

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
17th Legislative Day
Thursday, March 2, 2017

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

Prayer by Reverend Scott Wilson, Rangeley Free Baptist Church.

National Anthem by Alexis Handy, Lewiston.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Craig Curtis, M.D., Dedham.

At this point, a message came from the Senate borne by Senator CUSHING, of Penobscot, 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 William J. Brennan, President of the Maine Maritime Academy, the Honorable James H. Page, Chancellor of the University of Maine System and the Honorable Derek P. Langhauser, President of the Maine Community College System, an invitation to attend the Joint Convention and to make such communication as pleases them.

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 appointed Representative HERBIG of Belfast to convey this message to the Senate.

The Journal of Tuesday, February 28, 2017 was read and approved.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act To Provide Drug Price Relief"

(S.P. 214) (L.D. 652)

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

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.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act To Facilitate the Creation of the Maine Water Trust To Regulate and Protect Maine's Water Supply and To Ensure the Quantity and Quality of Maine's Drinking Water"

(H.P. 302) (L.D. 422)

REFERRED to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** in the House on February 14, 2017.

Came from the Senate **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

The House voted to **RECEDE AND CONCUR**.

Non-Concurrent Matter

Bill "An Act To Authorize Vacating the Convictions of Members of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians Convicted

under Prior Laws Governing the Possession and Use of Marijuana" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 349) (L.D. 486)

REFERRED to the Joint Select Committee on **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION** in the House on February 14, 2017.

Came from the Senate **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

The House voted to **RECEDE AND CONCUR**.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 77)

**MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
CASTINE, MAINE 04420**

February 2, 2017

Honorable Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Gideon:

I am pleased to accept your invitation to address a Joint Session of the 128th Maine Legislature on Thursday, March 2, 2017, at 11 a.m. I appreciate the courtesy you have extended to me and I look forward to presenting to you and your colleagues an update on the status of Maine Maritime Academy.

Sincerely,

S/Dr. William J. Brennan

President

READ and **ORDERED PLACED ON FILE**.

Subsequently, Representative HERBIG of Belfast reported that she had delivered the message with which she was charged.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 78)

**MAINE'S PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
15 ESTABROOKE DRIVE
ORONO, MAINE 04469**

January 31, 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:

Thank you for your invitation to address a Joint Session of the 128th Maine Legislature on Thursday, March 2, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. concerning the State of the University of Maine System. I accept with great pleasure and look forward to the opportunity to share with you my thoughts on the role and future of the University of Maine System.

These are challenging times. I deeply appreciate the support provided by the Legislature as we work together to build a brighter future for the people of Maine.

Sincerely,

S/James H. Page, Ph.D.
Chancellor

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 79)
**MAINE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
323 STATE STREET
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330-7131**

January 30, 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:
Thank you for your invitation to address the Joint Session of the 128th Maine Legislature on Thursday, March 2, 2017, regarding the State of the Maine Community College System. I accept your invitation and appreciate the opportunity to share with you our recent accomplishments and future goals.
Sincerely yours,
S/Derek Langhauser
President

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 80)
**STATE OF MAINE
128TH MAINE LEGISLATURE**

February 2, 2017
Brigadier General Douglas A. Farnham
Adjutant General, Maine National Guard
33 State House Station
Camp Keyes
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Brigadier General Farnham:
We are pleased to invite you to address a Joint Session of the 128th Maine Legislature on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, at 11:00 a.m., concerning matters of defense, veterans' services, emergency management and any other matters that you may care to bring to our attention.
We look forward to seeing you then.
Sincerely,
S/Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate
S/Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 81)
**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SPEAKER'S OFFICE
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

February 23, 2017
Honorable Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to my authority under Title 38, MRSA, Ch. 3, Subchapter 2-B §568-B, I am pleased to appoint Captain Prentice Strong to seat 15 on the Clean-up and Response Fund Review Board, effective February 23, 2017.
If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,
S/Sara Gideon
Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 82)
**SENATE OF MAINE
128TH LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

February 28, 2017
Honorable Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:
Pursuant to my authority under Senate Rule 201.3, I have appointed Senator James M. Hamper of Oxford to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services. With this appointment Senator Hamper will be replacing Senator Roger J. Katz of Kennebec. Senator Katz's legislative workload is too cumbersome to dedicate the necessary attention that the committee on Health and Human Services requires.

Sincerely,
S/Michael D. Thibodeau
President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 83)
**STATE OF MAINE
CLERK'S OFFICE
2 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0002**

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

Dear Speaker Gideon:
Pursuant to Joint Rule 310, the following Joint Standing Committees have voted unanimously to report the following bills out "Ought Not to Pass:"
Energy, Utilities and Technology

L.D. 58 An Act To Limit Radio Frequency Interference from Certain Grow Light Ballasts

Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
L.D. 60 An Act To Allow Senior Hunters To Shoot Antlerless Deer

L.D. 187 Resolve, To Establish a Commission To Simplify Maine's Fishing Rules

L.D. 190 An Act To Allow Spearfishing for Northern Pike in Sebago Lake

Sincerely,
S/Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of House

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

The Following Communication: (S.C. 158)
MAINE SENATE
128TH LEGISLATURE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

February 28, 2017

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

Dear Speaker Gideon:

In accordance with 3 MRSA §158 and Joint Rule 506 of the 128th Maine Legislature, please be advised that the Senate today confirmed the following nomination:

Upon the recommendation of the Committee on Transportation, the nomination of Thomas J. Zuke of Saco for appointment to the Maine Turnpike Authority, Board of Directors.

Best Regards,
S/Heather J.R. Priest
Secretary of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR
First Day

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

(S.P. 88) (L.D. 302) Bill "An Act To Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-2)**

On motion of Representative CARDONE of Bangor, was **REMOVED** from the First Day Consent Calendar.

The Unanimous Committee Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (S-2)** was **READ** by the Clerk.

Representative CARDONE of Bangor **PRESENTED House Amendment "A" (H-4) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-2)**, which was **READ** by the Clerk.

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

Representative **CARDONE**: Thank you. Madam Speaker, my Colleagues in the Legislature. I rise today in support of my amendment because to pass this Supplemental Budget without this amendment fails in three ways. First of all, it's a promise broken. This amendment to this Supplemental Budget would put back into the budget the money to pay the attorneys who are working to represent indigent clients under the Commission for Maine Indigent Legal Services. Not to fund these services through the end of the year, end of this fiscal year, is a promise broken. When the last Biennial Budget was put in place, this commission was intentionally short funded, with the understanding that they could come

back with a more definite budget and get supplemental funds to see them through the end of the year. They did just what this Legislature requested of them and are now being denied those funds. Second, we have a duty to our constituents. They have a constitutional right to counsel, both under the State and Federal Constitution. We, as their legislators, have a constitutional obligation to fund these services. And third, we, in the Legislature, have an obligation to pay our bills. There's money to pay these bills and whether you are in favor of the proposal for the Public Defender's Office for the next biennium, that has nothing to do with paying these bills for the current system through the end of this year. We are essentially asking the attorneys in this state, who are already taking on these obligations, to take on the fiscal obligation of paying this bill. We wouldn't be asking the teachers in this state to not take a salary but to continue teaching to keep our schools open. We wouldn't be asking the nurses to not take a salary but to continue nursing to keep our hospitals open, or our factory workers to not take a salary but to continue working to keep our factories in this state open. This is a fiscally irresponsible act when we have the money to do it. We should take up that obligation and pay these bills. My amendment will allow us to do just that. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Saco, Representative Bailey.

Representative **BAILEY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, fellow Colleagues of the House. I rise today in support of the amendment to fund Indigent Legal Services in the Supplemental Budget and to pay our constitutionally and statutorily mandated bills to the lawyers on the front line of the opioid epidemic sweeping this state. I will not reiterate the excellent points already made by Representative Cardone. I want to also thank the members of the Appropriations Committee for their work on the Supplemental Budget and in particular for recommending the much needed moneys for addiction treatment. Unfortunately, in discussing addiction treatment, it seems a big piece of the puzzle was left out. That crucial piece is the fact that many, if not the majority, of addicts who enter treatment, do so through the court system, whether that be through the criminal court system, the drug court system or the child protective cases. And it is these very court appointed counsel that as of May, we are asking to work without pay if we fail to pass this amendment before you, that are on the front lines of this epidemic, fighting to get their clients into treatment as opposed to jail, counseling their clients to comply with reunification plans developed by the Department of Health and Human Services. That includes mandatory treatment and having that come to Jesus talks with their clients, impressing upon them that they need to get clean or risk losing their children or going to jail, or both. Without court appointed lawyers I fear that we may have more treatment facilities but we may have a lot of empty beds. I therefore urge you to vote yes on the amendment and fund Indigent Legal Services through the end of this fiscal year and help continue the fight against the epidemic. Thank you.

Representative GATTINE of Westbrook moved that **House Amendment "A" (H-4) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-2)** be **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

Representative CARDONE of Bangor **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **INDEFINITELY POSTPONE House Amendment "A" (H-4) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-2)**.

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 Indefinite Postponement of House Amendment "A" (H-4) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-2). All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 10

YEA - Alley, Austin B, Austin S, Bates, Battle, Berry, Bickford, Bradstreet, Campbell, Casas, Cebra, Chace, Cooper, Corey, Craig, DeChant, Denno, Dillingham, Doore, Duchesne, Dunphy, Espling, Farrin, Fay, Foley, Fredette, Frey, Fuller, Gattine, Gerrish, Gillway, Ginzler, Golden, Grant, Grignon, Guerin, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Harvell, Hawke, Head, Herbig, Herrick, Higgins, Hilliard, Hogan, Hubbell, Hymanson, Johansen, Jorgensen, Kinney J, Kinney M, Kumiega, Lockman, Longstaff, Luchini, Lyford, Madigan C, Madigan J, Malaby, Marean, Martin J, Martin R, Mason, Mastraccio, McElwee, Nadeau, O'Connor, Ordway, Parry, Perkins, Perry, Picchiotti, Pickett, Pierce J, Pierce T, Pouliot, Prescott, Reed, Sampson, Sanborn, Sanderson, Seavey, Sherman, Sirocki, Skolfield, Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Sutton, Tepler, Theriault, Timberlake, Tucker, Tuell, Turner, Vachon, Wadsworth, Wallace, Ward, Warren, White, Winsor, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Ackley, Babbidge, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Blume, Brooks, Bryant, Cardone, Chapman, Collings, Daughtry, Devin, Farnsworth, Fecteau, Hamann, Handy, Harlow, Hickman, Kornfield, Lawrence, McCrema, McCreight, McLean, Melaragno, Monaghan, Moonen, O'Neil, Parker, Reckitt, Riley, Rykerson, Schneck, Sheats, Spear, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Terry, Tipping.

ABSENT - Black, Grohman, Haggan, Simmons, Wood.
Yes, 108; No, 38; Absent, 5; Excused, 0.

108 having voted in the affirmative and 38 voted in the negative, with 5 being absent, and accordingly **House Amendment "A" (H-4) to Committee Amendment "A" (S-2)** was **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

Subsequently, **Committee Amendment "A" (S-2)** was **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" (S-2)** in concurrence.

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

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Allow Hemp Growers To Grow Hemp from Clones and To Grow Hemp Indoors" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 522) (L.D. 742)

Sponsored by Representative HARVELL of Farmington.
Cosponsored by Senator DILL of Penobscot and Representatives: AUSTIN of Gray, BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, FARRIN of Norridgewock, HILLIARD of Belgrade, O'CONNOR of Berwick, POULIOT of Augusta, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, VACHON of Scarborough.

Bill "An Act To Provide Free Admission for Permanently Disabled Persons at Maine State Parks"

(H.P. 538) (L.D. 758)

Sponsored by Representative BAILEY of Saco.

Bill "An Act To Promote Safety with Respect to Touching Livestock or Other Animals"

(H.P. 540) (L.D. 760)

Sponsored by Representative FULLER of Lewiston.
Cosponsored by Representatives: BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, HANDY of Lewiston, MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth, TEPLER of Topsham, ZEIGLER of Montville.

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 To Promote and Improve the Intermodal Transportation System in Maine"

(H.P. 523) (L.D. 743)

Sponsored by Representative SHEATS of Auburn.
Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox and Representatives: FAY of Raymond, GOLDEN of Lewiston, GRANT of Gardiner, HANDY of Lewiston, McLEAN of Gorham, MELARAGNO of Auburn, Senator: COLLINS of York.

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 Create a Permanent Wabanaki Law Enforcement Seat on the Maine Criminal Justice Academy Board of Trustees"

(H.P. 524) (L.D. 744)

Sponsored by Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

Cosponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington.

Resolve, To Increase the Permissible Size of Bed and Breakfasts

(H.P. 526) (L.D. 746)

Sponsored by Representative GUERIN of Glenburn.
Cosponsored by Representatives: DeCHANT of Bath, GINZLER of Bridgton, HICKMAN of Winthrop, MALABY of Hancock, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, WARD of Dedham, Senators: BELLOWS of Kennebec, BRAKEY of Androskoggin.

