate Justice Joseph M. Jabar, Associate Justice Jeffrey L. Hjelm, and Associate Justice Thomas E. Humphrey. The Chair also recognized Chief Justice Roland A. Cole of the Superior Court, Deputy Chief Judge Robert E. Mullen of the District Court, Chief Judge Susan Oram of the District Court, and Deputy Chief Judge Susan Sparaco of the District Court.

The Chair welcomed to the Convention the Honorable Leigh Ingalls Saufley, Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court.

The Chair recognized in the House Gallery William E. Saufley, Esq., husband of Chief Justice Saufley; Dick and Janet Ingalls, parents of Chief Justice Saufley; Chief Judge Eric M. Mehnert, Penobscot Nation Tribal Court; Judge William B. Blaisdell IV, President Probate Judges' Assembly; James T. Glessner, State Court Administrator; and Julie Finn, Legislative Analyst.

The Chair requested the Honorable Leigh Ingalls Saufley, Chief Justice of the Maine Supreme Judicial Court, to please step forward and address the Joint Convention.

Chief Justice **SAUFLEY**: Do you know this is the 17th time I have addressed you, and it's the first time I've been brave enough to use that gavel? It's also larger than any of the gavels in the separate-but-equal Judicial Branch. I may have to take this with me.

Good morning, President Thibodeau, Speaker Gideon. Thank you, Senator Katz. It's delightful to have you introducing me today, although I am a little concerned that maybe

President Thibodeau has been benched, but we'll have that conversation later.

Thank you for the honor of this invitation to address you today on the state of Maine's Judiciary. I know that you face a tremendous amount of work to complete in this short session, and I greatly appreciate your courtesy in sharing your time in order to receive input from the Judicial Branch. Before I begin, I'm going to do this all over again, but there's actually a method to my madness. I'm going to ask the people in the gallery to stand once again, and introduce them. I think it's important in particular for you to see the other courts that are here today, because we all work together to make sure people understand what justice is. So, I'm going to ask them to stand again and I'm going to ask you to hold your applause until I've introduced them. And that allows me to introduce my handsome husband, Bill Saufley, once again. So, that answers the question, "is the longsuffering Bill Saufley still suffering," and the answer is yes, he's here with us today. And Jan and Dick Ingalls, who are my parents, who are two of the most amazing people on the earth. And, next Ted Glessner, who is our State Court Administrator, absolutely extraordinary in his work, and Chief Judge Eric Mehnert from the Penobscot Tribal Courts. And, last but certainly not least, Judge William Blaisdell, who is the president of the Probate Judges' Assembly. I thank you all for being here today, and now we will say thank you again.

And next I want to introduce my colleagues, because it's important for you to know the people who are in judicial leadership in the State of Maine. Again, I'll ask you to hold your applause until the end. From the Supreme Court, Justices Donald G. Alexander, Andrew Mead, Ellen Gorman, Joe Jabar, Jeff Hjelm, and Tom Humphrey, and the Trial Court Chiefs, Chief Justice Roland Cole, Deputy Chief Justice Bob Mullen, Chief Judge Susan Oram, and Deputy Chief Judge Susan Sparaco. Thank you very much for your support here today.

It's not as loud as I would like it to be. I have to tell you that I am incredibly grateful for the personal commitment and wisdom of these Judicial leaders as well as the Judges and Magistrates throughout the State of Maine who work so hard every day to help Maine people resolve disputes, seek redress for injuries, find safety in chaos, and, most important, find justice. I'm pleased to tell you today that the foundation of Maine's Judiciary is solid, but we're facing several serious challenges. So, today I will focus on three key areas. First, regarding the infrastructure of the Judicial Branch, there's much good news. Second, I will update you on the court's exciting transition to digital records along with -- exciting, yes. There you go. It is for us, let me tell you. It's -- the blood pressure is all rising. Along with this exciting transition come several challenges, and I will give you an update on one of the most critical challenges. And, third, the opioid addiction crisis is not going away. We must improve our response to this crisis, and I'll give you a proposal for doing just that in the courts.

