

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION  
1st Legislative Day  
Monday, August 26, 2019

This being the day designated in the proclamation of the Governor for meeting of the One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Legislature in extra session, the members of the House of Representatives were assembled in their hall at 10:00 in the morning and were called to Order by the Speaker.

Prayer by Honorable Thomas H. Skolfield, Weld.

National Anthem by Honorable Craig V. Hickman, Winthrop.

Pledge of Allegiance.

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A roll call was taken. 123 out of 151 members answered to their names and accordingly the Chair declared a quorum present.

Those absent were:

Representative ALLEY of Beals  
Representative BABINE of Scarborough  
Representative BERRY of Bowdoinham  
Representative CEBRA of Naples  
Representative COOPER of Yarmouth  
Representative COSTAIN of Plymouth  
Representative DENK of Kennebunk  
Representative DeVEAU of Caribou  
Representative GRIGNON of Athens  
Representative GROHOSKI of Ellsworth  
Representative HAGGAN of Hampden  
Representative HARRINGTON of Sanford  
Representative JOHANSEN of Monticello  
Representative MARTIN of Greene  
Representative McCREIGHT of Harpswell  
Representative McLEAN of Gorham  
Representative MEYER of Eliot  
Representative MILLETT of Waterford  
Representative MORALES of South Portland  
Representative O'NEIL of Saco  
Representative ORDWAY of Standish  
Representative PEOPLES of Westbrook  
Representative RECKITT of South Portland  
Representative REED of Carmel  
Representative SHEATS of Auburn  
Representative STETKIS of Canaan  
Representative TUCKER of Brunswick  
Representative WHITE of Washburn

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The Following Proclamation: (H.C. 221)

**STATE OF MAINE  
PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, there exists in the State of Maine an extraordinary occasion arising from the need to resolve certain bond measures pending at the time of adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 129th Legislature of the State of Maine; and

WHEREAS, such measures are limited to authorizations related to transportation, pollution control, economic development, energy conservation, land acquisition, and educational and veterans' facilities; and

WHEREAS, the public health, safety, and welfare require that the Legislature consider these measures in a timely manner so that those approved may be on the ballot for

consideration by the voters at referendum on November 5, 2019;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet T. Mills, Governor of the State of Maine, by the power conferred by Article V, Part 1, Section 13 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, convene the Legislature of this State, hereby requiring the Representatives and the Senators to assemble at 10:00 o'clock in the morning in their respective chambers at the Capitol in Augusta on Monday, August 26, 2019, in order to receive communications, and to consider and approve such bond issues and any appropriate technical measures that I propose and that the Legislature in their judgment agree will timely promote the welfare of the State.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have caused the Great Seal of the State to be hereunto affixed GIVEN under my hand at Augusta this nineteenth day of August in the Year Two Thousand and Nineteen.

S/Janet T. Mills

Governor

S/Matthew Dunlap

Secretary of State

TRUE ATTESTED COPY

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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**ORDERS**

On motion of Representative MOONEN of Portland, the following House Order: (H.O. 34)

ORDERED, that a Committee of ten be appointed to wait upon Her Excellency, Governor Janet T. Mills, and inform her that a quorum of the House of Representatives is assembled in the Hall of the House for the consideration of such business as may come before the House.

**READ and PASSED.**

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The Speaker appointed the following Members to the Committee to wait upon the Governor and inform her that a quorum of the members of the House of Representatives have assembled in the Hall of the House for the consideration of such business as may come before the House:

Representative GATTINE of Westbrook  
Representative ARATA of New Gloucester  
Representative DUNPHY of Old Town  
Representative HUBBELL of Bar Harbor  
Representative JORGENSEN of Portland  
Representative KESCHL of Belgrade  
Representative MARTIN of Eagle Lake  
Representative MILLETT of Waterford  
Representative PIERCE of Falmouth  
Representative WADSWORTH of Hiram

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At this point, a message was received from the Senate, borne by Senator VITELLI of Sagadahoc of that Body, announcing a quorum present and that the Senate was ready to transact any business that might properly come before it.

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Pursuant to House Rule 401, Section 12, Representative DEVIN of Newcastle informed the Speaker and Clerk of his return and would no longer be excused from House deliberations and roll calls.

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At this point, pursuant to her authority under House Rule 401.1, the Chair assigned Representative RECKITT of South Portland to Seat 80 and Representative FAY of Raymond to Seat 33.

On motion of Representative FECTION of Biddeford, the following House Order: (H.O. 35)

ORDERED, that a message be conveyed to the Senate that a quorum of the House of Representatives was present for the consideration of such business as may come before the House.

**READ and PASSED.**

The Speaker appointed Representative MOONEN of Portland to inform the Senate that a quorum of the members of the House of Representatives had assembled in the Hall of the House for the consideration of such business as may come before the House.

Under suspension of the rules, members were allowed to remove their jackets.

Subsequently, Representative GATTINE of Westbrook reported that the Committee had delivered the message with which it was charged.

