

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
3rd Legislative Day
Thursday, January 11, 2018

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

Prayer by Honorable Denise A. Tepler, Topsham.

National Anthem by Gary Crocker, West Gardiner.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Michael Barnes, M.D., Cape Elizabeth.

The Journal of Tuesday, January 9, 2018 was read and approved.

Perkins of Oakland as a member of the Joint Select Committee on Marijuana Legalization Implementation effective immediately.

Furthermore, pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (I) (a), I have appointed Representative Jeffery P. Hanley of Pittston as a member of the Joint Select Committee on Marijuana Legalization Implementation.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

S/Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

SENATE PAPERS

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act To Improve Marketing Efficiency in the Harness Racing Industry by Requiring Its Promotion by the State Harness Racing Commission and by Repealing the Harness Racing Promotional Board"

(H.P. 1220) (L.D. 1766)

REFERRED to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** in the House on January 3, 2018.

Came from the Senate **REFERRED** to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

The House voted to **INSIST**.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 380)

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

January 9, 2018

Honorable Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Gideon:

Due to an increase in the commitments in my personal life, I hereby resign my seat on the Legislature's Joint Select Committee on Marijuana Legalization Implementation effective immediately.

Sincerely,

S/Michael D. Perkins

Maine State Representative, House District 77

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 381)

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

January 10, 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Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (I) (a), I have rescinded the appointment of Representative Michael D.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 379)

**MIDCOAST REGIONAL REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
15 TERMINAL ROAD, SUITE 200
BRUNSWICK, MAINE 04011**

January 5, 2018

Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau

President of the Senate

3 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Honorable Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Subject: Government Accountability Report (5 MRSA §12023)

Dear President Thibodeau and Speaker Gideon:

In compliance with the requirements of the Government Accountability and Oversight Law for quasi-independent State entities (5 MRSA §12023), please consider this letter of transmittal for the required report on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority (MRRRA) due by February 1, 2018.

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

Sincerely,

S/Jeffrey K. Jordan

Deputy Director

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Regarding Aggravated Trafficking of Scheduled Drugs"

(H.P. 1228) (L.D. 1783)

Sponsored by Representative GERRISH of Lebanon. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

Cosponsored by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland and Representatives: COREY of Windham, FOLEY of Wells, HERRICK of Paris, LONGSTAFF of Waterville, MAREAN of Hollis, NADEAU of Winslow, Senator: ROSEN of Hancock.

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 Encourage New Major Investments in Shipbuilding Facilities and the Preservation of Jobs"

(H.P. 1227) (L.D. 1781)

Sponsored by Representative DeCHANT of Bath.

Cosponsored by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc and Representatives: ESPLING of New Gloucester, FREDETTE of Newport, Speaker GIDEON of Freeport, GOLDEN of Lewiston, PIERCE of Dresden, Senators: JACKSON of Aroostook, MASON of Androscoggin, President THIBODEAU of Waldo.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

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

ORDERS

On motion of Representative LONGSTAFF of Waterville, the following House Order: (H.O. 52)

ORDERED, that Representative Richard T. Bradstreet of Vassalboro be excused January 3 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Michael G. Devin of Newcastle be excused June 21, 22, 23, 27, 28, 29, and 30; July 1, 3, and 20; August 2; October 23; and November 6, 2017 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Jared F. Golden of Lewiston be excused August 2 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Chad Wayne Grignon of Athens be excused October 23 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Wayne R. Parry of Arundel be excused January 3 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Rachel Talbot Ross of Portland be excused October 23 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Beth Peloquin Turner of Burlington be excused November 6 for personal reasons.

READ and **PASSED**.

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

Recognizing:

Jane Searles, of Bangor, who is retiring as a Regional Manager/Microenterprise Specialist after 32 years of work at New Ventures Maine. We extend to Ms. Searles our congratulations on her retirement and offer her our best wishes;

(HLS 839)

Presented by Representative CARDONE of Bangor.

Cosponsored by Senator GRATWICK of Penobscot, Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc, Representative FREY of Bangor, Representative KORNFIELD of Bangor, Representative SCHNECK of Bangor.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative CARDONE of Bangor, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar. **READ.**

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bangor, Representative Cardone.

Representative **CARDONE**: Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. In 1978, the Maine Legislature provided funding for a program through the University of Maine, Augusta, to help single parents, and those who were in financial need because of divorce or the death or disability of a spouse. It was to help those persons obtain education and training, as well as employment opportunities, so that they could re-enter the workforce. Because most of the people accessing this program were women, the program was known then as the Displaced Homemaker's Program.