So, let's talk first about the infrastructure of the court system. For going on two decades we've been working with legislators and governors to address three serious problems in the court's infrastructure. Safety first. Improvement in courthouse safety has been substantial, although it's not yet complete. Every courthouse has entry screening equipment, and the Judicial Marshals, well-trained and very good at diffusing difficult situations, are able to provide entry screening on approximately 70% of our court days. During routine screening, Marshals intercept many potential weapons. Still, it's alarming that on six separate occasions in 2017 alone, the

Marshals prevented firearms from getting into Maine's courtrooms. We must reach 100% entry screening, and we will provide the 129th Maine Legislature with a plan to get us there.

Maine's courthouses have been badly in need of renovation and updating, and we are well on our way. Over the last 17 years, with your support and with the support of every Maine Governor, many of our centuries-old buildings have been renovated or replaced. If you get a chance, take a tour of one of those courthouses. The newly renovated courthouse in Machias is a terrific example of melding the beautiful old architecture with modernized access and capacity. Another example is the new courthouse that's right now being built for the people of Waldo County. Just a year from now, the public there will find access to justice in a single, consolidated court building that has enough courtrooms, is thoroughly handicapped accessible, has ample onsite parking and is right in downtown Belfast. Over the next several years, projects in Oxford and York County will provide those communities with much improved access to justice.

We've also improved the retention and recruitment of excellent court staff. As you've heard me say regularly, the Judicial Branch is made up of buildings and people. Those people, 518 hardworking folks who cover the entire state, comprise only 4% of the total number of state employees. Seventy-one of the 518 court employees are judicial officers, judges and magistrates, but the vast majority of Judicial Branch employees are clerks and marshals. They are the people who greet and help members of the public on some of the worst days of their lives. And for far too many years, we did not compensate those employees in a way that respected the detailed, challenging, and patient work that they must do, day in and day out.

During the recession that affected everyone ten years ago, state employee salaries were frozen at the 2008 level for several years. As the recession ended, we struggled to retain good employees, and we experienced difficulty in recruiting due to these uncompetitive salaries. I want to publicly thank you, the 128th Maine Legislature, and recognize especially the Judiciary and Appropriations Committees for responding to our request for support for those employees, and for addressing that critical need. With your support, for the first time in many years, the Judicial Branch is fully staffed, thanks to the competitive salaries that help us retain and attract the best employees, often unsung heroes, who serve the justice needs of Maine people.

With infrastructure of the court system improving all the time, we've been able to turn our energies and attention to some of the more complex justice needs. The criminal process changes that the trial court chiefs and the trial judges across the state have worked so hard to implement have resulted in substantial improvements. Most criminal charges in Maine are now resolved in less than nine months. Recently, Maine's sheriffs have responded helpfully to the changes you enacted, requiring that they provide the courts with bimonthly updates identifying their jail populations. This improvement represents a simple, but very effective, method of assisting the judges as they work to address priority cases first. Regional meetings are underway between the bench and bar to create further efficiencies that will help the Maine Commission on Indigent Legal Services better serve the public. An improved process for notification and review of unpaid fines has helped people follow through on their responsibilities, while avoiding the disruption of arrest warrants.

In civil cases, Maine has taken the lead in New England on improving civil process, to allow individuals and businesses to

obtain meaningful remedies less expensively and in a shorter timeframe. Many improvements will be rolled out during this next year; and at the same time, the very successful business and consumer docket continues to resolve, in an average of ten months, complex, multi-party business cases that would formerly have taken years to complete. In the areas of family and probate law, we must all be grateful to the Probate and Trust Law Advisory Commission, which has drafted a comprehensive update to Title 18-A, the Probate Code. See, that excitement is rising in the room again. So, let me tell you this, even more impressive has been the consistent and detailed work of the Joint Standing Committee on the Judiciary on this project. That Committee, led by Senator Lisa Keim and Representative Matt Moonen, has undertaken a careful, section-by-section review of the entire probate code revision. The people of this state can be very proud of the attention to detail and commitment to excellence that these legislators have demonstrated.

I also want to thank the Family Law Advisory Commission, led by Justice Wayne Douglas, as well as Professor Deirdre Smith of the University of Maine School of Law, for their very important work integrating family law improvements into the Probate Code, reducing the confusing patchwork of laws that has made resolution of family disputes difficult for the public. And a very heartfelt thanks is in order for your own legislative analyst, Peggy Reinsch, whose clarity of reporting and organizational talent has been a great assistance with this complex project. Peggy is another of the unsung heroes in State Government, and I'm going to ask Peggy to stand and accept our thanks for all of her work.