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 222)

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

July 23, 2019

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

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to my authority under Title 5, section 12004-I, subsection 52-C, I am withdrawing my appointments of the following people for the Marijuana Advisory Commission, effective immediately:

- Rep. Don Marean of Hollis, as a member of the House of Representatives;
- Rebecca Smith of Brunswick, Director of Government Relations at the American Heart Association, as a member of the public with demonstrated expertise and credentials in public health policy.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,  
Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 223)

**STATE OF MAINE  
129TH MAINE LEGISLATURE**

July 29, 2019

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

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to our authority under Title 12, MRSA, §6447, we are pleased to appoint Representative Robert Alley of Beals to Zone A of the Lobster Management Policy Council as a non-voting member serving a 2-year term. This appointment is effective the date of this letter.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,  
S/Troy D. Jackson  
President of the Senate  
S/Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 224)

**STATE OF MAINE  
129TH MAINE LEGISLATURE**

July 29, 2019

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

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to our authority under Title 12, MRSA, §6447, we are pleased to appoint Representative Lydia Blume of Cape Neddick to Zone G of the Lobster Management Policy Council as a non-voting member serving a 2-year term. This appointment is effective the date of this letter.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,  
S/Troy D. Jackson  
President of the Senate  
S/Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

The Following Communication: (H.C. 225)

**STATE OF MAINE  
129TH MAINE LEGISLATURE**

July 29, 2019

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

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to our authority under Title 12, MRSA, §6447, we are pleased to appoint Representative Brian Hubbell of Bar Harbor to Zone B of the Lobster Management Policy Council as a non-voting member serving a 2-year term. This appointment is effective the date of this letter.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,  
S/Troy D. Jackson  
President of the Senate  
S/Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 226)

**STATE OF MAINE  
129TH MAINE LEGISLATURE**

July 29, 2019  
The Honorable Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to our authority under Title 12, MRSA, §6447, we are pleased to appoint Representative Sherman Hutchins of Penobscot to Zone C of the Lobster Management Policy Council as a non-voting member serving a 2-year term. This appointment is effective the date of this letter.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,  
S/Troy D. Jackson  
President of the Senate  
S/Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 227)

**STATE OF MAINE  
129TH MAINE LEGISLATURE**

July 29, 2019  
The Honorable Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to our authority under Title 12, MRSA, §6447, we are pleased to appoint Representative Jay McCreight of Harpswell to Zone F of the Lobster Management Policy Council as a non-voting member serving a 2-year term. This appointment is effective the date of this letter.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,  
S/Troy D. Jackson  
President of the Senate  
S/Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 228)

**STATE OF MAINE  
129TH MAINE LEGISLATURE**

July 29, 2019  
The Honorable Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to our authority under Title 12, MRSA, §6447, we are pleased to appoint Senator Dave Miramant of Camden to Zone D of the Lobster Management Policy Council as a non-voting member serving a 2-year term. This appointment is effective the date of this letter.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,  
S/Troy D. Jackson  
President of the Senate  
S/Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 229)

**STATE OF MAINE  
129TH MAINE LEGISLATURE**

July 29, 2019  
The Honorable Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to our authority under Title 12, MRSA, §6447, we are pleased to appoint Senator Eloise Vitelli of Arrowsic to Zone E of the Lobster Management Policy Council as a non-voting member serving a 2-year term. This appointment is effective the date of this letter.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding this appointment.

Sincerely,  
S/Troy D. Jackson  
President of the Senate  
S/Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 231)

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

August 21, 2019  
The Honorable Robert B. Hunt  
Clerk of the House  
2 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to my authority under House Rule 201.1 (l) (a), I have rescinded the temporary appointment of Representative Pinny Beebe-Center of Rockland to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources and I have reappointed Representative Michael G. Devin of Newcastle to the Joint Standing Committee on Marine Resources, effective immediately.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding this temporary appointment.

Sincerely,  
S/Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House

**READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.**

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The Following Communication: (H.C. 230)

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

August 26, 2019

Honorable Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of the House

2 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to my authority, I have appointed the following members to serve on committees, subcommittees, commissions, councils, groups and task forces:

Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act, pursuant to Joint Order, H.P. 1307, effective immediately:

- Honorable Donna Bailey of Saco
  - Honorable Anne C. Perry of Calais
  - Honorable Kathleen R. J. Dillingham of Oxford
- Maine Climate Council, pursuant to Title 38, MRSA, Ch. 3-A, §577-A:

- Honorable Lydia Blume of York
  - Honorable Richard H. Campbell of Orrington
- I am also pleased to appoint the following people in the following capacities:

- Honorable Brian L. Hubbell of Bar Harbor, to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee
- Honorable Bettyann W. Sheats of Auburn, to the Transportation Working Group
- Honorable William R. Tuell of East Machias to the Coastal and Marine Working Group
- Honorable Dennis L. Keschl of Belgrade, to the Buildings, Infrastructure, and Housing Working Group
- Honorable MaryAnne Kinney of Knox, to the Working Lands and Ecosystems Working Group
- Honorable Seth A. Berry of Bowdoinham, to the Energy Working Group