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 Prohibit Female Genital Mutilation"

(H.P. 525) (L.D. 745)

Sponsored by Representative SIROCKI of Scarborough.
Cosponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington and Representatives: AUSTIN of Skowhegan, AUSTIN of Gray, BAILEY of Saco, BATTLE of South Portland, BEAR of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, BICKFORD of Auburn, BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, CAMPBELL of Orrington, CARDONE of Bangor, CHACE of Durham, CRAIG of Brewer, DENNO of Cumberland, ESPLING of New Gloucester, FAY of Raymond, FOLEY of Wells, GERRISH of Lebanon, Speaker GIDEON of Freeport, GILLWAY of Searsport, GINZLER of Bridgton, GUERIN of Glenburn, HANINGTON of Lincoln,

HANLEY of Pittston, HARRINGTON of Sanford, HARVELL of Farmington, HAWKE of Boothbay Harbor, KINNEY of Knox, MALABY of Hancock, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MASON of Lisbon, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, McELWEE of Caribou, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PARRY of Arundel, PERRY of Calais, PICCHIOTTI of Fairfield, PICKETT of Dixfield, POULIOT of Augusta, RECKITT of South Portland, SAMPSON of Alfred, SANDERSON of Chelsea, SEAVEY of Kennebunkport, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, SKOLFIELD of Weld, STETKIS of Canaan, STEWART of Presque Isle, STROM of Pittsfield, TIMBERLAKE of Turner, TUELL of East Machias, TURNER of Burlington, WADSWORTH of Hiram, WALLACE of Dexter, WARD of Dedham, WHITE of Washburn, WINSOR of Norway, WOOD of Greene, Senators: CYRWAY of Kennebec, HAMPER of Oxford, JACKSON of Aroostook, KEIM of Oxford, LANGLEY of Hancock, President THIBODEAU of Waldo, VOLK of Cumberland.

Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** suggested.

On motion of Representative WARREN of Hallowell, **TABLED** pending **REFERENCE** and later today assigned.

Bill "An Act To Allow Public Schools To Reserve Funds Designated for Operating Costs"

(H.P. 517) (L.D. 737)

Sponsored by Representative STEARNS of Guilford.

Cosponsored by Representatives: AUSTIN of Gray, HIGGINS of Dover-Foxcroft, WARD of Dedham.

Bill "An Act To Make the School Budgeting Process a Biennial Process"

(H.P. 518) (L.D. 738)

Sponsored by Representative FULLER of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representatives: ACKLEY of Monmouth, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, HANDY of Lewiston, LUCHINI of Ellsworth.

Bill "An Act To Amend Minimum Age Eligibility for School Enrollment"

(H.P. 527) (L.D. 747)

Sponsored by Representative WADSWORTH of Hiram.

Cosponsored by Representatives: PIERCE of Dresden, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, STEWART of Presque Isle.

Bill "An Act To Require at Least a 30-minute Lunch Period for Students"

(H.P. 528) (L.D. 748)

Sponsored by Representative PIERCE of Falmouth.

Cosponsored by Senator BREEN of Cumberland and Representatives: DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, DUNPHY of Old Town, FARNSWORTH of Portland, FULLER of Lewiston.

Bill "An Act To Ensure Municipal Equity for the Town of Frye Island"

(H.P. 529) (L.D. 749)

Sponsored by Representative AUSTIN of Gray.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FARRIN of Norridgewock, HARVELL of Farmington, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PIERCE of Dresden, SANDERSON of Chelsea, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, SIROCKI of Scarborough, WARD of Dedham.

Bill "An Act To Provide \$500,000 of Matching Funds over 4 Years through Appropriations and Allocations To Preserve Rural Heritage and Living History Pertaining to Science and Technology in Penobscot and York Counties"

(H.P. 530) (L.D. 750)

Sponsored by Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington.

Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland and Representatives: JORGENSEN of Portland, KORNFIELD of

Bangor, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, RYKERSON of Kittery, SCHNECK of Bangor, TIPPING of Orono, WINSOR of Norway, Senator: BREEN of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Establish Districtwide Standardized Assessment Policies"

(H.P. 531) (L.D. 751)

Sponsored by Representative HANDY of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FARNSWORTH of Portland, FULLER of Lewiston.

Bill "An Act To Enhance the Safety of Schoolchildren by Requiring the Posting of the School Zone Speed Limit"

(H.P. 532) (L.D. 752)

Sponsored by Representative HILLIARD of Belgrade.

Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox and Representative: HARVELL of Farmington.

Resolve, To Promote Internet Safety in Schools

(H.P. 533) (L.D. 753)

Sponsored by Representative BROOKS of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representative: McCREA of Fort Fairfield.

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 Repeal or Clean Up Outdated Telecommunications Statutes"

(H.P. 534) (L.D. 754)

Sponsored by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham.

Cosponsored by Senator WOODSOME of York.

Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Law Regarding Nontransmission Alternatives Investigations Required for Proposed Transmission Line Projects"

(H.P. 535) (L.D. 755)

Sponsored by Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham.

Cosponsored by Senator WOODSOME of York.

Submitted by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Bill "An Act To Clarify the Authority of an Affiliate of a Utility To Own Power Generation outside of the Utility's Territory"

(H.P. 536) (L.D. 756)

Sponsored by Representative HARVELL of Farmington.

Cosponsored by Senator KEIM of Oxford and Representatives: COOPER of Yarmouth, DeCHANT of Bath, FARRIN of Norridgewock, HANLEY of Pittston, O'CONNOR of Berwick, WADSWORTH of Hiram, Senators: DION of Cumberland, WOODSOME of York.

Bill "An Act To Amend the Charter of the Richmond Utilities District"

(H.P. 537) (L.D. 757)

Sponsored by Representative PIERCE of Dresden.

Cosponsored by Representatives: AUSTIN of Gray, FARRIN of Norridgewock, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PICKETT of Dixfield, SIMMONS of Waldoboro, TUCKER of Brunswick, WADSWORTH of Hiram, WOOD of Greene.

Bill "An Act To Clarify the Financial Authority of Sewer and Sanitary Districts"

(H.P. 539) (L.D. 759)

Sponsored by Representative O'CONNOR of Berwick.

Cosponsored by Senator WOODSOME of York and Representatives: DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, HANLEY of

Pittston, HARVELL of Farmington, TUCKER of Brunswick, WADSWORTH of Hiram, Senators: CARSON of Cumberland, COLLINS of York, CUSHING of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act To Strengthen the Independence of the Public Advocate"

(H.P. 582) (L.D. 802)

Sponsored by Representative SHERMAN of Hodgdon. (BY REQUEST)

Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** suggested and ordered printed.

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Improve Beach-cast Seaweed Management for Health, Ecology and Tourism"

(H.P. 519) (L.D. 739)

Sponsored by Representative BLUME of York.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FOLEY of Wells, HYMANSON of York, PARKER of South Berwick, RYKERSON of Kittery.

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 Increase Access to Hearing Aids"

(H.P. 541) (L.D. 761)

Sponsored by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.

Cosponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec and Representatives: HYMANSON of York, MALABY of Hancock, PARKER of South Berwick, PERRY of Calais, Senator: CHIPMAN of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Allow a Percentage of Funds from the Medical Use of Marijuana Fund To Fund Health Care Research"

(H.P. 542) (L.D. 762)

Sponsored by Representative SANDERSON of Chelsea.

Bill "An Act To Support Individuals with Disabilities by Exempting Certain Wages from Consideration for MaineCare"

(H.P. 543) (L.D. 763)

Sponsored by Representative NADEAU of Winslow.

Cosponsored by Senator BREEN of Cumberland and Representatives: BROOKS of Lewiston, DOORE of Augusta, FARNSWORTH of Portland, HARVELL of Farmington, MADIGAN of Waterville, MALABY of Hancock, RECKITT of South Portland.

Bill "An Act To Prohibit the Exclusion of a Patient from Eligibility for an Organ Transplant Based on Medical Marijuana Use"

(H.P. 544) (L.D. 764)

Sponsored by Representative SANDERSON of Chelsea.

Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin and Representatives: HAMANN of South Portland, HARLOW of Portland, HARVELL of Farmington, HEAD of Bethel, HICKMAN of Winthrop, MADIGAN of Waterville, Senator: CHIPMAN of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Allow In-home Child Care Providers To Care for up to 5 Children without State Certification"

(H.P. 545) (L.D. 765)

Sponsored by Representative ESPLING of New Gloucester.

Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin.

Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Recalculate the MaineCare Reimbursement Rates for Services for Persons with Disabilities (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 546) (L.D. 766)

Sponsored by Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland.

Cosponsored by Representatives: COLLINGS of Portland, HANDY of Lewiston, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, RECKITT of South Portland, TEPLER of Topsham, WARREN of Hallowell.

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 Prohibit the Feeding of Deer from August 15th to December 15th"

(H.P. 547) (L.D. 767)

Sponsored by Representative HARVELL of Farmington.

Bill "An Act To Establish 2 Comprehensive Licenses for Hunting and for Hunting and Fishing"

(H.P. 548) (L.D. 768)

Sponsored by Representative HILLIARD of Belgrade.

Cosponsored by Senator MIRAMANT of Knox and Representatives: BICKFORD of Auburn, BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, HARVELL of Farmington, LYFORD of Eddington, Senator: SAVIELLO of Franklin.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Eliminate Insurance Rating Based on Age, Geographic Location or Smoking History and To Reduce Rate Variability Due to Group Size"

(H.P. 549) (L.D. 769)

Sponsored by Representative BROOKS of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representative: McCREA of Fort Fairfield.

Bill "An Act To Clarify Insurance Coverage in School-based Health Centers"

(H.P. 550) (L.D. 770)

Sponsored by Representative BROOKS of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representative: McCREA of Fort Fairfield.

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 Political Speech and Prevent Climate Change Policy Profiling"

(H.P. 551) (L.D. 771)

Sponsored by Representative LOCKMAN of Amherst.

Cosponsored by Senator MASON of Androscoggin and Representatives: BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, CEBRA of Naples, GUERIN of Glenburn, SIROCKI of Scarborough, TIMBERLAKE of Turner, TURNER of Burlington, WADSWORTH of Hiram, Senator: CUSHING of Penobscot.

Bill "An Act To Enact the Uniform Real Property Transfer on Death Act"

(H.P. 553) (L.D. 773)

Sponsored by Representative MALABY of Hancock.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Ensure Transparency in Public Union Negotiations"

(H.P. 552) (L.D. 772)

Sponsored by Representative WADSWORTH of Hiram.

Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin and Representatives: CEBRA of Naples, HANLEY of Pittston, KINNEY of Limington, LOCKMAN of Amherst, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PIERCE of Dresden, Senator: HAMPER of Oxford.

Committee on **JUDICIARY** suggested.

On motion of Representative MOONEN of Portland, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Create a Training Wage"

(H.P. 554) (L.D. 774)

Sponsored by Representative TIMBERLAKE of Turner.

Cosponsored by Representative SUTTON of Warren, Senator CUSHING of Penobscot and Representatives: SANDERSON of Chelsea, SIROCKI of Scarborough, WINSOR of Norway, Senators: CHENETTE of York, KATZ of Kennebec, MASON of Androscoggin, President THIBODEAU of Waldo, VOLK of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Prohibit the Minimum Wage from Exceeding the New England Average"

(H.P. 555) (L.D. 775)

Sponsored by Representative HARVELL of Farmington.

Cosponsored by Senator KATZ of Kennebec and Representatives: BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, FARRIN of Norridgewock, HILLIARD of Belgrade, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PARRY of Arundel, POULIOT of Augusta, SANDERSON of Chelsea, VACHON of Scarborough.

Bill "An Act To Promote Fairness for Rural Maine Residents by Regulating Fuel Prices"

(H.P. 556) (L.D. 776)

Sponsored by Representative McCREA of Fort Fairfield.

Cosponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington and Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, BROOKS of Lewiston, FULLER of Lewiston, MARTIN of Sinclair, STEWART of Presque Isle, TUELL of East Machias, Senators: CARPENTER of Aroostook, JACKSON of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act To Establish a Conditional Presumption of Compensability for Corrections Employees in Cases of Impairment from Hypertension or Heart Disease"

(H.P. 557) (L.D. 777)

Sponsored by Representative TUCKER of Brunswick.

Bill "An Act To Eliminate the Indexing of the Minimum Wage to Inflation"

(H.P. 558) (L.D. 778)

Sponsored by Representative HARVELL of Farmington.

Cosponsored by Senator DOW of Lincoln and Representatives: BRADSTREET of Vassalboro, GINZLER of Bridgton, HARRINGTON of Sanford, HILLIARD of Belgrade,

O'CONNOR of Berwick, PARRY of Arundel, PIERCE of Dresden, SANDERSON of Chelsea.

Bill "An Act To Allow a Physical Therapist To Administer Certain Coagulation Tests in a Patient's Home"

(H.P. 581) (L.D. 801)

Sponsored by Representative MASTRACCIO of Sanford.

Cosponsored by Senator WOODSOME of York and Representatives: BATES of Westbrook, FECTEAU of Biddeford, HAMANN of South Portland, HYMANSON of York, SANDERSON of Chelsea, STETKIS of Canaan, Senators: BRAKEY of Androscoggin, VOLK of Cumberland.

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 Promote Efficiency and Accountability to Taxpayers in Personal Services Contracting"

(H.P. 520) (L.D. 740)

Sponsored by Representative MARTIN of Sinclair.

Cosponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook and Representative: DOORE of Augusta.

Bill "An Act To Allow Aroostook County To Create Tax Increment Financing Districts"

(H.P. 559) (L.D. 779)

Sponsored by Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake.

Cosponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: MARTIN of Sinclair, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, McELWEE of Caribou, SHERMAN of Hodgdon, STEWART of Presque Isle, Senator: CARPENTER of Aroostook.

Bill "An Act Authorizing the Deorganization of Cary Plantation"

(H.P. 560) (L.D. 780)

Sponsored by Representative SHERMAN of Hodgdon.

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.

Bill "An Act To Provide Equity in Education Funding"

(H.P. 521) (L.D. 741)

Sponsored by Representative STEARNS of Guilford.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FARRIN of Norridgewock, TUELL of East Machias.

Bill "An Act To Support the Trades through a Tax Credit for Apprenticeship Programs"

(H.P. 561) (L.D. 781)

Sponsored by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.

Cosponsored by Senator DOW of Lincoln and Representatives: POULIOT of Augusta, STANLEY of Medway, TIPPING of Orono, Senators: LIBBY of Androscoggin, VOLK of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Provide a Sales Tax Exemption for Certain Veterans' Facilities"

(H.P. 562) (L.D. 782)

Sponsored by Representative SANDERSON of Chelsea.

Bill "An Act Regarding Business Income Tax"

(H.P. 563) (L.D. 783)

Sponsored by Representative STEWART of Presque Isle.

Cosponsored by Representatives: GUERIN of Glenburn, POULIOT of Augusta, WARD of Dedham.

Bill "An Act To Prevent Tax Haven Abuse"

(H.P. 564) (L.D. 784)

Sponsored by Representative TIPPING of Orono.

Cosponsored by Senator JACKSON of Aroostook and Representatives: BERRY of Bowdoinham, DAUGHTRY of Brunswick, DEVIN of Newcastle, HAMANN of South Portland, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, MOONEN of Portland, RYKERSON of Kittery, TEPLER of Topsham.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

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

ENACTORS
Emergency Measure

An Act To Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017

(S.P. 88) (L.D. 302)

(C. "A" S-2)

Was reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed.

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

Representative **FREDETTE**: Thank you. Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I want to congratulate the Appropriations Committee on the hard work that they did in regards to the Supplemental Budget. I also want to thank the Chief Executive for putting forward, quite frankly, in unusual fashion, the Supplemental Budget which targets strategic investments in our university system, our community colleges, some other emergency issues that we have in this state, but more importantly, also for dedicating \$35 million in the Supplemental Budget to the Rainy Day Fund. Back in 2010, when I was first elected to this body, we had no money in the Rainy Day Fund and now with this contribution, we'll have well over \$150 million in that Rainy Day Fund. I also think it's important to note in regards to the hard work of the Appropriations Committee, what is not in this budget, and what is not in this budget is a request for funding for bleeding of money out of the Department of Health and Human Services, money for securing our retirement system, money for paying back debts owed to our Maine hospitals where Maine has been prudent in terms of dealing with these financial issues over the past, which has allowed us to, quite frankly, have a time where we can have strategic investments in going forward. And so I want to congratulate the committee for what they've done and for what this body has done over the last two or three terms in terms of getting our fiscal house in order. And so I look forward to supporting the measure and ask that you follow my light. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Westbrook, Representative Gattine.

Representative **GATTINE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I also rise in support of the Supplemental Budget. This budget makes, as mentioned, necessary, important, and responsible investments, most of which were proposed by the Chief

Executive and all of which were supported unanimously by the AFA Committee. It provides funding to maintain the tuition freeze at the University of Maine, honoring equipment made to Maine students and universities, supports rural jobs in Aroostook County, maintains important infrastructure by upgrading and repairing state's fish hatcheries, and it continues to build up the State's budget stabilization fund which was depleted during the great recession. Perhaps, most important, it funds innovative and vitally needed treatment services for people who suffer from substance abuse disorder related to the use of opioids. We all know the tragic statistics: 378 people in Maine died in 2016 from overdose. Eight percent, eight percent of children born in Maine are born drug affected. This funding will provide treatment for 400 people who suffer from this disease but treatment will be provided in innovative opioid health homes that will focus treatment not just on dispensing medication but also provide counseling, peer supports, and primary care. Some of the people who will receive treatment are on MaineCare and federal funds will supplement the contribution we're making from the General Fund. Many of them are, unfortunately, continue to be uninsured which makes finding treatment for them nearly impossible absent funding like this. I desperately hope that we will do a lot more this session as we work through the many bills related to the opioid crisis, but the funding in this bill is a critical start to addressing it. This investment will save lives. Again, I want to acknowledge the excellent collaboration among all the members of the AFA Committee as we work through this. I'm gratified that we're able to present a unanimous report to the entire body. We have a lot of work ahead of us but I'm optimistic that the collaborative work that we've done on this bill bodes well as we move forward on our work on the Biennial Budget. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Norway, Representative Winsor.

Representative **WINSOR**: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I want to take a very quick second to sincerely thank the good Representative from Westbrook, and his team, for working closely and collaboratively with us, with my team. We really did focus on the areas which we had agreement and I'm of the belief that things around here work really well when the 6 o'clock caucuses and the Chief Executive can find common interests. The items left out are very real. But my caucus believed that these will all get handled in May when we have a better idea of the exact need of these programs. Remember that the more we appropriate in this year, in the current fiscal year that's ending this July, is not available for appropriations in the Biennial Budget. And so I think we want to go cautiously about committing ourselves at this point while there's so much legislation going through and so many needs that are out there. And again, I really want to give a sincere thank you to my colleagues in the Democratic Caucus and pledge to you our support in the future. Thank you.

On motion of Representative **FREDETTE** of Newport, **TABLED** pending **PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED** and later today assigned.

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

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

In Convention

The President of the Senate, the Honorable Michael D. Thibodeau in the Chair.

The Convention was called to order by the Chair.

On motion by Senator MASON of Androscoggin, it was ORDERED, that a Committee be appointed to wait upon the Honorable James Page, Chancellor of the University of Maine System, the Honorable Derek Langhauser, President of the Maine Community College System and the Honorable Dr. William J. Brennan, President of the Maine Maritime Academy, the Campus Presidents and their Boards of Trustees to inform them that the two branches of the Legislature are in Convention assembled, ready to receive such communication as pleases them.

The Order was READ and PASSED.

The Chair will appoint the following:

The Senator from Hancock, Senator Langley
The Senator from Washington, Senator Maker
The Senator from Cumberland, Senator Millett
The Representative from Bangor, Representative Kornfield
The Representative from Brunswick, Representative Daughtry
The Representative from Portland, Representative Farnsworth
The Representative from Falmouth, Representative Pierce
The Representative from Lewiston, Representative Fuller
The Representative from Fort Fairfield, Representative McCrea
The Representative from Bridgeton, Representative Ginzler
The Representative from Burlington, Representative Turner
The Representative from Alfred, Representative Sampson
The Representative from Presque Isle, Representative Stewart

Subsequently, Senator LANGLEY of Hancock, for the Committee, reported that the Honorable James Page, Chancellor of the University of Maine System, the Honorable Derek Langhauser, President of the Maine Community College System, and the Honorable Dr. William J. Brennan, President of the Maine Maritime Academy would attend forthwith.

The Chair welcomed to the Convention the Honorable Derek Langhauser, President of the Maine Community College System, the Honorable James Page, Chancellor of the University of Maine System, the Honorable Dr. William J. Brennan, President of the Maine Maritime Academy, the Campus Presidents, the Boards of Trustees and guests.

The Chair recognized in the House Gallery representing the Maine Community College System Board of Trustees: Honorable Jean Ginn Marvin, Chair of the Board of Trustees; Robert Clark, Nicole Boucher, William Cassidy, Larry Grondin, Beth Lorigan, Shawn Moody, Michael Thibodeau, and Commissioner Jeanne Paquette.

The Chair also recognized in the House Gallery the Presidents of the Maine Community College System: Dr. Scott Knapp of Central Maine Community College; Dr. Lisa Larson, of Eastern Maine Community College; Dr. Richard Hopper of Kennebec Valley Community College; Mr. Timothy Crowley of Northern Maine Community College; and Mr. Joseph Cassidy of Washington County Community College.

The Chair also recognized in the House Gallery representing the University of Maine System Board of Trustees and Trustees-elect: Sam Collins, Chair of the University of

Maine System, Board of Trustees; James Erwin, Shawn Moody, the Honorable James Donnelly, Jason Coombs and Lisa Marchese Eames.

The Chair also recognized in the House Gallery: Liane Judd, wife of Chancellor James Page.

The Chair also recognized in the House Gallery Presidents of the University of Maine System: Sue Hunter, University of Maine; Honorable Glenn Cummings, University of Southern Maine; Kathryn Foster, University of Maine at Farmington; James Conneely, University of Maine at Augusta; Raymond Rice, Interim President, University of Maine at Presque Isle; John Short, University of Maine at Fort Kent; and Sue Huseman, Interim President, University of Maine at Machias.

The Chair then recognized in the House Gallery guests from the Maine Maritime Academy: Heather Brennan; Dr. Elizabeth True, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and Title IX Coordinator; Dr. David Gardner, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Provost; Jen DeJoy, Director of College Relations; Mary Shea, Gretel Williams, Ryan Donlon, Truman Slocum, Edison Ma and Anastasia Wright.

The Chair requested the Honorable Dr. William J. Brennan, President of the Maine Maritime Academy, to please step forward and address the Joint Convention.

President **BRENNAN**: Thank you. Thank you. President Thibodeau, Speaker Gideon, Legislative Leaders, Members of the 128th Maine Legislature, guests and especially the guests from Maine Maritime Academy, I am pleased to be here today with my colleagues, Chancellor Page and President Langhauser, to talk about higher education, and to provide you with an update on the Maine Maritime Academy; on our current accomplishments and challenges.

At the present time, Maine Maritime Academy is in a strong and vibrant position. Our applications are robust and many programs are already at capacity for the coming academic year; enrollment is extremely healthy.

On the outcome side, our job placement rate is exceptional. We are able to constantly place more than 90 percent of our students in jobs within their career fields, within 90 days of graduation.

That is a major advantage that comes with a diploma from Maine Maritime Academy; and it adds substantial value for our students and their families who are investing in an MMA education. Maine Maritime Academy has been consistently recognized for providing a high-value education by organizations such as the Brookings Institution, US News and World Report, and Money Magazine, which ranked them in May the number-one Best Public College in America in 2014 and 2015.

We are extremely proud to be ranked so highly in educational quality, affordability, and career outcomes, and we believe there are a number of factors that contribute to our success.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, our persistence rate, which is the number of first-time, full-time students who successfully complete their first semester and transition into the second semester, averages in excess of 95 percent. Our retention rate, defined by higher education enrollment managers as the number of students who successfully complete their first year and transition into the second year, is in excess of 82 percent and has risen from 74 percent over the last four years. Our six-year graduation rate,

which is the customary measure used by higher education institutions, is in excess of 66 percent for our entire student cohort and in excess of 74 percent for those students who transfer here from other institutions.

Another point of success, and I'm very pleased to report, is the collaboration we engage in with the University and Community Colleges. From joint appointments to graduate assistance, cooperative research, and other supporting endeavors including investment management and legal counsel, Maine Maritime Academy benefits significantly from the guidance and assistance that exists in the much larger sister institutions. I'm particularly pleased to highlight a very successful program that we've engaged in with the Community College System for a few years running. Referred to as the MMA Prep and modeled after the U.S. Naval Academy Prep program, it enables high school graduates who want an MMA education, but who are deficient in some academic area, to be guaranteed admission to the Academy, provided they successfully complete a prescribed program at their local community college. Right now, on my campus, I have 27 students who are thriving in their academic pursuits. These are students from Maine who, without the MMA Prep Program and our collaboration with the Community College System, would not have been able to attend Maine Maritime Academy. Thank you.

We have much to be proud of when it comes to our programs and statistics, and I think the numbers become more substantial when you look at the ways that make us such a unique member of the higher education partnership in the State of Maine.

Maine Maritime Academy is a small coeducational college located in Downeast Maine. The school was established by act of the Maine Legislature in 1941. We just celebrated our 75th anniversary and with your help last year, we brought attention to our history and our accomplishments, and I want to thank you again for all the help and support you gave us.

Our mission at the outset was to train mariners in support of the war effort and I'm proud to tell you that my father and two of my uncles were members of the first classes of Maine Maritime Academy. After a career in the U.S. Navy, my father returned to the Academy in 1966 as its first Commandant of Midshipmen, so I literally grew up on the campus. I first sailed aboard the Academy's training ship when I was 15 and in the summers I worked for the Academy for the various crews constructing one thing or another. So I literally had a hand in building this institution for the last 50 years.

With the state's support, Maine Maritime Academy has substantially diversified over the years. While adhering to our original purpose of graduating merchant mariners, we have, in true Maine spirit, worked to maximize what we have and what we do best, evolving into a contemporary college offering 22 programs of study.

We are a focused STEM institution, and we also offer a variety of specialized programs of study in engineering, management, science and transportation, prescribed by the U.S. Maritime Administration and the U.S. Coast Guard. And Maine Maritime Academy is unique because we are one of only six such colleges in the country that offer this specialized program of study. We have an enrollment of about 1,000 students, more than 70 percent of whom are residents of the State of Maine and more than 60 percent of them who are in a regimental program.