Moving now to appellate law -- see, it keeps getting more exciting with each stage. As you know, the Supreme Judicial Court travels every year to high schools around the state to hold oral arguments in real cases. As of late last spring, we had traveled to 38 high schools throughout the state. This is the point at which I would thank Senator Martin for his -- did I get that wrong? Are you a Representative this year? I may need a good lawyer before this is over. So, let me just say that I would have thanked Representative Martin for his original, wonderful idea, except that I think he's receiving altogether too much praise from this very podium this month, so I'm going to move on quickly before I get into more trouble.

Last year, at the invitation of Senator Mason and Speaker Gideon and Senator Keim, we traveled to Freeport High and then to Mountain Valley High Schools. Our scheduled trip to Westbrook, at the invitation of Representative Gattine, sadly had to be canceled as a result of a tragedy. We hope to get to Westbrook this fall, and then Wells at the invitation of Representative Foley and Senator Collins, with a trip to Sanford in the spring with Representative Mastraccio, where I understand we will be breaking in a brand-new auditorium. These high school oral arguments provide a wonderful opportunity for us to get out of the courthouses, meet students and teachers and legislative leaders, and see the results of your own advocacy in these communities.

Just a couple of quick updates regarding the legal profession. I'm grateful to the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, which has given its approval to a bill sponsored by Representative Bailey that will provide tax incentives for lawyers who move to underserved areas of Maine to help expand access to justice. The cost is very small, and I hope you will give it your support. And, this year, the legal profession in Maine, lawyers and judges, will be undertaking a searching analysis of the potential that sexual harassment exists within the profession. In a profession that is founded

upon concepts of justice and fairness, there is no room for harassment, bullying, or bias, and we will all be working together on these concerns.

I turn now to the exciting progress in the development of digital court records. As you know, working with Tyler Technologies, we're in the process of deploying a modern digital case management system, and I am very pleased to report, this fall, the first component of the new system will go live with the Violations Bureau, the court's statewide system for processing traffic infractions. Every year, nearly 100,000 new traffic tickets are filed in the Violations Bureau. In years past, members of the public have had to wait for the antiquated system to catch up before they could pay their fines or correct their records. That can take days and sometimes weeks. The new system will be much more efficient and accessible for the public, and in the following year, e-ticketing and the connection to the Secretary of State's office will augment the system so that information will be smoothly available across the systems to anyone with a traffic ticket problem, and licenses can be quickly reinstated. Excited?

Well, until you have worked on a brand-new digital system, you just have no idea how much detail there is, so I appreciate that. In the fall of 2019 we will go live with all the case types in Penobscot and Piscataquis counties, which seems fitting because the initial proponent of the electronic case management system way back in 2010 was a freshman lawyer-legislator from Newport, in Penobscot County. And, again, I'm being careful with names this year, because I think half of you are running for Governor. So, we'll move on.

Implementing the new case management system brings us to one of the significant challenges that we must all address together: how to balance the public's right to governmental transparency with the personal privacy concerns raised by advancements in technology. In recent years we've all seen news reports about identity theft and cybersecurity concerns. For obvious reasons, domestic violence advocates have recommended strong protection for digital court records. Nationally, privacy experts are raising concerns about access to personal, private information through internet-based searches of newly digitized court records. This is no less a problem in the State of Maine. Social Security numbers and detailed information describing financial assets are required to be disclosed in many court matters, especially those involving families, divorce, and child support. Extremely personal medical and mental health information is required to be filed in medical malpractice cases, family matters, and personal injury cases. Dates of birth are a critical part of correctly identifying a defendant in a criminal case, especially when the defendant's last name is a common name like Smith or Jones.

As we shift from paper to digital records, the ease of public access to court records, including internet access and data broker access, raises concerns about identify theft, safety, and protection for personal privacy. Make no mistake, however, most court records have historically been publicly available and must remain accessible. Public confidence in the justice system is at stake. The public's right to know what its government is doing must be respected, but we must be careful not to confuse the public's right to know what the government is doing with an unlimited right to obtain private information about individuals simply because those individuals must interact with government.