Working Group on Mental Health, pursuant to S.P. 508, effective immediately:

- Honorable Charlotte Warren of Hallowell, Chair
- Honorable Beth A. O'Connor of Berwick
- Ms. Nyamuon Nguany of Portland
- Mr. Kevin Voyvodich of Augusta
- Ms. Donna Yellen of Portland
- Sheriff Kevin Joyce of Portland
- Ms. Malory Shaughnessy of Augusta
- Karen Evans of Portland

Commission to Study Children's Mental Health, pursuant to H.P. 41, effective immediately:

- Honorable Colleen Madigan of Waterville, Chair
- Honorable Amy Arata of New Gloucester
- Ms. Jennifer Johnson of Waterville
- Dr. Lindsey Tweed of Vassalboro

Blue Ribbon Commission to Study and Recommend Funding Solutions for the State's Transportation System, pursuant to H.P. 700, effective immediately:

- Honorable Andrew J. McLean of Gorham, Chair
- Honorable Kristen Sarah Cloutier of Lewiston, House Member on the Taxation Committee
- Honorable Thomas H. Martin, Jr. of Greene, House Member on the Transportation Committee
- Honorable Nathan J. Wadsworth of Hiram
- Mr. Ryan Ratledge of Bangor

Commission to Study Long-term Care Workforce Issues, pursuant to H.P. 743, effective immediately:

- Honorable Jessica L. Fay of Raymond, Chair
- Honorable Holly B. Stover of Boothbay
- Honorable Abigail W. Griffin of Levant
- Ms. Mary Jane Richards of Skowhegan
- Mr. Don Harden of Portland
- Dr. Sandy Butler of Orono
- Ms. Betsy Sawyer-Manter of Lewiston
- Ms. Debbie Gilmer of Readfield
- Ms. Amy Winston of Brunswick

Commission to Study Economic, Environmental and Energy Benefits of Energy Storage to the Maine Electricity Industry, pursuant to H.P. 1166, effective September 19, 2019:

- Honorable Christina Riley of Jay, Chair
- Honorable Steven D. Foster of Dexter
- Honorable Nicole Grohoski of Ellsworth
- Mr. Rob Wood of Brunswick
- Mr. Jeff Bishop of Salt Lake City, UT
- Jeremy Niles of Westbrook

Maine Children's Cabinet Early Childhood Advisory Council, pursuant to S.P. 602, effective September 19, 2019:

- Honorable Teresa S. Pierce of Falmouth
- Honorable Heidi H. Sampson of Alfred
- Casey Henderson of Waterville

Commission to Improve the Sentencing, Supervision, Management and Incarceration of Prisoners, pursuant to Resolve, Chapter 104, effective September 19, 2019:

- Honorable Rachel Talbot Ross of Portland, Chair
  - Honorable Piny Beebe-Center of Rockland
- Maine's Early Childhood Special Education Services – Independent Review Advisory Committee, pursuant to H.P. 743, effective immediately:
- Audrey Bartholomew of Portland
  - Camelia Babson-Haley of Portland
  - Jane Dugin of Kittery
  - Jillian O'Brien of Westbrook
  - Ellen Halliday of Houlton

Please contact my office if you have any questions regarding these appointments.

Sincerely,  
S/Sara Gideon  
Speaker of the House

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

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**PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE**

Bill "An Act To Amend the Law That Increases the Number of Franklin County Commissioners" (EMERGENCY) (H.P. 1323) (L.D. 1852)

Sponsored by Representative RILEY of Jay. (GOVERNOR'S BILL)

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

Under suspension of the rules, the Bill was given its **FIRST READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a committee.

Under further 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** and sent for concurrence.

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

**ORDERS**

On motion of Representative FARNSWORTH of Portland, the following House Order: (H.O. 36)

ORDERED, that Representative Heidi E. Brooks of Lewiston be excused June 18, 19 and 20 for health reasons.

AND BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Representative Richard M. Cebra of Naples be excused June 19 and 20 for personal reasons.

**READ and PASSED.**

At this point, Representatives JOHANSEN of Monticello, MARTIN of Greene, McCREIGHT of Harpswell, McLEAN of Gorham, MILLETT of Waterford, MORALES of South Portland, ORDDAY of Standish, REED of Carmel, STETKIS of Canaan and TUCKER of Brunswick, were added to the roll call of the First Special Session of the 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

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

**SENATE PAPERS**

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Protection and Enhancement of Water Quality, Support of Environmental Clean-up Efforts and Provision of Loans for the Residential Purchase of High-performance Air Source Heat Pumps"

(S.P. 631) (L.D. 1847)

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

Came from the Senate, under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill was **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Provide Broadband Internet Infrastructure in Unserved and Underserved Areas of the State, Maintenance and Improvement of the Maine National Guard Armories, Readiness Centers and Support Facilities and Capital

Improvements and Equipment Purchases for Career and Technical Education Centers"

(S.P. 632) (L.D. 1848)

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

Came from the Senate, under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill was **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in concurrence.

