

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND REGULAR SESSION  
15th Legislative Day  
Thursday, February 22, 2018

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

Prayer by Reverend Diane Wendorf, North Parish Congregational Church (UCC), Sanford.

National Anthem by Kennebec Valley Chordsmen Barbershop Chorus, Waterville.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Ronald Blum, M.D., Patten.

The Journal of Tuesday, February 20, 2018 was read and approved.

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 446)

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

February 22, 2018

Honorable Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Speaker Gideon:

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

Education and Cultural Affairs

L.D. 1698 An Act To Promote Innovation and Growth in Maine's Traditional Industries

Health and Human Services

L.D. 386 An Act To Establish Universal Health Care for Maine

L.D. 691 An Act To Prevent Lead Poisoning in Children (EMERGENCY)

L.D. 1481 Resolve, To Establish a Pilot Project To Provide Travel Vouchers to Persons with Disabilities in Rural Communities

Transportation

L.D. 1779 An Act To Increase Safety, Ensure Efficient Operation and Improve Traffic Flow on the Maine Turnpike by Requiring All-electronic Toll Collection at New and Reconstructed Toll Facilities (EMERGENCY)

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of House

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

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

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**ORDERS**

On motion of Representative SEAVEY of Kennebunkport, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 1281)

**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 22, 2018 AS MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AWARENESS DAY IN MAINE**

WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis is a neurological disease of the central nervous system affecting 2,300,000 people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society - Greater New England Chapter reports that in Maine more than 3,000 people are living with multiple sclerosis, that the disease generally strikes people between ages 20 to 50 and that the cause and course of the often debilitating symptoms of multiple sclerosis remain unknown with no cure currently existing; and

WHEREAS, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been committed for more than 70 years to a world free of multiple sclerosis, and the society raises public knowledge about and insight into the disease; and

WHEREAS, since 1946 the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been a driving force in multiple sclerosis research, pursuing prevention, treatments and a cure, and has invested more than \$900,000,000 in groundbreaking research; and

WHEREAS, funds raised through the National Multiple Sclerosis Society include \$42,100,000 in funding for 380 research projects at medical centers, universities and other institutions throughout the United States and abroad, leading to many breakthroughs in the treatment of multiple sclerosis; and

WHEREAS, stopping the progress of multiple sclerosis, restoring what has been lost and ending multiple sclerosis forever is the mission of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and one that all should support; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-eighth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize February 22, 2018 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Day, to recognize the importance of finding the cause and cure of multiple sclerosis and to express our appreciation for the dedication that the National Multiple Sclerosis Society - Greater New England Chapter has shown towards creating a world free of multiple sclerosis; and be it further

RESOLVED: That suitable copies of this resolution, duly authenticated by the Secretary of State, be transmitted to the Greater New England Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

**READ.**

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Kennebunkport, Representative Seavey.

Representative **SEAVEY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. Today is Multiple Sclerosis Day and representatives are here today in the Hall of Flags and I urge you all to stop down and say hi. This neurological disease afflicts millions worldwide and --

The SPEAKER: The Member will defer. The House will be in order. The Member may proceed.

Representative **SEAVEY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. This neurological disease afflicts millions worldwide and over 3,000 in the State of Maine alone. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society, and in our area the New England Chapter, has been working for over 70 years, working to find a cure. And while we have no cure, we have made progress. My wish is for the continued success for your research, and may God grant a cure in the forthcoming future. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

Representative **RECKITT**: Madam Speaker, Members of the House. Some of you I have gotten to know a little better in the last couple of weeks as I scramble around on another

purpose, but I rise today to speak on this resolution because of what many of you don't know about me, and that is that I'm a person with multiple sclerosis and I have been so afflicted since 1992. I'm one of the fortunate ones. I'm still walking around, I'm still interacting with my friends and neighbors and my coworkers, and I appreciate the fact that it's difficult, on this disease, because no one can tell from looking at me that I have multiple sclerosis and have had for a long time. I can tell, but some of you may wonder why I walk on a cane sometimes, and erratically; it seems one day I'm doing it and one day I'm not. That's because this disease is erratic, and I can't always tell whether I'm going to be good or bad, and so sometimes I walk around just in case, with a cane, so I don't fall down in the House Chamber and have to sue somebody; that'd be dreadful, because it'd be me that I would have to sue. So, it's been an interesting journey, and it's connected to the other mission I've been on, because I've discovered that the most prevalent area for multiple sclerosis is the Orkney Islands in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Northern Scotland.