The challenge requires a very careful response. So, last year, the Supreme Judicial Court formed a task force made up of representatives of many groups who use the court: juvenile justice, low-income, and family representatives; domestic and

sexual violence victims' advocates; privacy experts; the ACLU; and the media, among others. The task force studied the practices and experiences of other courts, reviewed Maine law, analyzed developing jurisprudence, and considered the opinions of experts on these issues. It presented its report to the Court in the fall of '17, and I am personally grateful to the task force members who spent so many hours studying these important issues and making recommendations, and we send them our gratitude. Once the report was received, we sought written comments and recommendations from the public. We have received a great deal of written input. The report and all of the comments are available on the Court's public website. You'll want to read them all right away.

We are reviewing the comments, and we will hold a public hearing for further input later this spring. Many decisions are yet to be made, and there will be multiple opportunities for input and discussion. In the meantime, however, I want to be clear about several items that have generated some confusion. First and foremost, the new system will provide litigants with internet access to their own files. It will not be necessary for a party to have an attorney in order to have digital online access. Indeed, parties will be able to log in and access their court files, 24/7, from anywhere in the world where the internet is available. And a huge amount of information will be newly available to the public in nonconfidential cases, including judicial decisions and actions, docket entries, schedules, and calendars. Currently, none of that information is available online. The new system will dramatically expand litigant and public access to court records; but there are challenging decisions ahead. Ultimately, the task force recommended that new rules and statutes be developed very carefully. There is much wisdom in that recommendation. The consequences of these decisions will affect the public in ways we may not yet anticipate. I will be seeking your input next year, and I look forward to a robust conversation with the stakeholders.

I move now to a topic that cannot wait: the opioid addiction crisis. My focus is necessarily on the ways that the court can address the challenges, but the crisis is affecting every aspect of life in Maine and across the country. The statistics gathered by the Attorney General's office, the Department of Public Safety, DHHS and national organizations tell a heartbreaking story. For context, in 2011, 522 child protection petitions were filed by DHHS in Maine courts. By 2015, that number had almost doubled, rising to 1,002 petitions in that one year. In 2017, there were 937 new child protection petitions. In fiscal year 2016, federal fiscal year 2016, Maine ranked sixth in the nation for cases in which drug or alcohol use was indicated as a contributing factor for the removal of children from their parents. That's 55% of the cases, and it has risen to 60% as of last year. In 2017, 14,000 Mainers between the age of 16 and 24 were neither in school nor working. It affects our criminal justice system. The Department of Public Safety and the DEA in Maine report that they intercepted literally millions of doses of heroin and fentanyl in 2017. Notwithstanding these interceptions, and even though criminal case filings continue to drop slightly each year, judges, prosecutors, and the defense bar all record that the amount of substance abuse and mental illness involved in criminal charges is expanding every year.

Drug Courts are helping, but the numbers are small. In 2017, 254 people participated in an adult Drug Court. Fifty-one of those people in 2017 successfully graduated from a Drug Court, and the most recent evaluation of the Drug Courts indicates that a recidivism rate of 16% applies to those who graduate. That's a very hopeful statistic; but the Drug Courts currently do not reach enough people, and the success rate

remains challenging. Of the 254 people participating in Drug Courts last year, 45 defendants, almost 20%, had to be terminated from the program before the year was over; and by the end of 2017 there were only 142 active Drug Court participants. There were 19 defendants in the Co-Occurring Disorders Court and 12 in the Veterans Court. But the crisis affecting our communities is happening in much larger numbers.

As you've heard, the Attorney General reports that, in 2017, there were 418 drug-induced deaths in Maine. That's an 11% increase over 2016. 12% of the deaths were understood to be suicides; 87% were accidental overdose deaths. The same report indicates that 85% of the 418 deaths were caused by at least one opioid, with fentanyl causing 58% of the deaths from overdose. On average, one person dies every 21 hours from a drug overdose in the State of Maine. I'm going to say that again. On average, in Maine, one person dies every 21 hours from a drug overdose. Overdose fatalities have now far outstripped traffic fatalities. In 2017, 2,503 doses of Narcan were administered by EMTs in Maine, and in the same year 952 drug-affected babies were born in Maine.