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

At this point, Representatives DeVEAU of Caribou, CEBRA of Naples, WHITE of Washburn and HANINGTON of Lincoln were added to the roll call of the First Special Session of the 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

**ENACTORS**

**Bond Issue**

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for the Protection and Enhancement of Water Quality, Support of Environmental Clean-up Efforts and Provision of Loans for the Residential Purchase of High-performance Air Source Heat Pumps

(S.P. 631) (L.D. 1847)

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

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Brunswick, Representative Tucker.

Representative **TUCKER**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. This \$15 million bond is very modest and very necessary. It would allow \$5 million in bonding for our deteriorating wastewater infrastructure. It would allow \$5 million for the cleanup of pollution sites including brownfield sites and areas where we may have a PFAs problem. And, lastly, it allows for grants and low-cost loans for heat pumps and other energy-efficient projects.

In our wastewater needs, we have about a billion dollars in infrastructure that needs to be supplied over the next 10 years. The last administration was very supportive. The need is to replace aging infrastructure in our wastewater plants, which are sewage plants, which were built in the '70s. This will help local towns. As you know, we all contribute to this problem; all of us, even within the last 24 hours.

In the last session, we had a \$30 million bond for contributing towards this billion-dollar need offered by the last administration and sponsored by the House Representative from Newport. That \$30 million bond passed with only two dissenting votes. It will bring in matching funds at a 125%. This is necessary. On the brownfield sites, we currently have about a \$500 million shortfall in the DEP's needs to clean up these sites. There are 250 hazardous sites that are being cleaned up at the present time and we can anticipate 50 new sites being added every year. We are especially concerned about this need for cleaning up hazardous sites because we have discovered that there are bad chemicals coming out of wastewater treatment plants in the nature of PFAs and it has made it more difficult to spread the resulting sludge from

wastewater treatment plants and so, we're going to need to help clean up a lot of sites.

And, lastly, about the heat pumps, I don't think I need to get into that into any greater detail. The last administration was real big on heat pumps. I don't see why we shouldn't continue that generosity towards cleaning up energy inefficiencies. That's basically what this bond is about. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Oxford, Representative Dillingham.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: Thank you. I do appreciate what the Representative is saying but currently we do have three other bonds that have been authorized but not issued pertaining to wastewater treatment facilities and such, and even though we agree that there's an importance, this is an importance that can wait until later in our regular session next in January rather than taking it up right now. So, I do ask for a roll call.

The same Representative **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: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Winter Harbor, Representative Faulkingham.

Representative **FAULKINGHAM**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, the Maine Legislature is a citizens' legislature. We come to session in January and the Constitution says that we adjourn in June.

Now, on June 20th, after an entire day and night, we adjourned at 6:45 a.m. after having fulfilled that obligation. When the Legislature is in recess, the Members return to their families and jobs and come back again in January unless there is an emergency situation. So, we have been called here today and what pressing issue are we here for? We are here today to consider bonds; the same bonds we voted on June 20th. We are here today costing taxpayers \$42,000 a day to revoke these bonds. I ask what could possibly change in two months' time. We sit here, costing ourselves and the State thousands of dollars to vote on bonds we've already voted on. Now, I sincerely hope that this procedure does not become the new normal, making legislators choose between their jobs, their livelihoods, and coming to vote on things that have already been voted on, is evidence of a dysfunctional state government.

So, we are gathered here today to vote on bonds. What is a bond? A bond is essentially borrowing money to fund things that were not included in the budget. And we learn at an early age about borrowing. We borrow money when we do not have enough money for something we'd like to purchase. When we become adults, we borrow for things like a car or a truck because we don't have \$30,000 or \$40,000 on hand to purchase it. So, let me ask; does the State have the money? Do we really need to borrow? Well, the numbers say that the State has brought in more revenue than it has in its entire history. As a matter of fact, the State is projected to bring in over \$8 billion of revenue. So, if the State has more revenue than it has ever had, why in God's green earth would we borrow money? Where did the revenue go? The answer to that is that the revenue, 99.99% of it, went into the budget; a budget that increased 11% over the previous budget, a budget that didn't return one penny to the income taxpayers. A budget that put taxpayers on the hook for such worthy expenditures as

elective abortions and Medicaid expansion for able-bodied childless adults.

The SPEAKER: The Representative will defer. The Chair will remind the Representative that the subject of debate is the question before the House, Item 10-1, a general fund bond issue. The Chair will remind the Representative to focus on the issue at hand. The Chair will also ask the Representative if he has gum to get rid of it before he proceeds.

The Chair reminded Representative **FAULKINGHAM** of Winter Harbor to stay as close as possible to the pending question.

Representative **FAULKINGHAM**: To do what?

The SPEAKER: If you have gum in your mouth to get rid of it before you proceed.

Representative **FAULKINGHAM**: I do not have gum in my mouth.