The SPEAKER: The Representative will defer. The House will be in order. While others are speaking, please take conversations outside. Thank you. The Representative may proceed.

Representative **RECKITT**: Thank you. So, I appreciate the understanding of my coworkers here who -- some of whom knew about me and some of whom didn't, but I want to remind you that other people are walking around, 3,000 of us in Maine, who you may not spot, but you should support with your thoughts and prayers, and I appreciate the time today that we've taken to recognize the important work of the Multiple Sclerosis Society. That is where I found out about this disease. My doctor said to me, "Sure, you have multiple sclerosis." I said, "I what?" He said, "Well, go to the MS Society, they'll explain it to you." So, I did. That's how I learned what I could expect, and I think that it's really important that those of you that have people with MS in your life find that out. And I would encourage you to go downstairs and get some information, because chances are that's the best spot you're going to have to find out any information about those you care about; and I'm grateful to them for doing that for me. So, I won't take any more time, but I appreciate Madam Speaker and Members of the House granting me this moment to speak. Thank you so much.

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

Representative **HYMANSON**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. As a practicing neurologist for almost 30 years, my specialty was treating -- diagnosing and treating multiple sclerosis, and I saw many patients through that time, in a stable practice, following them for 20 years, and I'm honored to have taken care of people who have shown great fortitude and courage dealing with a disorder that oftentimes comes and goes. So people's lives collapse around them, then they get better, they regain their footing in their lives, and then it happens again. So, through my time practicing, we've come up with, from nothing, with just steroids, to over ten, maybe even 15 medications now used to treat various forms and types of multiple sclerosis. But what I'll leave you with is the problem with these medications, and that is their cost. Most of them are over \$80,000 a year, and you can imagine the problems that people have accessing them and paying for them. So, as we go through our deliberations about medications and their costs, I ask you to remember the high cost of multiple sclerosis medications. Thank you, Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House.

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

Representative **BABBIDGE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I just experienced -- my wife and I just experienced one of the most joyous weekends of our lives as we became new grandparents once again. My youngest daughter had her first child down in Boston, and we spent the entire weekend there. But, I rise today to memorialize a lady by the name of the Eleanor Brimigion. She contracted MS as an older teenager and died incapacitated at the age of 47. She died a year before her own daughter, my wife, gave birth to our first child; and she never experienced the love and the loving of her three granddaughters and the three granddaughters never experienced having a loving grandmother. So, I mention today that this experience -- is experienced by so many families, and I just wanted to mention that each of those families deserve our thoughts and our well wishes, and I appreciate the sponsor for this Resolution in order to combat this tragic disease.

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

On motion of Representative LONGSTAFF of Waterville, the following House Order: (H.O. 59)

ORDERED, that Representative James S. Gillway of Searsport be excused February 8 and 13 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Timothy S. Theriault of China be excused February 13 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Beth Peloquin Turner of Burlington be excused February 13 and 15 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Karleton S. Ward of Dedham be excused February 15 for personal reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Stephen J. Wood of Greene be excused February 15 for personal reasons.

**READ and PASSED.**

#### SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

##### Recognizing:

Mike Gilman, of Windham, a student at Windham High School and a player on the boys basketball team, who recently scored his 1,000th career point. We extend to Mike our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 910)

Presented by Representative BRYANT of Windham. Cosponsored by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland, Representative COREY of Windham.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative BRYANT of Windham, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

**READ.**

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

**Recognizing:**

Nick Curtis, of Windham, a student at Windham High School and a player on the boys basketball team, who recently scored his 1,000th career point. We extend to Nick our congratulations and best wishes;

(HLS 911)

Presented by Representative COREY of Windham.