Okay, enough of the numbers. If you are like me, they become mind-numbing and depersonalizing. So, I would say that the stark reality is this: people are dying, families are hurting, communities feel helpless. We know we're not alone; this is happening in many other states. But we shouldn't sugarcoat it. What we in government are doing is not enough. We have to try harder. We need to match our own sense of urgency with rapid access to treatment and seriously comprehensive follow-up.

Today, for court-based responses, I recommend a twofold approach. First, we must expand the number of communities where fully-resourced Drug Courts and Veterans Courts are available. And second, we should create an alternative to traditional Drug Courts to determine whether an expanded, comprehensive approach will be more successful. I'm therefore recommending a pilot project for a full-scale Wrap-Around Drug Court. This would be a first-of-its-kind project in Maine. It would include immediate and extensive access to addiction treatment, mental health treatment, comprehensive case management, testing, sober housing, job training, employment assistance, transportation, family-related services, and long-term follow-up. Thank you.

If we're able to fund this project, it must include thorough evaluations and rigorous application of nationally recognized best practices; and fairly quickly we will learn whether a more comprehensive approach to addiction actually yields better outcomes. It won't be inexpensive; but the long-term consequences of failing to find an answer to this crisis are beyond measuring. Governor LePage has given his preliminary support for the Wrap-Around Drug Court pilot project, and I hope that you will all work together to find the funding to move us in the right direction.

To be clear, no statutory changes are needed to accomplish either of these goals and-- you may want to write this down-- the Judicial Branch does not need additional funding to expand Drug Courts or manage a Wrap-Around pilot project. I'm looking at Representative Sherman. Did you ever think I would stand here and say we are not asking for resources for the Judicial Branch? As long as all of the trial court judicial positions are filled, the Judicial Branch will make this work. And Justice Nancy Mills, the chair of the Drug Court Steering Committee, stands ready to provide oversight and management for any expansions or innovations in Drug and Veteran Courts. However, and there's always a however,

significant resources are needed in the communities for, don't make me say it again, treatment, case management, testing, sober housing, and all of the services we have addressed. That's where your focus and funding efforts could be the most effective. Please, help us expand our response to this heartbreaking crisis.

Finally, I ask you to bear with me as I make a public service announcement. Many of you may be aware that, last summer, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. It was a complete shock. I am a sturdy Scottish lass, and I don't get sick. The good news is we caught it early. We caught it in an annual test with the new 3-D technology, and without that test I would not have known it was there. Within several months, I had completed the surgeries and radiation, and I was out the other side. Fortunately, I was even able to work through most of the treatment. All of that is because we caught it early. So, why am I telling you about my adventures in medicine? One, to say thank you to you, to Governor LePage, and to all of my colleagues. They were amazing. So many of you reached out in support and encouragement, and I learned that many of you or your family members have been through much worse; and the courage and grace in this state are amazing. I also have to say a public thank you to my incredible husband, who kept me laughing through the whole experience, and to my parents who were at my side throughout -- oops, I wasn't going to do this. Bear with me for a minute. So, we're going to -- while I'm having a -- let's cheer for --. Thank you. You have saved me from myself.

The major reason that I raise this issue today is this: I want to encourage every woman over 40 years old -- not that I am one of those -- but every woman who is over 40 years old to get your annual mammogram done. If you haven't done it already, schedule it today. The insurance for state employees completely covers the new technology, and for those who don't have that kind of insurance, there are many programs that will help or defray the costs. Schedule it now. Your family will thank you, and you will be able to continue to be an important part of this wonderful world. So, let me just say it again, get your mammograms done. Don't make me enter an Order; just do it.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for being a part of government. These are tough times for governing, but really wonderful people continue to put in the work necessary to be a meaningful part of our self-governing society; and without your persistence, patience, and willingness to do the hard work, democracy couldn't survive. Thank you for your dedication to our shared mission to improve access to justice, and with it, the strength of our democracy. Thank you very much.

The Chief Justice withdrew amid the applause of the Convention, the audience rising.

The purpose for which the Convention was assembled having been accomplished, the Chair declared the same dissolved.

The Senate then retired to its Chamber amid the applause of the House, the audience rising.

(After the Joint Convention)

The House was called to order by the Speaker.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Refer to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Pursuant to Statute

Representative TUCKER for the **Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources** on Bill "An Act To Amend the State's Electronic Waste Laws"

(H.P. 1284) (L.D. 1847)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 38, section 1772, subsection 5.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**.