The SPEAKER: Okay, the Chair is in error. The Representative may proceed.

Representative **FAULKINGHAM**: If these bonds needed funding, why were they not included in an \$8 billion budget? It does not matter if the interest on these bonds is 10% or one-tenth of 1%. Anyone who isn't economically illiterate knows that you borrow money when revenue is down and pay it back when revenue is up. To spend every penny of available money now on this budget and then ask to borrow hundreds of millions more on top of it is reckless and irresponsible. Madam Speaker, I ask the Members to vote no on the motion.

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.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of Article IX of the Constitution, a two-thirds vote of the House being necessary, a total was taken.

**ROLL CALL NO. 326**

YEA - Ackley, Austin B, Babbidge, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Blume, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Carney, Cloutier, Collings, Corey, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Daughtry, Devin, Dodge, Doore, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau R, Foley, Gattine, Gramlich, Handy, Harnett, Hepler, Hickman, Higgins, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Jorgensen, Kessler, Kornfield, Landry, Madigan C, Marean, Martin J, Martin R, Mastraccio, Matlack, Maxmin, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Moonen, Morales, Moriarty, Nadeau, Paulhus, Pebworth, Perry A, Perry J, Pierce T, Pluecker, Riley, Roberts-Lovell, Rykerson, Schneck, Sharpe, Stanley, Stover, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Verow, Warren, White B, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin S, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Campbell, Cebra, Curtis, DeVeau, Dillingham, Dolloff, Drinkwater, Faulkingham, Fecteau J, Foster, Griffin, Hall, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Johansen, Keschl, Kinney, Kryzak, Lockman, Lyford, Martin T, Mason, Millett, Morris, O'Connor, Ordway, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Reed, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Swallow, Theriault, Tuell, Wadsworth, White D.

ABSENT - Alley, Babine, Berry, Cooper, Costain, Denk, Grignon, Grohoski, Haggan, Meyer, O'Neil, Peoples, Reckitt, Riseman, Sheats.

Yes, 84; No, 52; Absent, 15; Excused, 0.

84 having voted in the affirmative and 52 voted in the negative, with 15 being absent, and accordingly the Bond Issue **FAILED PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED** and was sent to the Senate.

**Bond Issue**

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Provide Broadband Internet Infrastructure in Unserved and Underserved Areas of the State, Maintenance and Improvement of the Maine National Guard Armories, Readiness Centers and Support Facilities and Capital Improvements and Equipment Purchases for Career and Technical Education Centers

(S.P. 632) (L.D. 1848)

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

Representative DILLINGHAM of Oxford **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: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Biddeford, Representative Fecteau.

Representative **PECTEAU**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, career and technical education, CTE schools, are critical to the present and future success of our workforce and our economy. Investing in the infrastructure and equipment at our 27 CTE schools, which is included in the question before us is expensive and cannot be easily met by the municipal budgets of towns that host a CTE school. As you know, CTE schools in towns like Bangor, Calais, Caribou, Ellsworth, Dexter, Farmington, Frenchville, Houlton, Lincoln, Machias, Mexico, Naples, Norway, Presque Isle, Van Buren and Waldo are actively preparing students for technical trades critical to our workforce.

Bonding for these large investments is a sensible way to use the mechanism of funding before us. However, the Legislature has not done so since 1998. At the time, the bond put forward to voters was \$5 million. Today, the question before us is to invest \$4 million into our CTE schools. The needs are wide-ranging. I have a list of needs of the schools that were provided to me by some of the directors of the CTE schools across the State. For example, in Region 2, they need a forestry forwarder, a forestry processor, a forestry skidder, a capital improvement investment in their plumbing and heating infrastructure. In Oxford Hills, they need to replace the trade area compressor that serves the auto tech, auto collision, forestry and potentially a new welding program. And in Caribou, they need to invest in the infrastructure for window and door replacement, dump trucks, a new computerized frame machine in autobody and a tractor for their ag program.

Now, Madam Speaker, as you know and as you can hear from this brief description of some of the needs at these schools, the education at the 27 CTE schools across the State is intimately important to the critical fields, the trades, and our workforce in many parts of our State and it's not discriminate. There are needs in our workforce in every part of our State. I believe members of the public expect to see the question of making this critical investment move forward here today. Our students are worth that much and developing the future of our workforce should not be delayed.

I had the opportunity to co-author an opinion piece in the Portland Press Herald earlier this year with the Good Representative from Presque Isle. In that op-ed, we noted the urgency of this issue, making the investment in our CTE schools, and I hope that today we'll have that opportunity to invest \$4 million in the future of our workforce, in the future career of our young people, and making sure that the services

that the public expects to receive, whether it be calling a plumber and getting them there on time to do a job at their home or an electrician or a welder, that the needs of our workforce are met and our students are prepared to succeed. So, with that, Madam Speaker, I urge this body to move forward with the bill before us.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Standish, Representative Ordway.

Representative **ORDWAY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise in opposition to this bond and not because I don't support CTE. In my humble opinion, it's too small.