Cosponsored by Senator DIAMOND of Cumberland, Representative BRYANT of Windham.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative COREY of Windham, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

**READ.**

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

Representative **COREY**: Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House, I rise today to recognize Nick Curtis, a member of the Windham Eagles basketball team, that has scored 1,000 points. Having team members like Nick has led Windham to its first regional final in 52 years. Nick's coach, Chad Pulkkinen, sent us a note. Here's what he had to say: "Not only is he the leading scorer in the SMAA but he also leads the league in assists, which emphasizes his will to win and his ability to involve everyone on his team to be successful." I asked Nick's dad for a list of basketball accomplishments, but do not want to keep my colleagues here all day; but believe me, it's impressive. Please join me in congratulating Nick Curtis and Mike Gilman for scoring 1,000 points.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Windham, Representative Bryant.

Representative **BRYANT**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise today to recognize Mike Gilman, and we're proud to recognize his accomplishment of scoring over 1,000 career points. In speaking with his coach, he summed up Michael's accomplishments, and it's a big list but I'll just give you some points. He said Mike has been a Mr. Reliable for our team, he's an example in the classroom, the practice floor; and the heat of competition is what separates him from the pack. Not only is he one of the best scorers and players that he has been around, but he is even a better person. We are proud to congratulate Mike Gilman and Nick Curtis, and we wish them success in their Class A North Regional Final tomorrow.

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Gardiner, Representative Grant.

Representative **GRANT**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I request permission to speak on the record.

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

Representative **GRANT**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I always find it a particular pleasure when we honor outstanding members of the teaching profession here in the Legislature, and to enter their accomplishments into the state's historical record. Today I rise to honor Karen Doughty, who was named the 2017 Maine History Teacher of the Year. Being a history writer myself, this is a subject near and dear to my heart, and it's really a proud moment for all of us. Karen has taught at Wells Middle School, at Lake Region High School, but since 2012, she has taught history at Hall-Dale High School. This award to her also includes an archive of core history texts and materials to the

school library, which I think is entirely appropriate for a teacher who, according to students and colleagues, is known for incorporating thought-provoking, creative, and hands-on activities into her lessons. Congratulations to this gifted and hardworking educator. Your community and state are grateful for your dedication to your students, and we are proud of your accomplishments. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**First Day**

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

(S.P. 337) (L.D. 1030) Bill "An Act To Require Nondiscrimination Policies in Providing Health Care Services" Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-363)**

(S.P. 617) (L.D. 1681) Bill "An Act To Correct a Technical Error Pertaining to the Dairy Improvement Fund" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-356)**

(S.P. 627) (L.D. 1728) Bill "An Act To Increase the Penalty for Visual Sexual Aggression against a Child" Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-355)**

(S.P. 637) (L.D. 1738) Bill "An Act To Permit the Sale and Consumption of Alcohol in an Area That Is Not Contiguous to Licensed Premises" Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-354)**

(S.P. 661) (L.D. 1776) Bill "An Act To Establish Requirements for Civil Deputies" Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-361)**

(H.P. 1240) (L.D. 1796) Bill "An Act To Improve the Effectiveness of the New Markets Capital Investment Credit" Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1168) (L.D. 1680) Bill "An Act To Create an Access to Justice Income Tax Credit" Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-601)**

(H.P. 1253) (L.D. 1807) Bill "An Act To Implement Recommendations Resulting from a State Government Evaluation Act Review of the Board of Environmental Protection by the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources" Committee on **ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-600)**

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

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

(H.P. 681) (L.D. 968) Bill "An Act To Help Prevent Financial Elder Abuse" Committee on **INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-599)**

On motion of Representative LAWRENCE of Eliot, was **REMOVED** from the First Day Consent Calendar.

The Unanimous Committee Report was **READ**.