Sent for concurrence.

Refer to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology

Pursuant to Statute

Representative BERRY for the **Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology** on Bill "An Act To Extend Arrearage Management Programs"

(H.P. 1285) (L.D. 1848)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 35-A, section 3214, subsection 2-A.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY**.

Sent for concurrence.

Refer to the Committee on State and Local Government

Pursuant to Statute

Representative MARTIN for the **Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government** on Bill "An Act To Eliminate Inactive Boards and Commissions"

(H.P. 1286) (L.D. 1849)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** pursuant to the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 5, section 12006, subsection 2.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**.

Sent for concurrence.

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Facilitate Wireless Broadband Deployment in Maine and Modify the Process for Issuing Utility Facility Location Permits"

(H.P. 1170) (L.D. 1690)

Signed:

Senator:

DION of Cumberland

Representatives:

- BERRY of Bowdoinham
- COOPER of Yarmouth
- DeCHANT of Bath
- HANLEY of Pittston
- HARVELL of Farmington
- O'CONNOR of Berwick
- RILEY of Jay
- RYKERSON of Kittery
- SANBORN of Portland

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

Signed:

Senator:

WOODSOME of York

Representative:

WADSWORTH of Hiram

READ.

On motion of Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham, the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on Bill "An Act To Allow Tobacco Retail Establishments To Serve Alcohol" (H.P. 923) (L.D. 1329)

Signed:

Senator:

CHIPMAN of Cumberland

Representatives:

- HYMANSON of York
- CHACE of Durham
- DENNO of Cumberland
- MADIGAN of Waterville
- McCREIGHT of Harpswell
- PARKER of South Berwick
- PERRY of Calais

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-603)** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senators:

- BRAKEY of Androscoggin
- HAMPER of Oxford

Representatives:

- HEAD of Bethel
- MALABY of Hancock
- SANDERSON of Chelsea

READ.

Representative HYMANSON of York moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report.

Representative FREDETTE of Newport **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report.

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

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought Not to Pass Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 494

YEA - Ackley, Alley, Austin B, Babbidge, Bailey, Bates, Battle, Beebe-Center, Berry, Blume, Bradstreet, Brooks, Bryant, Campbell, Cardone, Chace, Chapman, Collings, Cooper, Corey, Daughtry, DeChant, Denno, Devin, Dillingham, Doore, Duchesne, Dunphy, Espling, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau, Foley, Frey, Fuller, Gattine, Gerrish, Gillway, Golden, Grant, Guerin, Handy, Hanington, Harlow, Herbig, Hickman, Hilliard, Hogan, Hubbell, Hymanson, Jorgensen, Kinney M, Kornfield, Kumiega, Lawrence, Longstaff, Luchini, Madigan C, Madigan J, Martin J, Mastraccio, McCrea, McCreight, McElwee, McLean, Melaragno, Monaghan, Moonen, O'Neil, Parker, Perry, Pierce T, Pouliot, Reckitt, Riley, Rykerson, Sanborn, Schneck, Seavey, Sheats, Spear, Stanley, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Tuell, Vachon, Ward, Warren, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Austin S, Black, Cebra, Craig, Farrin, Fredette, Ginzler, Grohman, Hamann, Hanley, Harrington, Harvell, Hawke, Head, Johansen, Kinney J, Lockman, Lyford, Malaby, Marean, Mason, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Picchiotti, Pickett, Pierce J, Prescott, Reed, Sampson, Sherman, Simmons, Sirocki, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Sutton, Theriault, Timberlake, Turner, Wadsworth, Wallace, White, Winsor.

ABSENT - Bickford, Casas, Grignon, Haggan, Herrick, Higgins, Martin R, Nadeau, Sanderson, Skolfield, Tepler, Wood.

Yes, 93; No, 46; Absent, 12; Excused, 0.