Nearly 40 percent of our students that make up the class of 2020 are the first of their family to attend college; 80 percent

of those students are from Maine. Given the nature of our specialized form of education, the majority of our students are in a compulsory drug-testing program due to the requirements of the license they seek upon completion of their studies. Our students are focused and, in many respects, that helps define us and set us apart from many other colleges.

We're successful for all these reasons, including our dedicated faculty and staff. And another important reason for our success is the strong connection that exists between our students and our alumni, enabling us to have a job placement rate that other colleges envy. Our alumni provide coop and cadet shipping opportunities for our students and they provide job opportunities for our graduates.

As the Academy moves into its 8th decade, the most important message that I can convey is that Maine Maritime Academy is doing great, we continue to maintain an extraordinary placement rate and we are providing amazing careers for young women and men in this state. But we are at a critical crossroad, constrained as we are in the harbor village of Castine and facing pressure to grow as would any business in difficult economic times.

As I pointed out, Maine Maritime Academy is one of six maritime academies in the country. All of these schools have essentially the same program of study; we have approximately the same number of students, faculty and staff, and approximately the same operational costs. We thus represent a perfect basis for assessing the difference in regional costs of higher education. California Maritime Academy, for example, offers tuition at half of what I can offer because it receives 66 percent, or approximately \$29 million, in annual state appropriations, where as we received less than \$9 million in state appropriations last year.

All of the other academies offer lower tuition than I can for the same reason—Massachusetts Maritime Academy receives 36 percent of its budget from the state and Texas Maritime Academy receives 45 percent of its operating budget in the form of appropriations.

At its founding, the college's operational expenses were covered completely by the state and the federal governments, and the state paid for construction and maintenance of our facilities. Over time, that relationship has changed such that the federal contribution is primarily in relation to the 500-foot training ship, STATE OF MAINE, that we operate in a custodial arrangement with the Maritime Administration.

The state's contribution to our operating expenses has declined over time from as much as 50 percent of the total 20 years ago, to less than a quarter of that now. But the state has helped us in many, many ways, including the support of a \$4.5 million bond issue that enabled us to construct, in a public/private partnership, the first new classroom building that the Academy has added in over 30 years. And I'm also pleased to acknowledge that the Governor has included in his budget an increase for the Academy, bringing the percentage of state contributions to our annual operating expense somewhat closer to that experienced by my colleagues. And, of course, the scale and order of magnitude is significantly less than either, but it does reaffirm that Maine Maritime Academy is considered an important component of the state's higher education partnership.

To some, the items laid out in our appropriations request would seem mundane, but they are critical to our effective and efficient operation. We at the Academy—the faculty, staff and students—are appreciative of your efforts to help us address some of the obstacles that we confront. I especially appreciate that this budget proposal will make a critical difference in

mitigating some of the impact of cost escalation and ultimately enable Maine students to enjoy both the intellectual and economic benefits of a Maine Maritime Academy education.

Another important component of our operating expenses that I would like to share with you is the historic schooner Bowdoin that brought so much attention to the State of Maine for its role in Arctic exploration at the turn of the last century. Now the Bowdoin serves as a training and learning platform and, to the Academy, it is similar to a laboratory or a classroom, it just happens to be a classroom that floats, providing hands-on learning for our students.

Former Governor Kenneth Curtis was President of Maine Maritime Academy at the time that the Bowdoin was acquired. It was his view, and it's my view today, that this vessel is of historic significance to the State of Maine, it is owned by the people of the State of Maine, thus the people of the State of Maine share the responsibility for its preservation. To date such has not necessarily been the case as the Academy, primarily with tuition dollars, has borne the responsibility almost exclusively and I hope the members of the 128th Legislature will give the Bowdoin legislation careful consideration.

At the outset I told you that we're a very small college with a focused program of study and that we operate in a very conservative fiscal fashion in an effort to attempt to keep our tuition costs such that any qualified Maine student who wants a Maine Maritime Academy education can afford to attend. There is no doubt that much work and commitment is necessary to address the fundamental challenges that you and I share in meeting the higher education needs of our students so that they can be as successful as possible in their academic pursuits, in their careers and, hopefully, in their lives. Maine Maritime Academy, its Board of Trustees and I, and indeed all of our staff, faculty and students appreciate the commitment to our excellence demonstrated by you all.

So on their behalf, let me thank you again President Thibodeau and Speaker Gideon, for the opportunity to address the Joint Convention. We are very proud of our 75-year history, and especially proud of our alumni who are working here in Maine, and all over the world. Due to the legislative support over the years, our students learned to embrace challenges, develop hands-on experience, and upon graduation, are prepared to achieve their goals as leaders in the field of engineering, science, management, and transportation. They're skilled, hardworking and dedicated leaders who carry the reputation of the State of Maine with them around the world. Thank you very much for your attention.

The CHAIR: Again, thank you, Dr. Brennan, for your hard work.

The Chair then requested the Honorable James Page, Chancellor of the University of Maine System, to please step forward and address the Joint Convention.

Chancellor **PAGE**: President Thibodeau, Speaker Gideon, Honorable Members of the 128th Maine Legislature, President Langhauser, and President Brennan, distinguished guests and friends: On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the Seven Boards of Visitors, faculty, students, and staff of your public universities, I extend greetings and thank you for the opportunity to address you concerning the state of public higher education in Maine.

I would like to begin by introducing representatives of the Board of Trustees and Boards of Visitors, who are attending today from throughout the state, as well, once again, the Presidents of our seven campuses, but also student and faculty representatives to the Board of Trustees, and members of my senior staff. Please welcome them.

These good people are your partners. They represent our communities from Kittery to Calais and from Jackman to Madawaska. They understand our state's challenges. They live them every day, as do every one of you. They are committed to meeting these challenges and helping make our state thrive, as are every one of you. And they are committed to making, and to Maine having, the most relevant and responsive, affordable and accessible, quality-driven educational system we can have, as are each and every one of you. We are partners and we are your partners.

We all seek a stable and expanding economy, with opportunities for all Maine people in vibrant, healthy communities. We know the enormous challenges we face in making this happen. We have an economy in transition, and we face a demographic decline that threatens our economic and civic health as never before. The Office of the State Economist forecasts a 15 percent drop in Maine's population ages 24 through 65 between now and 2034; a decrease from over 700,000 people to barely 600,000. During that same period, more than 60 percent of new Maine jobs will require some form of post-secondary education, a percentage that far outstrips Maine's current level of educational attainment. Put these two simple facts together—that our core working population is declining at the same time that greater educational attainment will be required for most new jobs—and one point becomes crystal clear: Maine must actively invest in our people's future and the foundation of that investment must be greater educational opportunity and increased educational attainment. To do less is to consign our state to economic stagnation and worse.

Now, despite these numbers, I address you today as an optimist. Why? Because we have shown that working together we can create and expand opportunities. We have shown that when we break down old, outdated barriers and partner to innovate and to grow, we create opportunity. And when we provide opportunity, Maine people will do the rest.

Let me remind you of some of the hard work we've already done and then share some details about some of the partnerships already underway. Many of you will recall that only three years ago we forecast the structural budget deficit for the University of Maine System could reach a cumulative \$90 million by fiscal year '19. But we took action. We made reforms and reductions, we cut costs, and re-allocated resources to make sure more dollars we reaching our classrooms and laboratories. We've made the most significant organizational changes in how we do business since the System's founding almost 50 years ago. As the result, we reduced our annual operating expenses, annual operating expenses, by more than \$82 million and reallocated a further \$20 million more. Our operating budget in this fiscal year is more than \$10 million less than it was five years ago and is about the same size it was during the 2008 recession. We reduced the structural budget deficit forecast for fiscal year '19 to well under \$20 million, and with a bit more work, we will eliminate it entirely by fiscal year '21. We have done all of this while holding in-state tuition flat for an historical six years.

The work of partnership. During this same time we have been forging new and important partnerships under the One University principle that our institutions must work together to

bring all our resources together in focused, aligned support of every Maine family, all our businesses and communities. I have some recent examples.

The University of Maine at Machias is an anchor institution, providing essential educational, economic, and social services to the Downeast region with impact well beyond Washington and Hancock Counties. University of Maine at Machias's commitment to its students and communities is unsurpassed. But it is an institution whose efforts have been severely compromised by years of declining enrollment and economic uncertainty. This January, the Board of Trustees received recommendations from the committee of campus and community leaders that re-envision the University of Maine at Machias as a regional campus of the University of Maine in Orono. The University of Maine at Machias will maintain its own identity, the university will be there, but it will have the full support of the University of Maine's scale, capacity and expertise in carrying out its mission. It will be a win-win. To take just one example of this, graduates from the Machias program in Psychology and Community Studies, a foundation degree for a career in social services, will be able to complete a Master's degree in Psychology at the university flagship with only a year's post-graduate work. At the same time, UMaine psychology majors will benefit from Machias' expertise and experience in community studies. Breaking down internal barriers in historically unprecedented ways, this new partnership will bring stability, capacity, and growth to the Machias's campus and to the entire region. New dollars are already being invested; new opportunities emerging every day. We break down the old walls; our people will do the rest.

Partnerships with the Maine Maritime Academy and the Maine Community College System have never been stronger. We have a block credit transfer agreement in place with the Community Colleges and we are working to ensure the prior learning assessments also transfer seamlessly, an outcome that is especially important for veterans and other adult learners. To help meet critical workforce needs, we have made seamless transfers for nursing and IT students between systems of priority. The number of shared academic offerings has increased dramatically, often in unforeseen ways. Eastern Maine Community College, for example, now offers a welding course to UMaine Mechanical Engineering Technology students, while Southern Maine Community College and the University of Southern Maine share a full-time faculty member in hospitality management. We share several facilities now throughout the state and we have reduced cost and increased efficiencies through shared purchasing services and agreements. You've asked for closer collaborations between your public institutions and your public institutions have delivered on this. We are breaking down the old barriers, and here students and tax payers are the clear beneficiaries.

Let me share with you two more examples of new groundbreaking partnerships. For decades, Maine has followed tradition and organized secondary and post-secondary education as separate systems with limited direct engagement. But there are good reasons to challenge the increasingly artificial barrier between 12th grade and what follows. While there have long been opportunities for some high school students to take college level courses, those opportunities were often very limited. But thanks to farsighted educators from both our secondary schools and the University System, along with strong support and encouragement from Governor LePage, we have begun to expand the opportunities.

Just four years ago, only about 700 high school students throughout the state were engaged in some form of college

level education. Today that number is almost 2,500 coming from more than 100 schools from across the state. I believe that properly resourced we can and should offer every Maine high school junior and senior—wherever they may be located—access to quality college-level courses. The importance of this goal cannot be overstated. By giving all Maine students the opportunity to do college-level work, more students will pursue higher education. They will be better prepared academically and more confident in their own abilities. The savings, moreover, are substantial. This last fall alone, Maine high school students completed approximately 12,000 credit hours of college courses at little or no cost to themselves. Furthermore, early college students graduate more quickly and are ready to enter the workforce earlier and with less debt. These are all clear win-wins.

And now let me introduce a great real-life example of what I've been talking about. The major expansion of early college began in 2011 with a pilot cohort of 20 students from Fort Kent High School participating in the University of Maine at Fort Kent Pleasant Street Academy. Brittany Theriault was a high school junior who entered that program with some trepidation and many questions. But thanks to some great teachers and her own hard work, Brittany graduated from high school with 27 fully transferrable college credits. She entered college essentially as a sophomore and went on to receive her BS in Nursing from Fort Kent in December of 2015. From high school junior to college graduate in four and one half years. Best of all, Brittany has elected to stay in Maine and put her public education to use and service to our communities. Today Brittany is a fulltime nurse in the intensive care unit at Northern Maine Medical Center. We partner to provide the opportunities; Maine people do the rest. Please join me in welcoming, congratulating, and thanking Nurse Brittany Theriault.

The University of Maine System has always partnered with Maine businesses and industries. Cooperative Extension, whose programs are essential to Maine agriculture, serves more than 5,600 businesses every year. The University of Maine's Office of Innovation and Economic Development partners with more than 250 million businesses every year and we can do even more. My second example illustrates what I mean.

MMG Insurance is a nationally-honored firm headquartered in Presque Isle. It partners with more than 190 independent agencies across 460 locations in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. As you might imagine, it is critical that MMG staff maintain their cutting-edge knowledge and skills if MMG is to stay successful in a highly competitive industry. How does it do this in rural Maine? Recognizing these sorts of challenges, MMG approached the University of Maine in Presque Isle to help craft a solution. In partnership with MMG leadership, UMPI President Ray Rice and his team created a state-of-the-art distance education classroom funded by MMG, together, with the help from the University of Maine System and the Maine Development Foundation. This classroom allows faculty from the University of Southern Maine and the University of Maine at Farmington to deliver professional development courses in such areas as risk management and the actuarial sciences. As a result, we can develop programs to meet MMG's particular requirements, helping them continue to grow a national company with a highly-skilled, competitive workforce right in rural Aroostook County. And this is One University partnership at its best. We join with our private sector partners, MMG in this case, to provide the opportunities, our

system bands together with them and Maine people do the rest. So representing this spirit of innovative and entrepreneurial partnership, please join me in recognizing and thanking MMG Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, and UMaine graduate, Matt McHatten.