This bond was originally a \$19 million bond. As the Good Representative from Biddeford just listed a bunch of equipment, if we divided \$4 million by 27 schools, and it happened to go out equally, it would be \$148,000. This bond is in no way near what needs to be provided to these schools. I will vote no on it, hopefully we can come back with a proper package to support CTE in this State.

As you all know, we just put \$1.8 million extra into K-12 education; good move. Zero went to CTE. Vote this bond down, come back with a proper bonding that supports the CTE. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bradley, Representative Lockman.

Representative **LOCKMAN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to pose a question through the Chair to anyone who cares to answer.

The SPEAKER: The Representative may proceed.

Representative **LOCKMAN**: We just passed an \$8 billion budget with an \$800 million increase in spending and it boggles the mind to think that we're having to borrow a measly \$4 million. So, I'd like to know, if somebody can help me understand this, why we're borrowing \$4 million after we just spent \$8 billion.

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Bradley has posed a question if there is anyone who wishes to answer.

The Chair recognizes the Representative from South Portland, Representative Kessler.

Representative **KESSLER**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The answer to that question is because every time we have tried to pass funding for broadband infrastructure, it has been opposed. So, now we have to try to bond it to pay for it. Thank you.

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

Representative **GATTINE**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Somewhat a response to the question that was posed. I do want to clarify something about the budget that we just passed. The budget that we just passed that was voted certainly bipartisanly out of the AFA committee and that got bipartisan support in both chambers and was signed by the Chief Executive, included debt service and interest payments to fund the original package submitted by the Chief Executive.

So, if you look at this bond bill and the other bond bills in front of us, which are much below what was originally proposed by the Chief Executive, again, I would just like to point out that this is a very modest level of bonding compared to what other states bond, compared to what Maine voters have voted on and supported in the past and certainly the money to support this bonding was included in the budget, which, again, from my perspective was a very, very responsible budget. And I want to point out to the body in response to some other comments I've heard today, that we did end the fiscal year with a significant surplus and were able to put money into the Rainy Day Fund and to provide some

money for next year. But in terms of this bond package, it is certainly well within what was contemplated when the Members voted for the budget just a couple of months ago. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Oxford, Representative Dillingham.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: Thank you, Madam Speaker and Members of the House. I rise in response to my friend from Biddeford.

Just to speak, even though I know other pieces of this bond exist, speak strictly about CTE. That is something that certainly my entire caucus strongly supports and work very hard to restore funding for our CTE education, which had been cut in the original budget proposal. As far as this bonding piece right here, I believe this is something that we should wait until January and have a further discussion; on is this how we want to fund our CTE education in this State? If we truly believe that this is a priority, then this is something that we probably should be looking at being part of a regular fiscal budget rather than trying to bond out, as the Representative from Standish referred to, really small pieces in an amount that's really not going to help all of the centers we have across the State. So, I would ask again that Members of the Chamber go ahead and vote against this bond proposal.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Eddington, Representative Lyford.

Representative **LYFORD**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'd like to pose a question to the Members.

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

Representative **LYFORD**: Could somebody in the Chamber tell me the total amount of bonding we owe now?

The **SPEAKER**: The Representative has posed a question through the Chair if there is anyone who wishes to answer.

The Chair recognizes the Representative from Topsham, Representative Tepler.

Representative **TEPLER**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I speak not in answer to the posed question but in general to the concept of why one bond. It is common for government entities both at the municipal level and the state and federal level to bond for capital investment. It is for capital items that we bond and large pieces of equipment which will last longer than 25 years, are capital investments.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Dover-Foxcroft, Representative Higgins.

Representative **HIGGINS**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I stand today in support of the bond and particularly because of the aspects of broadband.

This provides an opportunity for us to jump start our local economies in rural Maine. Something we talk a lot about; today we can actually take action. The \$15 million will have a three to one match. We're talking about 45 more additional dollars. But I think it's really important to look at who's been in support of this bond; the Maine Chamber of Commerce, representing businesses throughout the State of Maine, University of Maine System, because they recognize the workforce development components that broadband will bring, and the Maine Community College System, which is given the responsibility of leading the way and providing for workforce development in those key crucial areas of our economy that we talk about all the time. Just try to find a plumber.

So, I stand today and ask for your support to promote workforce development and support rural Maine as we move forward into the future.

I do want to make a comment about CTE. I certainly would've preferred to see the numbers larger on CTE. I do believe we'll need to come back even if we pass this bond and the \$4 million, to have a further conversation and discussion about what role we want career and technical education to play in providing for our workforce needs for the future. But that should not preclude us from supporting the \$4 million today for CTE. Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Monmouth, Representative Ackley.

Representative **ACKLEY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Request permission to pose a question through the Chair.

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

Representative **ACKLEY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Could someone in the Chamber tell me what the current credit rating is for the State of Maine and how that compares with the other states in our country?

The **SPEAKER**: The Representative from Monmouth has posed a question through the Chair if there is anyone who wishes to answer.