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

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## ENACTORS

### Emergency Measure

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapters 126 and 261: Immunization Requirements for School Children, Joint Major Substantive Rules of the Department of Education and the Department of Health and Human Services (H.P. 1148) (L.D. 1664)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 113 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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### Emergency Measure

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 101: MaineCare Benefits Manual, Chapter III, Section 29, Allowances for Support Services for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities or Autism Spectrum Disorder, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Health and Human Services (H.P. 1245) (L.D. 1800)

Reported by the Committee on **Engrossed Bills** as truly and strictly engrossed. This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 131 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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## Acts

An Act Authorizing the Deorganization of Cary Plantation (H.P. 560) (L.D. 780) (C. "A" H-592)

An Act To Amend the Laws Affecting the Judicial Branch Regarding Railroad Trespass Civil Violations and Fines for Civil Violations (H.P. 1166) (L.D. 1678) (C. "A" H-591)

An Act To Provide Funding for the Maine Bicentennial Commission (H.P. 1176) (L.D. 1696) (C. "A" H-586)

An Act To Ensure Stability for Certain Holders of Liquor Licenses (H.P. 1205) (L.D. 1725) (C. "A" H-585)

An Act To Make Allocations from Maine Turnpike Authority Funds for the Maine Turnpike Authority for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2019 (S.P. 662) (L.D. 1777) (C. "A" S-351)

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

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## Resolves

Resolve, To Provide Meals to Homebound Individuals (H.P. 483) (L.D. 692) (C. "A" H-578)

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

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Resolve, To Amend Authorization To Sell Certain Property in Augusta (H.P. 1107) (L.D. 1604) (C. "A" H-587)

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

On motion of Representative POULIOT of Augusta, was **SET ASIDE**.

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

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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 20, 2018, had preference in the Orders of the Day and continued with such preference until disposed of as provided by House Rule 502.

Expression of Legislative Sentiment Recognizing Donna Dennison, of Rockland (HLS 904)

**TABLED** - February 20, 2018 (Till Later Today) by Representative HERBIG of Belfast.

**PENDING - PASSAGE.**

Subsequently, on motion of Representative CASÁS of Rockport, this Expression of Legislative Sentiment and all accompanying papers were **INDEFINITELY POSTPONED**.

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An Act To Update the Laws Governing the Department of Environmental Protection's Rule-making Authority Concerning Underground Oil Storage Facilities To Align with Federal Regulations (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1229) (L.D. 1784) (C. "A" H-582)

**TABLED** - February 20, 2018 (Till Later Today) by Representative PIERCE of Falmouth.

**PENDING - PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED.**

This being an emergency measure, a two-thirds vote of all the members elected to the House being necessary, a total was taken. 130 voted in favor of the same and 0 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

**SENATE PAPERS**

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 697)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that when the Senate and House adjourn, they do so until Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 10:00 in in the morning.

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

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Bill "An Act To Amend Career and Technical Education Statutes"

(S.P. 696) (L.D. 1843)

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.

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

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

Representative **SIROCKI**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wonder if I might have permission to speak on the record?

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

Representative **SIROCKI**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I asked to speak on the record because I think that this message is important.

Billy Graham died this week, and he's famously known for saying, "When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; when health is lost, something is lost; and when character is lost, all is lost." And my opponents know that full well.

When one's character is under assault, one should do everything to vigorously defend it. Over the course of the last year, members of this chamber have shared inaccurate information with constituents and reporters. I have the emails to prove it. Slanderous comments have been made against my character on social media. The comments have remained and have not been addressed.

I would like to read the Legislative Code of Ethics just so that we can all be reminded, and maybe I have transgressed myself. "Legislative service is one of democracy's worthiest pursuits. A Maine Legislator is charged with civility and responsible conduct inside and outside of the State House commensurate with the trust placed in that Legislator by the electorate. In a free government, a Legislator is entrusted with the security, safety, health, prosperity, respect and general well-being of those the Legislator serves and with whom the Legislator serves. To work well, government requires a bond of trust and respect between citizens and their Legislators. With such a trust, high moral and ethical standards producing the public's confidence, with the reduction to a minimum of any conflict between private interests and official duties, should be observed. No Maine Legislators will accept any employment that will impair their independence and integrity of judgement, 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."