Maine's political and educational leadership now stand together at a crossroad. We must continue to work together to sustain this momentum and to keep our promise of continuing to grow opportunities for Maine people. I hope you agree.

In meeting our institutional challenges, the University of Maine System has not sought a bailout or a blank check. We took on the hard work of internal reform, reduction, and reorganization to align our size and scale with the times, achieve fiscal stability, and establish a structure and culture where collaboration and responsive service are the expectation. Consequently, Maine's universities are better prepared and positioned than ever before to implement a statewide program of innovation and growth with you.

Using the One University framework, the Trustees have sharpened our focus. We will increase enrollment by helping more students of all ages and backgrounds find an academically and financially sound path to college while increasing efforts to attract more out-of-state and international students. We will increase student retention and completion rates, and offer more guidance and support to graduates as they take the next steps in their career pathways. And we will increase support for research and economic development that ties directly to growing Maine industries so that our businesses can prosper and our graduates have more opportunity to stay in Maine and build their futures.

The Trustees have also adopted a financial strategy that limits any request for an increase in appropriations to no more than the consumer price index. Any additional request above that amount will be for specific, focused initiatives with clear outcomes and certain accountability. Now, with these points as background, I have three specific requests and in return will make three specific commitments.

My first request is for additional Education and General Funding. E & G is by far the largest form of state support for basic operations including, for example, classroom instructions, scholarships, and general maintenance. In the past 10 years, E & G funding has increased a total, a total of 2.34 percent—that's not annual, that's total—most of that in the last Biennial Budget. While we are extremely grateful for these additional resources, we request your consideration of increases more in line with the State Economist's inflationary estimate of 2.6 percent in fiscal year '18 and 2.4 percent in fiscal year '19. If state support is increased simply to this predictable rate of inflation, any resources appropriated to the University System beyond what is in the current budget proposal will be directly invested in expanding enrollment, strengthening student services, and funding the expansion of courses and programs essential to meet critical Maine workforce shortages, whether in nursing, engineering, the computer sciences, or a number of other professions essential to Maine's economy.

Let me expand briefly on the nursing example as an illustration. Today there are hundreds of unfilled nursing positions across the state. The Maine Nursing Action Coalition estimates that by 2025 Maine's nursing shortage will be 3,200. Educating a greater number of nurses is essential, but the truth is, it costs more money to provide a first-class nursing education than we could possibly charge in tuition. Expanding nursing capacity, therefore, requires investment. If we want to increase the number of nurses—if we're to meet critical state

needs—we must invest. But in asking you to invest we commit to you that we will increase the number of quality prepared nurses like Ms. Theriault.

Second, I ask you to approve the Governor's Biennial Budget request that supports early college. I have already discussed the advantages of early college in some detail, but scaling this expansion will require new investment. To achieve our goal of making early college available to all Maine high school juniors and seniors requires a matching expansion of resources to ensure access, quality instruction, and enhanced advising services. We ask you to partner with us so that all Maine juniors and seniors have this opportunity and we commit to accountability in meeting this goal.

Third, the University of Maine System's facilities are a vast public asset, encompassing nearly 550 buildings that house critical classrooms, laboratories, research centers, cultural centers, and more. Yet nearly 50 percent of these buildings have not been adequately renovated in 50 years or more. The national average for that number is 17 percent. Our students' safety and the quality of their education—not to mention our state's economic competitiveness—is at risk. Our ability to attract students who rightfully expect to learn and live in the most up-to-date classrooms, laboratories and dorms, as well as our ability to serve business and industry who depended upon our research, requires that we continue to invest in this enormously important public asset.

The University System has completed the most comprehensive data-driven facilities review in our history. And we are now undertaking the first phases of a comprehensive, multi-year capital investment plan that will draw on private and public resources to renovate, improve and—where necessary—demolish. It is critical that we provide facilities that meet the real and immediate needs of our students, businesses and communities. I therefore ask you to support the Governor's infrastructure investment included in this budget, and at the appropriate time to consider our plan as we consider additional bonding. We commit to share with you where every dollar will go and show how it will benefit our students and advance our state.

So to conclude, I want to thank the Governor and the Legislature for your support in the Supplemental Budget. Now we are looking to next steps with a clear understanding of, and an unyielding focus on, our priority outcomes, we ask you to continue your partnership with us and to help expand the opportunity. Old barriers are coming down, new initiatives are flourishing, and as we work together to create the opportunities Maine people need and want, they will deliver as they always have. And as I've said each time I've had the honor of addressing you, our success will always be measured by the success of Maine people. It always was and it remains that simple. Thank you.

The CHAIR: Chancellor Page, on behalf of this Convention and the people of the State of Maine, thank you for your efforts at the University. I know that you've done some tremendously hard work and we all appreciate it.

The Chair then requested the Honorable Derek Langhauser, President of the Maine Community College System, to please step forward and address the Joint Convention.

President **LANGHAUSER**: Thank you very much. President Thibodeau, Speaker Gideon, Members of the 128th Legislature, Chancellor Page, President Brennan, guests: Good morning and thank you for inviting me to be here with you.

When I was asked to serve as the President of our Community College System two years ago, I too saw both the need and the opportunity for collaboration between, and among, our colleges, universities and Maine Maritime. As you've heard here this morning, we have all devoted significant attention to that priority and we are all justifiably proud of what it is we have accomplished to date.

I want to thank Chancellor Page for his leadership as we have worked to increase opportunities for transfer, create clear academic pathways, to share the best administrative practices that have produced and will continue to produce both efficiencies and savings for both of our systems. And I want to thank President Brennan, who has worked to strengthen Maritime Prep, as you heard earlier, and he is working to enable our students to transfer into his highly regarded International Business Logistics and Marine Sciences programs. You got to see here this morning what I get to see every day, which is what wonderful colleagues, and enlightened colleagues, they are to work with.

Together our three institutions share the common goal of providing Maine people with the education that they need to pursue meaningful, rewarding, lives and careers. Separately, our institutions serve, as you will hear this morning and have heard, very distinct purposes. Our two-year colleges have deep roots in technical and occupational education. When I started with our System in 1994 as its General Counsel, our institutions were then small technical colleges. When the 121st Legislature transformed us into Community Colleges in 2003, the scope of our work was expanded to enable more people affordable access to higher education. It worked.

Since then our enrollment has more than doubled to over 17,000 students; we have awarded nearly 30,000 certificates or degrees; and hundreds of our students now transfer each year into the University System to continue their education. But despite our growth, our mission has stayed the same, and that is to create an educated, skilled and adaptable labor force that is responsive in the words of your statute, our enabling legislation, for the changing needs of the Maine economy.

We continue to take that mission very seriously. We offer nearly 300 program options in one-and two-year trade, technical, and occupational areas of study. Seventy-five percent of our programs are the only ones of their kind offered in the state. We actively ensure that this program catalogue remains relevant and responsive to the needs of industry. Indeed, in the last two years alone, we have modified, added, or discontinued over 75 program options to ensure that they are better aligned with what are the rapidly changing needs of our Maine economy.

For some of our students, our more affordable pathway to transfer is their goal. But for nearly two-thirds of our students, their goal is to enroll in our trade occupational and technical programs. Plumbers, firefighters, nurses, medical assistants, electricians, computer technicians, the list goes on. It is clear that the Maine economy needs our graduates. Researchers tell us, as the Chancellor mentioned, that by 2020, 66 percent of all Maine jobs will require some form of post-secondary education. Currently, only 39 percent of Maine adults have a college credential. So we have a long way to go to make sure that Maine people and their employers will have the skills that they need to meet the needs of the changing economy.

Our community colleges meet this need through the four pathways that we provide: industry specific training, one-year certificates, two-year degrees, and an affordable and assured transfer pathway to a bachelor's degree. A decade ago, many of our students would not have believed that a college credential was possible. For example, nearly 50 percent of our students will be the first in their family to earn a college degree. Over 75 percent of our full-time, degree-seeking students require some form of financial aid. More than a third of our students work at least 30 hours a week while they attend their classes. The average age of our degree-seeking student is 26 years old and it is not at all uncommon with the changing needs of the Maine economy to see students considerably older than that. And lastly, over 25 percent of our students have young children at home while they are holding jobs and going to school.

Against these challenges, our colleges offer Maine people the most affordable access to higher education. Our tuition and average fees come to \$3,600 a year for a full-time student. That is the lowest in New England and the lowest in Maine by at least half. Thank you.

If we are to strengthen Maine's economy, we'll need to keep our education accessible. Ninety-three percent of our students come from Maine. Ninety-three percent of our students commute to their local campus to get their education. And 92 percent of our graduates stay in Maine. These facts tell us that those who enroll in our colleges are looking to stay in Maine, to stay in their communities, and to build a future in their communities. Small business owners, computer repair technicians, police officers, heavy equipment operators, early childhood educators, precision machinists. Again, the list goes on and, as it does, I am reminded why we call our institutions community colleges.

The benefits that our colleges provide to our students, and to our state, are substantial. The average first-year, full-time wage for an MCCS, associate degree holder is \$34,000 and over the course of their lifetime, associate degree holders typically earn \$423,000 more than their counter parts with a mere high school diploma. And when our graduates go on to earn a bachelor's degree at either the Chancellor's or the President's institutions, their additional lifetime earning capacity are projected to increase by another half million dollars.

While we are all proud of our colleges' important contributions to date, we fully understand that we cannot continue to operate with business as usual. Rapid changes in the Maine economy require those of us in higher education to develop delivery models so that Maine people and Maine businesses are better able to get the skills that they need, when they need them. For example, we are working with industries that have "off-seasons," like hospitality and construction, to deliver our education and training during compressed semesters at those slower times of the year. We are working on innovative ways to move individuals from our non-credit and short-term training programs into credit-bearing credentials and degrees. And we are strengthening how we assess a student's prior learning—whether through military service or another structured experience—so that those individuals can obtain their credentials as quickly and as affordably as possible.

The budget that my Trustees have recommended this session seeks to continue this important work. Their recommendation has three parts. First, a modest increase in base funding to cover our ongoing operations. This requested increase is less than has been submitted in previous years.

Second, funding to enable us to provide more workplace training. Businesses of all kinds, from all over the state, I hear it everywhere I go, have spoken to us clearly about this urgent need. And finally, a modest bond request so that we can update our classroom and lab equipment, and weatherize our facilities to make them more efficient over time. If approved, this would be our first bond in four years.

Our Trustees made this request against this history. Since 2001, general fund appropriations as a percentage of our revenues have declined from 50 to 34 percent. During the same period, our two largest cost drivers were retirement and health insurance, external costs that we do not control, have increased by 150 and 104 percent, respectively. It was also during this time our enrollment nearly doubled without the benefit of corresponding appropriations. But in spite of these pressures, I'm proud to report that our financial position remains strong. We do not, have not, deficit spent and we will continue to balance our books each year within the resources that we have available to us. But we must have our base budget if we are to keep our existing programs.

And at the same time, if we are to heed the clarion call from employers to help provide more skilled workers, we must fund the Trustees' strategic approach to advance our workforce development efforts. Under this approach, we would expand over a dozen occupational areas, such areas as computer science, healthcare, and the trades in order to meet employer needs and student demands. We will strengthen and expand our workforce training efforts across the state. Currently, we provide continuing education and workplace training to over 6,000 Mainers and more than 130 employers each year, but our employers justifiably want and need us to do more. And finally, we would strengthen and expand our efforts to have our graduates graduate more quickly. To date, all of our work in this area, which has been significant, has been entirely grant funded, and approximately 50 percent of the students who come to our colleges right now out of high school require remediation in either writing or math. And because of that statistic, we have looked at the grant resources to see how it is we can meet that pressure. We are pleased with what we have done to begin to make progress on our remediation challenges but we still need to do more, and I look forward to continuing my work with Bob Hasson at the Department of Education on this, and many other important issues. State funding for our student support efforts will enable us to leverage, in particular, the \$800,000 grant that we recently received from Kresge Foundation. We take considerable pride in Kresge's careful finding that, through the work of the Maine Community College System, "Maine is poised to become a national leader in demonstrating how low-income, first generation and under-represented students can succeed in college." We couldn't agree more.

As we request these strategic investments in order to better serve more Maine people and more Maine businesses, we thank the administration for the initial support that they provided in their budget submission, and we look forward to working with the Appropriations Committee as they review that submission. We will also continue our hard work to secure support from other sources. During the past two years, our foundation from Maine's Community Colleges has continued to be a key partner and the funds that they raise going primarily to scholarships, piloting of our student support programs that I've referenced, new educational technologies, and facility improvements. The list is really too long for me to recite all of those who have contributed to that effort, but I do want to make special mention of Leon and Lisa Gorman. We had the vision

to create a statewide foundation to support the critical role that our colleges play in our state's economic wellbeing. That Mr. Gorman would share so many benefits of his own journey with those just starting theirs, is indeed one of the clearest tributes his stature has ever paid to kindness. And that Mrs. Gorman would continue this generosity, after Mr. Gorman's passing, has had a profound impact on our work. Our other key supporters at the foundation include many of Maine's largest employers and foundations. They do so because they recognize the critical role that our colleges play in Maine's economy and our work force. They recognize that advancing the economic opportunity of Maine people is a collective effort; and such an effort requires the ongoing commitment of both the public and the private sector. Strength always lies in such diversity. Indeed, my friend Bill Brennan is a scientist and my friend Jim Page is a mathematician, and I am an attorney. In many ways, our backgrounds complement and inform how we approach our work. I know that, from my own part, I am drawn time and again to my roots in the law, particularly constitutional law, and so I close with these two thoughts.