The Chair recognizes the Representative from Biddeford, Representative Fecteau.

Representative **FECTEAU**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to pose a question through the Chair.

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

Representative **FECTEAU**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to know if the Representative from Standish would enlighten this body with what number would be appropriate for CTE schools, what is the figure that you would like to see put forward to the voters and voted on and get their approval for an investment in our CTE schools. What is the number?

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.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of Article IX of the Constitution, a two-thirds vote of the House being necessary, a total was taken.

#### **ROLL CALL NO. 327**

**YEA** - Ackley, Austin B, Babbidge, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Blume, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Carney, Cebra, Cloutier, Collings, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Daughtry, Devin, Dodge, Doore, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau R, Foley, Gattine, Gramlich, Handy, Harnett, Hepler, Hickman, Higgins, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Jorgensen, Kessler, Kornfield, Landry, Madigan C, Marean, Martin J, Martin R, Mastraccio, Matlack, Maxmin, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Moonen, Morales, Moriarty, Nadeau, Paulhus, Pebworth, Perry A, Perry J, Pierce T, Pluecker, Riley, Roberts-Lovell, Rykerson, Schneck, Sharpe, Skolfield, Stanley, Stover, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Verow, Warren, White B, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

**NAY** - Andrews, Arata, Austin S, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Campbell, Corey, Curtis, DeVeau, Dillingham, Dolloff, Drinkwater, Faulkingham, Fecteau J, Foster, Griffin, Hall, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Johansen, Keschl, Kinney, Kryzak, Lockman, Lyford, Martin T, Mason, Millett, Morris, O'Connor, Ordway, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Reed, Rudnicki, Sampson, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Swallow, Theriault, Tuell, Wadsworth, White D.

**ABSENT** - Alley, Babine, Berry, Cooper, Costain, Denk, Grignon, Grohoski, Haggan, Meyer, O'Neil, Peoples, Reckitt, Riseman, Sheats.

Yes, 85; No, 51; Absent, 15; Excused, 0.

85 having voted in the affirmative and 51 voted in the negative, with 15 being absent, and accordingly the Bond Issue **FAILED PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED** and was sent to the Senate.

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

At this point, Representative HAGGAN of Hampden was added to the roll call of the First Special Session of the 129<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

**SENATE PAPERS**

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Land Conservation, Water Access, Outdoor Recreation, Wildlife and Fish Habitats and Farmland and Working Waterfront Preservation"

(S.P. 635) (L.D. 1851)

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

Came from the Senate, under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill was **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in concurrence.

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

Bill "An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Highways, Bridges and Multimodal Facilities"

(S.P. 634) (L.D. 1850)

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

Came from the Senate, under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill was **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in concurrence.

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

Bill "An Act Regarding the Laws Governing the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 633) (L.D. 1849)

Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** suggested and ordered printed.

Came from the Senate, under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED**.

Under suspension of the rules and **WITHOUT REFERENCE** to a Committee, the Bill was **READ TWICE** and **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** in concurrence.

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

**ENACTORS**

**Emergency Measure**

An Act To Amend the Law That Increases the Number of Franklin County Commissioners

(H.P. 1323) (L.D. 1852)

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

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from East Machias, Representative Tuell.

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise today in opposition to the pending motion. I do so with regret because I believe the bill before us undermines the carefully crafted agreement state and local government came to after much debate and deliberation this past winter. The underlying bill was an honest and sincere attempt to allow the residents of Franklin County the option of increasing the number of county commissioners from three to five, theoretically giving rural voters in the county more say over county government. That bill was passed, recalled from the Chief Executive's desk in the waning days of June, once again passed after a technical change was made, and signed into law. Despite a few tense moments along the way, support was universal and the underlying agreement went forward in good faith.

Madam Speaker, we are not fixing an error today or rectifying an honest mistake; we had time for that in June. Indeed, the Chief Executive had ample opportunity through the committee process and subsequently through the recall process to recommend any necessary changes to be engaged in the process and help move the bill along with a much less bumpy ride. The Chief Executive signed this legislation knowing there would be a referendum in November 2020. To now ask for a snap election in November 2019 is disheartening and disappointing. It is the stuff of British and Canadian politics, not of our own system where the rules are set in advance of the election and not changed once its been called. To use one of my grandmother's favorite sayings; you can't change horses in midstream. Changing the rules will give purveyors of conspiracy theories ammunition to say that this whole thing was rigged, that it was a partisan plot all along, and detract from the noble intentions of those who brought the original legislation forward in good faith.

This legislation is a substantive change from the original, one that should be vetted in committee before we even take it up on the floor. There should have been a public hearing, work session, and committee votes before this bill sprouted wings and flew up two flights of stairs and plopped itself on our desks. Perhaps if this were sent back to committee, other issues would resurface, such as the fact that should the referendum pass, we would have to then make sure that each county commissioner's district has an equal number of representatives on the county's budget committee. For those unfamiliar, county budget committees' makeup is set in State statute in each of our State's 16 counties.