93 having voted in the affirmative and 46 voted in the negative, with 12 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought Not to Pass** Report was **ACCEPTED** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-604)** on Bill "An Act To Reduce the Cost of Care Resulting from Blood-borne Infectious Diseases" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1187) (L.D. 1707)

Signed:

Senator:

CHIPMAN of Cumberland

Representatives:

HYMANSON of York
DENNO of Cumberland
HEAD of Bethel
MADIGAN of Waterville
MALABY of Hancock
McCREIGHT of Harpswell
PARKER of South Berwick
PERRY of Calais

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

Signed:

Senators:

BRAKEY of Androscoggin
HAMPER of Oxford

Representatives:

CHACE of Durham

SANDERSON of Chelsea

READ.

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

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

Representative **VACHON**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. As Chief Saufley said this morning, Maine has once again hit a record level of opioid deaths, now 418, one dying every 21 hours. As she said, we need all of the community support services to wrap around and address and combat this crisis.

Syringe exchange are a low entry point for an access to treatment. For pennies on the dollar, they are saving lives, they are leading people in -- into treatment, in a state where we are having high incidences of hepatitis C that, on average costs, \$84,000 per person to treat. This bill asks for \$75,000 to fund our needle exchanges that, quite frankly, are hanging by a financial thread. I just want to point out that it is a complete and utter myth, worldwide, that syringe exchange leads to more incidences of injected drug abuse. That is absolutely false. The exact opposite happens. So, I would like to ask for a roll call, and I ask that you follow my light. Thank you.

The same Representative **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: 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. 495

YEA - Ackley, Alley, Austin B, Babbidge, Bailey, Bates, Battle, Beebe-Center, Berry, Black, Blume, Brooks, Bryant, Campbell, Cardone, Chapman, Collings, Cooper, Corey, Daughtry, DeChant, Denno, Devin, Doore, Duchesne, Dunphy, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau, Frey, Fuller, Gattine, Ginzler, Golden, Grant, Grohman, Guerin, Hamann, Handy, Hanington, Harlow, Harvell, Hawke, Head, Herbig, Hickman, Hogan, Hubbell, Hymanson, Jorgensen, Kornfield, Kumiega, Lawrence, Longstaff, Luchini, Lyford, Madigan C, Madigan J, Malaby, Marean, Martin J, Mason, Mastraccio, McCrea, McCreight, McLean, Melaragno, Monaghan, Moonen, O'Connor, O'Neil, Parker, Perry, Picchiotti, Pickett, Pierce T, Pouliot, Reckitt, Riley, Rykerson, Sanborn, Schneck, Sheats, Sherman, Simmons, Spear, Stanley, Stearns, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Tuell, Vachon, Wallace, Warren, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Austin S, Bradstreet, Cebra, Chace, Craig, Dillingham, Espling, Farrin, Foley, Fredette, Gerrish, Gillway, Hanley, Harrington, Hilliard, Johansen, Kinney J, Kinney M, Lockman, McElwee, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Pierce J, Prescott, Reed, Sampson, Seavey, Sirocki, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Sutton, Theriault, Timberlake, Turner, Wadsworth, Ward, White, Winsor.

ABSENT - Bickford, Casas, Grignon, Haggan, Herrick, Higgins, Martin R, Nadeau, Sanderson, Skolfield, Tepler, Wood.

Yes, 99; No, 40; Absent, 12; Excused, 0.

99 having voted in the affirmative and 40 voted in the negative, with 12 being absent, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-604)** 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-604)** and sent for concurrence.

Nine Members of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** report in Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-606)** on Bill "An Act To Allow Veterans Free Admission to the Maine State Museum"

(H.P. 1141) (L.D. 1656)

Signed:

Senators:

LANGLEY of Hancock
MAKER of Washington
MILLETT of Cumberland

Representatives:

KORNFELD of Bangor
DAUGHTRY of Brunswick
FARNSWORTH of Portland
FULLER of Lewiston
McCREA of Fort Fairfield
PIERCE of Falmouth

Three Members of the same Committee report in Report "B" **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

GINZLER of Bridgton
SAMPSON of Alfred
TURNER of Burlington

One Member of the same Committee reports in Report "C" **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-607)** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

STEWART of Presque Isle

READ.