First, I recall the scholar who wrote in 1978 that legislative policy debates should refer more often to our founding frameworks, to our constitutions, because the very deliberate language of our constitutions reminds us of the core principles to which we have commonly committed, and it is those common commitments that best advance the opportunity for moral and civil education in our lives. Article VIII of the Maine Constitution expressly recognizes that the advantages of an education are essential to the preservation of the rights and liberties of the people. There's no question about the advantage of employment-centered education, or that the rights and liberties of our people include meaningful access to economic and social opportunity that our programs provide. Second, I think of the former U.S. Supreme Court Justice who observed in 2010 that the most difficult decisions in government require choices—not between those things that are good and those things that are evil—but between those things that we all agree have value. Indeed, one decision among many that you will have to make this session is not whether to educate our workforce, or whether to strengthen our communities, but how to meaningfully prioritize both so that we don't risk losing either. That same justice also said, "that when it comes time to make difficult choices in government, we should choose, not on the basis measurement, but on the basis of meaning." The meaning of our work at the community colleges is clear. Our students come to us with the fewest of privileges. They don't want a government service, and they don't want just a job. They want a career, and they want to earn it for themselves. Increasingly, they choose to come to us because our programs are local, affordable, and they lead promptly to a defined career. They know that our colleges offer them the first, best, and for many, only chance to stay in and give back to the communities where they live; communities that you represent; the communities that define the very character of our state. That is the meaning of our work: to provide the essential opportunity to better one's life through the dignity and prosperity of gainful employment. That meaning runs to the bedrock of our economy. It runs to the vitality of our businesses, cities and towns. It runs to the moral commitment that a thoughtful government makes to its aspiring people. Thank you.

The CHAIR: The Chair wishes to thank President Langhauser for all the hard work that he's doing at Maine's Community College System. Today, each and every one of us

leaves just a little more proud of what's going on at Maine's institutions of higher learning.

Chancellor Page, President Langhauser, and President Brennan 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.

The Chair laid before the House the following item which was **TABLED** earlier in today's session:

Emergency Measure

An Act To Make Supplemental Appropriations and Allocations for the Expenditures of State Government and To Change Certain Provisions of the Law Necessary to the Proper Operations of State Government for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2017

(S.P. 88) (L.D. 302)
(C. "A" S-2)

Which was **TABLED** by Representative FREDETTE of Newport pending **PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED**.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Turner, Representative Timberlake.

Representative **TIMBERLAKE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. The first thing we need to do is get a light on these things that you can see because the old farmer can't see that green light when it comes up. Contrary to what some of this chamber may assume, when I cast my vote on the Supplemental Budget today I will be voting yes. There was a tremendous amount of work done by the Appropriations Committee on this document. And, over all, I feel that it was a good budget. I strongly feel the money allocated for the opioid crisis is a great idea. However, there is a "but" that comes into play. I'm glad we're helping those who are addicted to drugs, but we must remember this one very important fact, that we are only going to be rehabilitating, roughly, about 10 percent of the opioid abusers, at best. With that being said, I would say a 10 percent rehabilitation rate is a start. I fear we are forgetting about our next generation. I think it's time to bring back a "just say no" to drugs program or a more expensive DARE program. There is no doubt in my mind that every single person in this chamber has been affected by the opioid crisis. In some way, shape, or form, through student outreach, we can help educate the next generations of kids in hopes of decreasing the likelihood of future drug abuse. I think we need to get experts into our schools, showing these kids the impact that opioids have on our society. Maybe we won't help them all, but if we can steer even 25 to 30 percent, or more, students away from drug abuse, we will be well on our way to increasing our

current 10 percent of rehabilitation rate. These, however, are just my thoughts. I know we're not going to tackle an issue of this magnitude today, but I sure in the heck hope to do so before we leave here in another year. I look forward to your thoughts and ideas on this issue, and I urge you to follow my light in supporting the Supplemental Budget today that's before you. Thank you all very much.

Representative **HERBIG** of Belfast **REQUESTED** a roll call on **PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED**.

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 Passage to be Enacted. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken.

ROLL CALL NO. 11

YEA - Ackley, Alley, Austin B, Austin S, Babbidge, Bates, Battle, Beebe-Center, Berry, Bickford, Blume, Brooks, Bryant, Campbell, Cardone, Casas, Cebra, Chace, Chapman, Collings, Cooper, Corey, Craig, Daughtry, DeChant, Denno, Devin, Dillingham, Doore, Duchesne, Dunphy, Espling, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau, Foley, Fredette, Frey, Fuller, Gattine, Gerrish, Gillway, Ginzler, Golden, Grant, Grignon, Guerin, Hamann, Handy, Hanington, Harlow, Harrington, Harvell, Hawke, Head, Herbig, Herrick, Hickman, Higgins, Hilliard, Hogan, Hubbell, Hymanson, Johansen, Jorgensen, Kinney J, Kinney M, Kornfield, Kumiega, Lawrence, Lockman, Longstaff, Luchini, Lyford, Madigan C, Madigan J, Malaby, Marean, Martin J, Martin R, Mason, Mastraccio, McCrea, McCreight, McElwee, McLean, Melaragno, Monaghan, Moonen, Nadeau, O'Connor, O'Neil, Ordway, Parker, Parry, Perkins, Perry, Picchiotti, Pickett, Pierce J, Pierce T, Pouliot, Prescott, Reckitt, Reed, Riley, Rykerson, Sampson, Sanborn, Sanderson, Schneck, Seavey, Sheats, Sherman, Sirocki, Skolfield, Spear, Stanley, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Sutton, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Theriault, Timberlake, Tipping, Tucker, Tuell, Turner, Vachon, Wadsworth, Wallace, Ward, Warren, White, Winsor, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Bailey.

ABSENT - Black, Bradstreet, Farrin, Grohman, Haggan, Hanley, Simmons, Wood.

Yes, 142; No, 1; Absent, 8; Excused, 0.

142 having voted in the affirmative and 1 voted in the negative, with 8 being absent, 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**.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Bill "An Act To Amend the Maine Medical Use of Marijuana Act"

(S.P. 84) (L.D. 238)

- In Senate, **REFERRED** to the Joint Select Committee on **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION**.

TABLED - February 2, 2017 (Till Later Today) by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.

PENDING - **REFERENCE IN CONCURRENCE**.

Subsequently, the Bill was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**, in **NON-CONCURRENCE** and sent for concurrence.

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Chapter 200: Metallic Mineral Exploration, Advanced Exploration and Mining, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Environmental Protection (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 286) (L.D. 395)

(Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** suggested)

TABLED - February 7, 2017 (Till Later Today) by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.

PENDING - Motion of Representative CHAPMAN of Brooksville to **INDEFINITELY POSTPONE** the Resolve and accompanying papers.

Subsequently, Representative CHAPMAN of Brooksville **WITHDREW** his motion to **INDEFINITELY POSTPONE** the Resolve and accompanying papers.

The Resolve was **REFERRED** to the Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Improve Safety and Traffic Efficiency near School Grounds"

(H.P. 565) (L.D. 785)

Sponsored by Representative TIPPING of Orono.

Cosponsored by Senator DILL of Penobscot and Representatives: FREY of Bangor, GUERIN of Glenburn, LYFORD of Eddington.

Bill "An Act To Require Center Line Markings on All State and State Aid Highways"

(H.P. 566) (L.D. 786)

Sponsored by Representative TURNER of Burlington.

Cosponsored by Senator MAKER of Washington and Representatives: ALLEY of Beals, BRYANT of Windham, HANINGTON of Lincoln, MARTIN of Sinclair, McLEAN of Gorham, PICKETT of Dixfield, STANLEY of Medway, WALLACE of Dexter.

Bill "An Act To Ease the Financial Burden on Maine Motorists by Repealing the Requirement That Certain Motor Vehicles Be Inspected"

(H.P. 567) (L.D. 787)

Sponsored by Representative CEBRA of Naples.

Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin and Representatives: HERRICK of Paris, LOCKMAN of Amherst, SANDERSON of Chelsea, STETKIS of Canaan, WOOD of Greene.

Bill "An Act To Require Motor Vehicles To Be Registered on a Biennial Basis"

(H.P. 568) (L.D. 788)

Sponsored by Representative CEBRA of Naples.

Cosponsored by Senator BRAKEY of Androscoggin and Representatives: HERRICK of Paris, LOCKMAN of Amherst, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PARRY of Arundel, SANDERSON of Chelsea, STEWART of Presque Isle, WADSWORTH of Hiram, WOOD of Greene.

Resolve, To Require Infrastructure Projects Affecting Interstate 295 To Be Expedited

(H.P. 569) (L.D. 789)

Sponsored by Representative FREDETTE of Newport.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CEBRA of Naples, GILLWAY of Searsport, PARRY of Arundel, PERKINS of Oakland.

Resolve, To Name the Bridge between Indian Township and the Town of Princeton the Sakom John Stevens Bridge

(H.P. 570) (L.D. 790)

Sponsored by Representative DANA of the Passamaquoddy Tribe.

Cosponsored by Representative: BEAR of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Advertisements by Maine Clean Election Act Candidates"

(H.P. 571) (L.D. 791)

Sponsored by Representative MALABY of Hancock.

Cosponsored by Representatives: CHACE of Durham, HANINGTON of Lincoln, PRESCOTT of Waterboro, SIROCKI of Scarborough, SUTTON of Warren, VACHON of Scarborough, Senators: LANGLEY of Hancock, WHITTEMORE of Somerset.

Bill "An Act To Authorize Funding for Transitional Housing for Women Veterans and Their Families"

(H.P. 572) (L.D. 792)

Sponsored by Representative SHEATS of Auburn.

Cosponsored by Senator CARPENTER of Aroostook and Representatives: CASÁS of Rockport, DILLINGHAM of Oxford, GRANT of Gardiner, HANINGTON of Lincoln, MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth, PERKINS of Oakland, SCHNECK of Bangor, Senator: CARSON of Cumberland.

Bill "An Act To Limit Campaign Independent Expenditures"

(H.P. 573) (L.D. 793)

Sponsored by Representative DILLINGHAM of Oxford.

Cosponsored by Senator HAMPER of Oxford and Representatives: CASÁS of Rockport, FARRIN of Norridgewock, HANINGTON of Lincoln, MONAGHAN of Cape Elizabeth, WHITE of Washburn.

Bill "An Act Regarding the Taxation of Flavored Malt Beverages"

(H.P. 574) (L.D. 794)

Sponsored by Representative GUERIN of Glenburn.

Cosponsored by Senator BELLOWS of Kennebec and Representatives: DeCHANT of Bath, DUNPHY of Old Town, GINZLER of Bridgton, HICKMAN of Winthrop, LUCHINI of Ellsworth, MALABY of Hancock, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, WARREN of Hallowell.

Bill "An Act To Require the Text of a Direct Initiative To Be Printed on the Ballot"

(H.P. 575) (L.D. 795)

Sponsored by Representative TIMBERLAKE of Turner.

Cosponsored by Senator MASON of Androscoggin and Representatives: LOCKMAN of Amherst, SANDERSON of Chelsea, SEAVEY of Kennebunkport, SIROCKI of Scarborough, TURNER of Burlington, WINSOR of Norway, Senator: CUSHING of Penobscot.

RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Regarding Referendum Questions for Statewide Ballots

(H.P. 576) (L.D. 796)

Sponsored by Representative STEWART of Presque Isle.

Cosponsored by Representative TURNER of Burlington, Senator LANGLEY of Hancock and Representatives: HANINGTON of Lincoln, MARTIN of Eagle Lake, McCREA of Fort Fairfield, PARRY of Arundel, PIERCE of Dresden, SIROCKI of Scarborough, WARD of Dedham, Senator: CARPENTER of Aroostook.

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

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

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Fund Railroad Infrastructure and Operations"

(H.P. 577) (L.D. 797)

Sponsored by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator DION of Cumberland and Representatives: BICKFORD of Auburn, CHAPMAN of Brooksville, FARNSWORTH of Portland, HICKMAN of Winthrop, McLEAN of Gorham, TIPPING of Orono, Senator: COLLINS of York.

Bill "An Act To Clarify the Intent of the Licensing Provisions in the Marijuana Legalization Act"

(H.P. 578) (L.D. 798)

Sponsored by Representative HARVELL of Farmington.

Cosponsored by Senator DION of Cumberland and Representatives: AUSTIN of Gray, BICKFORD of Auburn, COREY of Windham, FARRIN of Norridgewock, HICKMAN of Winthrop, O'CONNOR of Berwick, PERKINS of Oakland, SANDERSON of Chelsea.

Bill "An Act To Protect Landlords and Tenants from the Deleterious Effects of Marijuana Use" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 579) (L.D. 799)

Sponsored by Representative HANDY of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representatives: BICKFORD of Auburn, FULLER of Lewiston, SHEATS of Auburn, TUELL of East Machias.

Bill "An Act To Prohibit Marijuana on the Campuses of Maine's Public Postsecondary Institutions" (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 580) (L.D. 800)

Sponsored by Representative HANDY of Lewiston.