Jane Searles, Mary Jane, but known to all of us as Jane, went to work for the program in 1985 as an employment specialist. I first met Jane in the late 1980s and, in fact, I sent several of my divorce clients, again mostly women, to her, to help them to prepare to re-enter the workforce with updated educational skills and access to job training and job placement. In fact, for many years Jane's name and phone number appeared on my rolodex, and ultimately on my speed dial and into my computer when we updated, because Jane was so helpful to the clients that I was serving.

In 1989, this program expanded to include not only workforce training but entrepreneurship, so it could help people start small businesses in the state. In the last ten years, they added a third aspect to this program, and that was money management. The program has undergone several name changes since 1978, but it is now known as New Ventures Maine: a statewide program with no fees for those who need to access their services and training.

At the time of her retirement earlier this month, Jane was a regional manager, a microenterprises specialist, for the North, Central, and Downeast region. Thanks to Jane's -- in no small part to Jane's 32 years of service, this program, started by the Legislature in 1978, is still going strong, helping more than one thousand Mainers annually return to the workforce or start their own business.

Jane, on behalf of the House and on behalf of the entire Legislature, I'd like to thank you for your service, your contribution to the Maine economy, and the work that you put in to bettering the lives of those who found themselves adrift financially because of life's changes.

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

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

SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 664)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 10:00 in the morning.

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

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

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

The SPEAKER: Just, as we come back into session, a couple of reminders for people. The first is, it is very difficult, I know, when you are ready to speak, when you press your button, it's hard to see that light, and I know sometimes, like, as I'm looking here, your name will flash on and off. If you can just cup your hands around that to take a look and see if it's on, because I don't -- I want to make sure I don't miss any of you as you are wanting to speak.

On that note, I know it is also difficult, as we all come back together and we want to catch up on things, to make sure that we are quiet in the chamber, but I am going to ask everyone for a concerted effort to take their conversations outside the chamber, or if they need to happen inside the chamber briefly, to keep it to a whisper so that we are affording everyone the respect they deserve as they speak; but, also, quite honestly, so that we can hear where we are, and sometimes it's even difficult for me to hear what the Clerk is saying.

And, then, finally, I just want to mention that, starting next week, folks who are returning from the 127th might remember that in year two of a session, termed-out members will come up and act as Speaker Pro Tem, and we are going to be starting that process next week, so nobody is surprised when they see other members come up and conduct business for at least part of the day.

The following Joint Resolution: (S.P. 663)

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING
THE WEEK OF JANUARY 7, 2018 AS
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS WEEK**

WHEREAS, human trafficking is criminal recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining a person for compelled labor or commercial sexual exploitation through the use of force, fraud or coercion, including but not limited to involuntary servitude, sex trafficking, debt bondage, domestic servitude and forced child labor, and can, but does not necessarily, include the physical transportation of a victim from one location to another; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking violates basic human rights, denies victims their personal freedom and knows no geographical boundaries; and

WHEREAS, traffickers target men, women and children, both United States citizens and foreign nationals, isolate them from society and exploit them for personal and monetary gain; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking is recognized as the fastest-growing criminal enterprise in the world, and the International Labour Organization estimates annual profits of \$150,000,000,000 from forced labor internationally; and

WHEREAS, the International Labour Organization estimated in 2012 that 26% of persons trafficked were children, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children estimated in 2014 that one out of every 6 endangered runaways in the United States reported to them was likely a child sex-trafficking victim; and

WHEREAS, victims of human trafficking suffer severe emotional, psychological and physical damage at the hands of their traffickers, who instill fear in their victims in order to keep them enslaved, resulting in complex post-traumatic stress disorder and increased rates of disease, drug addiction and other lifelong effects of trauma, and these experiences may require years of specialized health care and mental health services as part of a victim's recovery; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking exists in the State, and many state, federal and local agencies and organizations are working

to prevent human trafficking, to intervene when human trafficking is discovered and to provide restorative care to victims; and

WHEREAS, no one person, organization, agency or community can eliminate human trafficking, but we can work together to educate our entire population about how we can all prevent human trafficking and provide support to survivors of human trafficking and to their communities; and

WHEREAS, the State is committed to protecting the vulnerable and ending human trafficking through prevention, prosecution, education and awareness; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize the week of January 7, 2018 as Human Trafficking Awareness Week.

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

READ and **ADOPTED** in concurrence.

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

On motion of Representative DILLINGHAM of Oxford, the House adjourned at 10:51 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, January 16, 2018, pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 664) and in honor and lasting tribute to Suzanne Grover of Norway and Bethel.