In the spirit of forgiveness, I would like to say I forgive my transgressors. In the spirit of moving forward, I would like to ask those to please refrain, and give me the courtesy of a phone call before making statements that are false; and I would like to say that I will not forget, but I will forgive. Thank you.

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The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Dedham, Representative Ward, who wishes to address the House on the record.

Representative **WARD**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I think everybody that sits in this chamber at one point or another asks ourselves, "Why are we here?" I know I've asked myself that a lot of times. And amid all of the rancor and the unpleasantness that can happen in this business, I wanted to share with you a little bit of insight as to why we might all be here. A lot of you are involved in this.

I first ran in 2014, Madam Speaker, and it wasn't long after I was elected that I received a call from a lady that didn't live in my district, but she knew me, and she'd known me for all of my then 52 years. That lady's name was Pam McLain. Pam McLain was the mother of a former classmate of mine that would've graduated a year behind me, in the class of 1982, at Schenck High School. But she never saw that graduation date, Madam Speaker. She didn't see that graduation date because on August 8, 1980, while jogging out behind the high school, she was abducted by one or more people. She was dragged into the woods and she was brutally murdered. Now, this is a case that probably everybody in this room has heard of. So, when Pam McLain, who I hadn't spoken with in 25 years, when she called me, I listened to every word. And she said, "Karl, I know you're not in my district, but I'm hoping that maybe you can help something, because you're going to go down there and you're going to try to do some good." And I said, "Pam, I think I know why you're calling." So, I paid her a visit. She's not my constituent, but she lives in my hometown. Together, Madam Speaker, we walked out to the spot behind the high school where her daughter's body had been found on August 10, 1980. She relived the morning that she was told that her daughter was gone, moment by moment. She showed me the candle that she's kept lit on her front porch next to what would have been her daughter Joyce's class picture. She's kept it there, every year, ever since.

Now, Madam Speaker, many of us, including yourself, are parents. I have a daughter and two sons, and I can't even imagine the anguish and the grief that she has gone through all these years. She said, "We've made a couple of attempts to try to establish a cold case homicide squad, and for one reason or another it's fallen short, and I was wondering if we could work across the aisle and try to get this done for Joyce. Justice for Joyce." I said, "Well, I don't even know how to submit a bill yet, Pam, but I'll figure it out."

The best things that happen in this building, Ladies and Gentlemen and Madam Speaker, are the things that happen together. When we can agree and we can collaborate, that's when we get the best output. So, I worked with then Senator Linda Valentino, and my friend and colleague, Representative Steve Stanley, who represents that district and where my mother still lives, and many, many others, and we produced the language for the cold case homicide squad bill. The odds were against it. It was 0 for 2. But somehow, through a lot of collaboration and work on both sides of the aisle, we passed it.

Now, like a lot of bills, it was vetoed. We overrode the veto. It was put into the budget. Like a lot of budgets, it was vetoed. We overrode that veto, and six line item vetoes later, it became the law of the land.

About a year ago, one of the suspected killers was arrested for the murder of Joyce McLain. I was there at the press conference announcing this. It was a very emotional time. Many of my friends that I'd grown up with, all more wrinkly and grayer than the last time I saw them, were standing around and we were hoping that somehow some closure could come to this.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am very happy to report that an hour and 15 minutes ago, Justice Ann Murray, District Court in the City of Bangor, found her assailant, who I will not name, guilty of the murder of Joyce McLain. Many years have been lost in the McLain family. They can never be replaced, and Pam's health is not good, her mother, and I feel as though she's been hanging on for this day. But I do want to let you know that, first of all, to the people that were directly involved in the bill, the people on both sides of this aisle that voted for it, that wore those pins, that voted for it and voted for the veto overrides: on behalf of everyone involved in that, and on behalf of the McLain family, I would like to thank you, every one of you. In addition to that, I would like to leave you with this: If you ever wonder whether or not what you do in this room makes a difference, wonder no more. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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On motion of Representative WARD of Dedham, the House adjourned at 11:46 a.m., until 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 27, 2018, pursuant to the Joint Order (S.P. 697) and in honor and lasting tribute to Marcia Evans, of Stockton Springs.