Cosponsored by Representatives: FARNSWORTH of Portland, TUELL of East Machias.

Joint Select Committee on **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Joint Select Committee on **MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION IMPLEMENTATION** 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. 22)

ORDERED, that Representative Dillon F. Bates of Westbrook be excused February 14 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Seth A. Berry of Bowdoinham be excused February 2 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Kathleen R. J. Dillingham of Oxford be excused February 16 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative David G. Haggan of Hampden be excused February 14 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Lloyd C. Herrick of Paris be excused February 16 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Christina Riley of Jay be excused February 7 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Deborah J. Sanderson of Chelsea be excused February 16 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Beth Peloquin Turner of Burlington be excused December 7, 2016 and February 14 and 16, 2017 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Raymond A. Wallace of Dexter be excused February 14 for personal reasons.

READ and PASSED.

On motion of Representative ESPLING of New Gloucester, the following House Order: (H.O. 23)

WHEREAS, each elected member of the Maine House of Representatives has signed the Legislative Code of Ethics; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Code of Ethics clearly states: "No Maine Legislators will accept any employment that will impair their independence and integrity of judgment nor will they exercise their position of trust to secure unwarranted privileges for themselves or for others. The Maine Legislator will be ever mindful of the ordinary citizen who might otherwise be unrepresented and will endeavor conscientiously to pursue the highest standards of legislative conduct inside and outside of the State House."; and

WHEREAS, Representative Ryan Tipping of Orono served on the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs from January of 2015 through November of 2016; and

WHEREAS, while seeking reelection, Representative Tipping was paid at least \$9,000 beginning in May of 2016 by the Citizens Who Support Maine Public Schools, a political action committee that received funds from the Maine Education Association and National Education Association, over a period of 6 months to advocate for and actively campaign in support of the imposition of a significant tax increase on the Maine people and small businesses to provide additional funding for public education; and

WHEREAS, Representative Tipping publicly acknowledged his payment from the political action committee that was largely funded by the teachers unions was compensation for his "reaching out to elected officials" for the

purpose of lobbying for the passage of the aforementioned policy initiative; and

WHEREAS, Representative Tipping's acceptance of payment from the teachers unions and subsequent lobbying work on behalf of the teachers unions while serving on the Joint Standing Committee on Education and Cultural Affairs may be viewed as a conflict of interest; and

WHEREAS, Representative Tipping's appointment in January of 2017 as chair of the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, which is the committee of jurisdiction that will hear any bills that seek to alter or amend the tax increase for which Representative Tipping was paid to campaign, may constitute a serious conflict of interest and may also be a violation of the Legislative Code of Ethics; and

WHEREAS, Representative Tipping's ability to objectively consider legislation that will be presented in the Joint Standing Committee on Taxation, which he chairs, may be compromised; and

WHEREAS, questions concerning Representative Tipping's conduct threaten to cast a shadow over all of the work of the 128th Maine Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the integrity of the Maine House of Representatives is being called into question by the very people we represent; and

WHEREAS, the House Ethics Committee exists for the purposes of investigating potential violations of the Legislative Code of Ethics; now, therefore, be it

ORDERED, that the House Ethics Committee shall convene no later than March 30, 2017 to thoroughly investigate the actions of Representative Ryan Tipping and the potential violation of the Legislative Code of Ethics, and that, by April 30, 2017, the committee shall make such recommendations to the full House as it considers appropriate.

Representative Espling of New Gloucester **REQUESTED** that the Clerk **READ** the House Order.

Representative Martin of Eagle Lake moved to **SUSPEND** the rules for the purpose of **DISPENSING** with the reading of the House Order.

Representative Espling of New Gloucester **OBJECTED** to **SUSPENDING** the rules for the purpose of **DISPENSING** with the reading of the House Order.

The same Representative **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **SUSPEND** the rules for the purpose of **DISPENSING** with the reading of the House Order.

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 Newport, Representative Fredette and inquires as to his Point of Order.

Representative **FREDETTE**: Thank you, Madam Chair. Isn't it my understanding that you need to have or, typically, there's a request to have unanimous consent to dispense with the reading. That would be the normal course of business. That was not the request.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair would answer that we have to suspend the rules which would be a two-thirds vote. Okay, so, a request has been made to dispense with the reading of the Order. The Representative from New Gloucester, Representative Espling has requested a roll call on that. In order for the motion to dispense with the reading to proceed, a two-thirds vote would be needed.

The **SPEAKER**: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Suspension of the rules for the purpose of Dispensing with the reading of the House

Order. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 12

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

NAY - Austin S, Battle, Bickford, Bradstreet, Campbell, Casas, Cebra, Chace, Corey, Craig, Dillingham, Espling, Foley, Fredette, Gerrish, Gillway, Ginzler, Grignon, Guerin, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Harvell, Hawke, Head, Herrick, Higgins, 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, Sanderson, Seavey, Sherman, Sirocki, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Sutton, Theriault, Timberlake, Turner, Vachon, Wadsworth, Wallace, Ward, White, Winsor.

ABSENT - Black, Chapman, DeChant, Farrin, Grohman, Haggan, Simmons, Tipping, Wood.

Yes, 75; No, 67; Absent, 9; Excused, 0.

75 having voted in the affirmative and 67 voted in the negative, with 9 being absent, and accordingly the motion to **SUSPEND** the rules for the purpose of **DISPENSING** with the reading of the House Order **FAILED**.

Subsequently, the House Order was **READ**.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from New Gloucester, Representative Espling.

Representative **ESPLING**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I do present this House Order today because I think it is important to uphold high standards in this institution. To me this is not only holding one of our own in this body accountable to our own set of House ethics, it is about clarity for all of us who serve as to what we, as a body, have agreed to abide by and what constitutes crossing the line. I don't want to stand here and go over all the charges laid out in this Order. I do, however, expect us to want to see our House ethics abided by to the best of our ability. I realize we all make mistakes, but we all benefit and future legislatures will benefit from the clarity in this situation. Why do we have House ethics if we don't hold ourselves accountable when actions appear to cross a line? Some may say that the Representative mentioned in this Order got advice from the Ethics Commission in regards to the law. While we will be looking into potential recommendations to strengthen the law, in this regard, the Ethics Commission is not responsible for ensuring that our members in this body follow the House Code of Ethics. Just because it is legal, does not make it right. Are we choosing today, as a body, to say to the people of Maine that we disregard our own ethics, that we won't even look into a potential ethical question. We owe it to the people of Maine to uphold ourselves to the highest of ethical standards. We would all benefit from some clarity in this situation to ensure the integrity of the future House memberships and the integrity of the institution. And again, in the code it says, "No Maine Legislators will accept any employment that will impair their independence and integrity of judgment nor will they exercise

their position of trust to secure unwarranted privileges for themselves or for others.” And the reason I bring that up is because what is happening today, what we’re discussing today, does threaten to cast a shadow over all the work that we’re going to do moving forward. So, I think it’s important to have clarity, it’s why I brought the House Order forward and I thank you for your time.

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

Representative **HERBIG**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Women and Men of the House, the nonpartisan Maine Ethics Commission has already said twice that Representative Tipping did nothing wrong. The Ethics Commission told him, both before and after he took the job, that there was no conflict of interest and they have since confirmed that there was no conflict. I respectfully suggest to my colleagues in this House, that the commission whose expertise is ethics violations, the commission that we have charged with giving us guidance on these issues, the commission whose name is the Ethics Commission, knows a lot more about this subject than we do.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair would inquire why the member rises.

Representative **BICKFORD**: Madam Speaker, Ethics Commission? This is Joint Rules, House Rules, I’m sorry. Not the Ethics Commission.

On **POINT OF ORDER**, Representative BICKFORD of Auburn asked the Chair if the remarks of Representative HERBIG of Belfast were germane to the pending question.

The **Speaker**: The Chair has determined that the Representative from Belfast and her inclusion of the Ethics Commission opinion is relevant in this instance. The Chair has made a ruling.

Subsequently, the Chair **RULED** that the remarks of Representative HERBIG of Belfast were germane to the pending question.

The **Speaker**: The Representative may proceed.

Representative **HERBIG**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Maine’s Legislature is run by citizens who use their experiences in their districts to help craft better policy. In this chamber, lobstermen and fishermen inform marine policy; teachers shape education and classroom rules; farmers vote on agricultural issues; lawyers vote on laws impacting all of their clients; pharmacists, doctors, nurses, and health care workers, who guide our decisions on health and human service, vote on issues related to insurance companies, Medicaid, and Medicare. Business owners vote on wage regulations, taxes, and environmental issues that impact their bottom line. Dental hygienists advocate for industry changes that could directly impact them. Members who own companies that receive state contracts vote in this chamber. And veterans vote on bills that impact their services and benefits. And seniors vote on policies impacting aging in Maine. I could keep going, but I won’t. Our expertise is what makes this body function. Our expertise is what makes the State of Maine function. Potential conflicts of interest are kept in check by the nonpartisan Ethics Commission. It’s political gamesmanship.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair inquires as to why the member rises? That would not be appropriate at this time unless you have a Point of Order to raise. Would the Representative please, would the Representative please defer? When you are recognized, you are invited to speak. The Chair will recognize the Representative from Newport, Representative Fredette.

Representative **FREDETTE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, it is a matter of fact that the commission, which is made up of five members appointed, never addressed this issue. Jonathan Wayne was the Executive Director of the Maine Ethics Commission, gave an informal opinion, at a point in time, in regards to this matter. And so when there’s any reference to the commission, it is an inappropriate and a non-factually true statement. So I would simply ask that if there’s going to be any reference made to the Ethics Commission, that the reference could be made to Jonathan Wayne, the Executive Director, who gave an informal opinion. The Ethics Commission never addressed this issue.

On **POINT OF ORDER**, Representative **FREDETTE** of Newport asked the Chair if the remarks of Representative **HERBIG** of Belfast were germane to the pending question.

The **SPEAKER**: The objection, Point of Order has been noted. Will the member, Representative from Belfast, Representative Herbig, refer to the opinion of Director Jonathan Wayne of the Maine Ethics Commission rather than the Members of the Ethics Commission.

The Chair reminded Representative **HERBIG** of Belfast to refer to the opinion of Director Jonathan Wayne of the Maine Ethics Commission and not the Members of the Ethics Commission.

The **SPEAKER**: The Representative may proceed.

Representative **HERBIG**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. It’s political gamesmanship to argue that we should sanction one of our members for doing something that Jonathan Wayne, at the nonpartisan Ethics Commission, told him he could do. Today is March 2nd. We have more than 1,500 bills to vote on, including a two-year budget. Mainers call our offices every day asking when we are going to fix the economy? When we are going to help people fight drug addiction? And when we’re going to make sure no one who works hard has to live in poverty? As for me, I want to know when we are going to stop wasting precious time. Enough already. It’s time to get back to work. I request a roll call.

The same Representative **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 Chair recognizes the Representative from Amherst, Representative Lockman.

Representative **LOCKMAN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. With regard to what the Representative from Belfast just said, that this Order amounts to a sanction, it does not. This Order makes no judgment about any ethical violation, it simply refers the matter to the Ethics Commission for their deliberation. It does not impose a sanction. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

Representative **FREDETTE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to ask a question through the Chair?

The **SPEAKER**: The Member may proceed.

Representative **FREDETTE**: Madam Speaker, it is my understanding that a FOIA request was made of Representative Tipping and, quite frankly, of the Speaker as well, in regards to this issue. My understanding is there was a response to the FOIA request and, my understanding is, that document is a public document and that, my understanding is, there are assertions that part of the emails, or anything that related to those emails, will not be disclosed.

The **SPEAKER**: Will the member please defer. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Belfast, Representative Herbig.

Representative **HERBIG**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would inquire whether the debate is relevant to the House Order presently before the body.

On **POINT OF ORDER**, Representative **HERBIG** of Belfast asked the Chair if the remarks of Representative **FREDETTE** of Newport were germane to the pending question.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair would advise the Representative from Newport to please come to the point. The Representative may proceed.

The Chair reminded Representative **FREDETTE** of Newport to stay as close as possible to the pending question.

Representative **FREDETTE**: So the issue is, is that in the normal course of business, as we are public officials, documents are available for the public to review in regards to the business that we conduct. And to the extent that there is, my understanding is, there has been a FOIA request in regards to this exact issue made of Representative Tipping and he's asserted that he will not disclose some of those documents or emails. I think that's relevant to this process and I want to know if that's accurate or not? He intends not to disclose all those emails as it relates to this issue.

The **SPEAKER**: The member has posed a question through the Chair to anyone in the body who cares to answer. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Moonen.

Representative **MOONEN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Point of Order, the Federal Freedom of Information Act, commonly referred to as FOIA, is a federal law, so I would inquire as to whether or not that is relevant to state law or this Order before us?

The **SPEAKER**: The House will be in order. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Turner, Representative Timberlake.

Representative **TIMBERLAKE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Folks, we're standing here today and this is not about someone breaking the law or anything like that. This is about our Code of Ethics. And this is about someone who has taken Clean Election money and then got paid to promote an issue or...

The **SPEAKER**: The member will defer. Clean Elections do not apply to the House Order in front of us.

The Chair reminded Representative **TIMBERLAKE** of Turner to confine his debate to the question before the House.

The **SPEAKER**: The member may proceed.