On motion of Representative KORNFELD of Bangor, Report "A" **Ought to Pass as Amended** was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-606)** 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-606)** 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:

(H.P. 935) (L.D. 1345) Bill "An Act To Provide Alternative Repayment Methods to Employees Overcompensated through an Employer Error" Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL**

GOVERNMENT reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-610)**

(H.P. 1150) (L.D. 1665) Bill "An Act To Maintain Mental Health Staffing at the Dorothea Dix Psychiatric Center and Support Statewide Forensic Services" Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-602)**

(H.P. 1160) (L.D. 1673) Bill "An Act Authorizing the Deorganization of Codyville Plantation" Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-609)**

(H.P. 1254) (L.D. 1808) Bill "An Act To Implement Recommendations Resulting from a State Government Evaluation Act Review of the Department of Environmental Protection by the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources" Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-608)**

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

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

(H.P. 930) (L.D. 1336) Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Process for a Single Municipality To Withdraw from a Regional School Unit" Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "B" (H-605)**

On motion of Representative HERBIG of Belfast, was **REMOVED** from the First Day Consent Calendar.

The Unanimous Committee Report was **READ**.

On further motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending **ACCEPTANCE** of the Committee Report and later today assigned.

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

An Act Regarding the Registry of Deeds in Oxford County

(H.P. 1167) (L.D. 1679)

(C. "A" H-598)

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. 120 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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

Emergency Measure

An Act To Correct a Technical Error Pertaining to the Dairy Improvement Fund

(S.P. 617) (L.D. 1681)
(C. "A" S-356)

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. 125 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

Acts

An Act To Require Health Insurance Coverage for Covered Services Provided by Naturopathic Doctors

(S.P. 337) (L.D. 1030)
(C. "A" S-363)

An Act To Ensure Continued Coverage for Essential Health Care

(H.P. 1015) (L.D. 1476)
(C. "A" H-595)

An Act To Revise the Grandparents Visitation Act

(H.P. 1157) (L.D. 1670)
(C. "A" H-597)

An Act To Clarify the Authority of the Chief Medical Examiner To Properly Dispose of Abandoned Human Remains

(H.P. 1197) (L.D. 1717)
(C. "A" H-596)

An Act To Amend Maine Criminal Code Sentencing Provisions Relating To Increased Sentencing Class Based on Multiple Prior Convictions for Certain Violent or Sexual Crimes

(S.P. 627) (L.D. 1728)
(C. "A" S-355)

An Act To Permit the Sale and Consumption of Alcohol in an Area That Is Not Contiguous to Licensed Premises

(S.P. 637) (L.D. 1738)
(C. "A" S-354)

An Act To Establish Requirements for Civil Deputies

(S.P. 661) (L.D. 1776)
(C. "A" S-361)

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 Thursday, February 22, 2018, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

HOUSE REPORT - **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-579)** - Committee on **JUDICIARY** on Bill "An Act To Protect Persons Who Provide Assistance to Law Enforcement Dogs, Search and Rescue Dogs and Service Dogs"

(H.P. 1196) (L.D. 1716)

TABLED - February 6, 2018 (Till Later Today) by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.

PENDING - **ACCEPTANCE OF COMMITTEE REPORT.**

Subsequently, the Unanimous Committee Report was **ACCEPTED.**

The Bill was **READ ONCE. Committee Amendment "A" (H-579)** 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.**

Representative MOONEN of Portland **PRESENTED House Amendment "A" (H-612)**, which was **READ** by the Clerk.

The SPEAKER: The Representative may proceed.

Representative **MOONEN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House, just briefly, this was a Unanimous Committee Report out of the Judiciary Committee. After it got out of committee, the Office of the Chief Executive brought us a concern about the bill. We considered it and found it to be a valid concern, and we definitely wanted to address it. I want to thank the Chief Executive, his counsel, and the sponsor of the bill for working with me on this amendment, and I'm glad that we can get this done and get this bill moving forward, and thanks to all of them for their support. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Subsequently, **House Amendment "A" (H-612)** was **ADOPTED.**

Subsequently, under further suspension of the rules, the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-579)** and **House Amendment "A" (H-612)** and sent for concurrence.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 449)

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

February 27, 2018
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 (H), I appoint Representative Erin D. Herbig of Belfast to serve as Speaker Pro Tem to convene the House on February 27, 2018.

Sincerely,

S/Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

On motion of Representative BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, the House adjourned at 12:09 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, March 1, 2018, in honor and lasting tribute to Eva Thompson, of Camden and Riley Henry Boulay, of Liberty.