Representative **TIMBERLAKE**: Madam Speaker, I would agree with you. Okay. This is about whether what we do here in this body, in front of the people of the State of Maine, is ethical or not ethical. Now, I know what my opinion would be, that if I was in this circumstance, and, I would probably ask to have the Ethics Committee meet and hear my case. I would think that this body would want to have this situation appear before the Ethics Committee and have it cleared up. We have in the past dealt with these things and usually they come out, you know, in favor of the person that's here. I'm choosing my words carefully because I don't want to cross any lines because it's not my intentions. But I would think, that I remember earlier this year, the body from the other end of the hall, convened their ethics because that person asked for it. I would think that this body, and the person that's being named in this Order, would want this to happen. We all get to go home feeling that we've done the right thing and that we know

in the future when the next election comes up, and one of these PAC's comes up to you and asks you to go campaign for them, you'll know whether what you're doing is ethically right or not. Now, Jonathan Wayne, from the Maine Ethics Commission, passed on his judgment but it's his judgment. He's not the Ethics Committee for the Maine State Legislature and the Maine State House. He serves for the Ethics Commission, he doesn't follow our Code of Ethics. He follows the laws written by us given to him. So I ask you all today to vote in favor of this and move it forward and to put this behind us and do the right thing. I thank you very much for your time.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Golden.

Representative **GOLDEN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I do want to say in response to an earlier question, that it is my understanding that no statement has been made by anyone saying that they have no intentions of responding to a FOIA request and if one has been made, it will be made in a timely and lawful manner. Madam Speaker, if I had a concern about a potential conflict of interest that a member of this body may have, and I was serious about getting answers, I would contact the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. The Ethics Commission is an independent state agency that issues advisory opinions and conducts investigations...

The **SPEAKER**: The member will defer. The Chair inquires as to the Point of Order. The Member may proceed.

Representative **FREDETTE**: Madam Speaker, this is a question of jurisdiction. Okay. The Order presented before the body is a question on whether or not the Maine House of Representatives will convene the Maine House on Ethics Rules to review a matter on whether or not an individual member violated the House Rules. Jonathan Wayne is the Executive Director for the Maine Ethics Commission and looks at the law. Now, I do not understand Jonathan Wayne to be legal counsel to the Maine House of Representatives. It is in the Constitution that the House of Representatives is the sole determinist, is the sole person, the sole body that determines who sits here and its rules and whatnot, not Jonathan Wayne. And so in my humble opinion, reference and continued reference to the Maine Ethics Commission continues to be out of order and not germane to the question presented here. Otherwise, we might just as well do away with the Maine House Ethics Committee and simply defer everything to Jonathan Wayne over at the Maine Ethics Commission.

The **SPEAKER**: The Member will defer. The members will limit their comments from this point forward only to what is in the House Order.

The Chair reminded all Representatives to confine their debate to the question before the House.

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

Representative **BERRY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker the Representative from Newport stated that this is a question of jurisdiction. I would agree with that and for that reason I think it's appropriate to talk about where the jurisdiction properly belongs. I think there are two points of view on that and whether it's the Ethics Commission or some other body, the Ethics Commission certainly is a reasonable and germane topic for this debate.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair has made a ruling. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Golden.

Representative **GOLDEN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. If I had a concern about a potential conflict of interest that a

member of this body may have, I'll tell you what I wouldn't do. What I wouldn't do, Madam Speaker, is issue a press release in an attempt to litigate on legislative ethics through press releases, through going on a radio, and impugning the character of a member of this house, I would not tweet about it...

The SPEAKER: The member will defer. The Representative needs to come to the point. The member may continue.

Representative **GOLDEN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. For me, bringing forward this House Order, having not having first brought this issue forward publicly before the press, having never filed a formal complaint, for me I do not believe that the intent is right.

The SPEAKER: The Member will defer. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Amherst, Representative Lockman.

Representative **LOCKMAN**: I believe the Representative from Lewiston just impugned the motives of people on the other side of this question.

On **POINT OF ORDER**, Representative LOCKMAN of Amherst objected to the comments of Representative GOLDEN of Lewiston because he was questioning the motives of other members of the House.

The SPEAKER: All members will refrain from questioning the motives of anybody in this body.

The Chair reminded all members that it was inappropriate to question the motives of other members of the House.

The SPEAKER: The Representative may proceed.

Representative **GOLDEN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, in this case I'm reminded of a famous and strong conservative political leader, Margaret Thatcher, who said, I always cheer up immensely if an attack is particularly wounding because I think, well, if they attack one personally, it means that they have not a single political argument left.

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

Representative **BABBIDGE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm very concerned with what we're doing here because I do not think this Order is benign in its...

The SPEAKER: The member will defer. There will be no impugning the character, or intention, or motives of anybody in this body during debate.

The Chair reminded all members that it was inappropriate to question the character, intentions or motives of other members of the House.

The SPEAKER: The member may proceed.

Representative **BABBIDGE**: It is consequence, Madam Speaker, not motive. Where I'm concerned here is that this Order actually mentions a specific Legislator and asks if his behavior compromises the integrity of this institution. Now, not in the Order, there is no evidence that any rule has been violated. This is not about investigating a rule. We have been told here this morning that no rule has been violated. If we want to improve on the rule, that's a different question. This is about accusations of serious conflict, violations of legislative code, and compromised position. And, therefore, I think this is not constructive, it's not something that I hope we as a body continue to use as a tactic in order to address a situation and I'm hoping...

The SPEAKER: The member will defer. The Chair recognizes the Representative from Newport, Representative Fredette, and inquires as to his Point of Order.

Representative **FREDETTE**: Again, I believe he's impugning the motives.

On **POINT OF ORDER**, Representative FREDETTE of Newport objected to the comments of Representative BABBIDGE of Kennebunk because he was questioning the motives of other members of the House.

The SPEAKER: The member will defer. The Chair will give one more reminder to the people in this body not to impugn the motives of others.

The Chair reminded all members that it was inappropriate to question the motives of other members of the House.

The SPEAKER: The member may proceed.

Representative **BABBIDGE**: I want this body to go forward with constructive action, and therefore I will be voting against this motion. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

ROLL CALL NO. 13

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

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

ABSENT - Black, DeChant, Farrin, Grohman, Haggan, Pierce J, Simmons, Theriault, Tipping, Wood.

Yes, 64; No, 77; Absent, 10; Excused, 0.

64 having voted in the affirmative and 77 voted in the negative, with 10 being absent, and accordingly the House Order **FAILED PASSAGE**.

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

Recognizing:

William D. Morris, of Saco, a member of Boy Scout Troop No. 310, 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 104)

Presented by Representative BAILEY of Saco.

Cosponsored by Senator CHENETTE of York, Representative O'NEIL of Saco, Representative MAREAN of Hollis.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative O'NEIL of Saco, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

On motion of the same Representative, **TABLED** pending **PASSAGE** and later today assigned.

In Memory of:

Bernard Staples, of Lee, a veteran of the United States Army Air Corps who served in World War II. Mr. Staples will be long remembered and sadly missed by his family and friends;

(HLS 103)

Presented by Representative TURNER of Burlington.

Cosponsored by Representative HANINGTON of Lincoln, Senator ROSEN of Hancock, Senator MASON of Androscoggin, Representative MASON of Lisbon, Senator CARPENTER of Aroostook.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative TURNER of Burlington, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

The **SPEAKER:** The Chair recognizes the Representative from Burlington, Representative Turner.

Representative **TURNER:** Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. It is a privilege to stand here today and honor Bernard Staples or Bernie as I called him. He passed away January 29th, at 95 years young. I first met Bernie when I was campaigning for this very House seat six years ago, and I fell in love with him on our very first visit. Don't get me wrong, he was tough on this Burlington gal who was running to be his State Representative. He wanted to make sure that I was going to represent him and do the right thing. I guess I passed the test as we had many chats, events, and lunches over the years together. He was born in Lee, Maine, at his home. As a child, he worked alongside his dad in Lee using an ax, a bucksaw, and a crosscut saw. He went to school in Lee and graduated from Lee Academy in 1938. He served in the Army Air Forces from 1942 to 1945 as a Second Lieutenant, Flight Engineer. When he came back from World War II, in 1945, he bought his farm. In 1947, he met and married the love of his life, Gloria Stevens. Gloria and Bernie were blessed with five children. Bernard was one of the original founders of the Mount Jefferson Ski Area in Lee. After farming, he started the Staples Insurance Company in Lincoln. Bernie stayed in Lee right up until about four years ago, when things began to get hard on him and Gloria, especially in the winter months. Anyone who knew Bernie loved him. I feel very privileged to have known him and I will miss him dearly. I want to thank his wife, Gloria, for sharing him with me when they were out having lunch, as they truly were sweethearts and always seemed to be on a date. Thank you, Madam Speaker, and thank you Ladies and Gentlemen of the House.

The **SPEAKER:** The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lincoln, Representative Hanington.

Representative **HANINGTON:** Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I'd be amiss if I didn't stand up and say something about Bernard. I got to know Bernard Staples about three years ago, at the nursing home at Colonial Acres. We'd go up once a month and play nursing home bingo and once he found out I was an Army veteran and he served in the Army Air Corps, also him being a logger, we had a lot of things in common. Bernie was a wise man, he was a just man, he was an ethical man, and he was a man of faith. Where the Lee Baptist Church sits today, he donated the property there. And his wife is just such a sweetheart and Bernard is going to be well remembered. And someday when I reach across the aisle and reach over into

eternity, I'll be able to sit down with Bernie and sit down with my dad and say thank you for your guidance and your wisdom. Thank you, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Subsequently, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment was **ADOPTED** 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. 5) (L.D. 3) Bill "An Act To Grant Plantations the Power To Control Consumer Fireworks" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 119) (L.D. 161) Bill "An Act To Remove the Treasurer of State from the Maine Vaccine Board" Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 246) (L.D. 332) Bill "An Act Regarding Service of Criminal Process on Electronic Communication Service Providers and Remote Computing Service Providers" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

There being no objections, the above items were ordered to appear on the Consent Calendar tomorrow under the listing of Second Day.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Second Day

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

(H.P. 72) (L.D. 104) Bill "An Act To Change the Time and Location of the Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Kittery Water District"

No objections having been noted at the end of the Second Legislative Day, the House Paper was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** and sent for concurrence.

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

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act Regarding Court Orders for Completion of a Batterers' Intervention Program in Domestic Violence Cases"

(S.P. 259) (L.D. 814)

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 Address Student Hunger with a 'Breakfast after the Bell' Program"

(S.P. 254) (L.D. 809)

Bill "An Act To Promote Academic Achievement through Hunger Relief for Maine Children"

(S.P. 261) (L.D. 816)

Bill "An Act To Improve the Quality of Teachers"

(S.P. 263) (L.D. 818)

Bill "An Act To Prioritize the Renovation of Existing Underutilized Schools in Conjunction with the Closing of Nearby Schools Due to Declining Enrollment"

(S.P. 272) (L.D. 826)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Improve Transparency in the Electricity Supply Market"

(S.P. 248) (L.D. 803)

Bill "An Act To Ensure Fairness among Large Consumers of Natural Gas"

(S.P. 267) (L.D. 822)

Bill "An Act To Ensure Direct Dialing of 911 from Multiline Telephone Systems"

(S.P. 271) (L.D. 825)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Streamline the Municipal Review Process When Dividing a Structure into 3 or More Dwelling Units and To Amend the Process for Recording Subdivision Variances"

(S.P. 250) (L.D. 805)

Bill "An Act To Protect Maine's Clean Water and Taxpayers from Mining Pollution"

(S.P. 265) (L.D. 820)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Establish Long-term Memory Care Facilities and To Provide Adequate Staffing and Reimbursement"

(S.P. 249) (L.D. 804)

Bill "An Act To Restore Community Support Services for Adults with Mental Illness"

(S.P. 253) (L.D. 808)

Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Project To Save Lives and Support People with Substance Use Disorder in Washington County

(S.P. 257) (L.D. 812)

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 Promote Early Detection of Breast Cancer"

(S.P. 262) (L.D. 817)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act Regarding Guardianships"

(S.P. 252) (L.D. 807)

Bill "An Act To Allow a Council of Governments To Provide Municipal Services to Small Towns under the Maine Tort Claims Act"

(S.P. 260) (L.D. 815)

Bill "An Act To Enact the Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act"

(S.P. 266) (L.D. 821)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Allow Funeral Homes To Own and Operate Crematories"

(S.P. 255) (L.D. 810)

Bill "An Act Regarding Continuing Education for Persons Engaged in the Practice of Funeral Service"

(S.P. 256) (L.D. 811)

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

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

Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Political Party Representation of Election Clerks"

(S.P. 258) (L.D. 813)

Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study the Adequacy of Housing Safety Laws

(S.P. 264) (L.D. 819)

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** in concurrence.

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 270)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, March 7, 2017 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**.

On motion of Representative DEVIN of Newcastle, the House adjourned at 1:11 p.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 7, 2017, pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 270) and in honor and lasting tribute to Nancy J. Wight, of Newry; Harold E. Sawyer, of South Hiram; Philip Robert Leonard, of Penobscot; David T. Suttie, of Fairfield; Bernard Staples, of Lee; Arthur Donald Julia, of Fairfield; and Joel Huston Dodge, of Damariscotta.