I can understand fixing honest errors and mistakes, but we are not in an emergency situation here. Nobody is being disenfranchised. The people of Franklin County will vote in November 2020. That's a done deal. Rejecting this legislation does not take that vote away and it doesn't mean you oppose

expansion. It means you respect an already agreed-upon process that was carefully weighed out by this very Legislature. It means you favor giving people ample time to decide if this is right for them, to look at all the issues around expanding a county commission and actually, it means that if there are post-referendum implementation snags that come up between now and then, we can fix them when we are back. And it means a higher likelihood of voter engagement and participation, something I believe we all strive for regardless of our personal or political beliefs.

Beyond all that, Madam Speaker, I will not attempt to list the 39 other reasons why I object to the bill before us or their LD numbers. They are a matter of public record, many of them emergency or unanimous pieces of legislation our committees have sent on for timely action, not limbo. And yet the upshot of all that is that Franklin County voters will be deciding the issue at the ballot box in November 2020, anyway. Those who support it will have 15 months to make their case, those who oppose it the same 15 months to carefully lay out their reasoning as well. The public will have ample opportunity to quiz local officials, proponents, opponents, and decide if it is right for them. There will be ample time for hearings, info sessions and debates. Nobody will be able to say that they are not aware, engaged or informed on the issues. Nobody will be disenfranchised and, quite frankly, more voters will likely engage with the process a year from now than this November.

This bill, Madam Speaker, is not an emergency and therefore I shall be voting against the pending motion. In closing, I would request a roll call. Thank you.

The same Representative **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**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Sinclair, Representative Martin.

Representative **MARTIN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I've got to say that I have a whole lot of respect for the previous speaker, the Good Representative from East Machias, but the whole concept of this piece of legislation is not as complicated and convoluted as has just been suggested.

Increasing the number of county commissioners in Franklin County from three to five already is in law. That took place in LD 940 earlier in this session. All this bill does, it changes the referendum date from November 2020 to November of this year and it does also clarify and makes a couple of technical corrections to county commissioner district number one and number two. I am not the sponsor of the piece of legislation, but I fully support it and hope you'll vote in favor of it. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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. 328**

YEA - Ackley, Austin B, Babbidge, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Blume, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Carney, Cloutier, Collings, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Daughtry, Devin, Dodge, Doore, Doudera, Dunphy, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau R, Foley, Gattine, Gramlich, Hall, Handy, Harnett, Hepler, Hickman, Higgins, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Jorgensen, Kessler, Kornfield, Landry, Madigan C, Martin J, Martin R, Mastraccio, Matlack, Maxmin, McCrea, McCreight,

McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Moonen, Morales, Moriarty, Nadeau, Pebworth, Perry A, Perry J, Pierce T, Pluecker, Riley, Riseman, Roberts-Lovell, Rykerson, Schneck, Sharpe, Stanley, Stover, Sylvester, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Verow, Warren, White B, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, Austin S, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Campbell, Corey, Curtis, DeVeau, Dillingham, Dolloff, Drinkwater, Evangelos, Faulkingham, Fecteau J, Foster, Griffin, Haggan, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Johansen, Keschl, Kinney, Kryzak, Lockman, Lyford, Marean, Martin T, Mason, Millett, Morris, O'Connor, Ordway, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Reed, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Swallow, Talbot Ross, Tuell, Wadsworth, White D.

ABSENT - Alley, Babine, Berry, Cebra, Cooper, Costain, Denk, Grignon, Grohoski, Meyer, O'Neil, Paulhus, Peoples, Reckitt, Sheats, Theriault.

Yes, 81; No, 54; Absent, 16; Excused, 0.

81 having voted in the affirmative and 54 voted in the negative, with 16 being absent, and accordingly the Bill **FAILED PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED** and was sent to the Senate.

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

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**Bond Issue**

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue for Land Conservation, Water Access, Outdoor Recreation, Wildlife and Fish Habitats and Farmland and Working Waterfront Preservation

(S.P. 635) (L.D. 1851)

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

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

Representative **COREY**: Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House, last year I had the privilege to serve on the Land Conservation Task Force, a diverse stakeholder-formed group that looked at how to revitalize land for land conservation in Maine with a focus on how to better meet the needs of Maine's people in the future.

The process included testimony from panelists and task force members representing outdoor recreation, natural resource-based industries, public health, agriculture, conservation and state and local governments. The end result, after a great deal of deliberations and public participation, was a comprehensive set of recommendations and action items to be considered and acted upon by Maine's executive and legislative branches, the conservation community and our towns and citizens.

The third recommendation reads revive funding for land conservation and ensure that LMF can effectively meet the challenges of the next generation. In recent years, the Land for Maine's Future program was, for all intents and purposes, shelved. It's time to revitalize LMF, which is traditionally across constituent ideologies and interests, to protect and enhance varied components that come together to make Maine the place we call home.

Revitalizing LMF means being bold and providing stable funding. LMF makes vital investments in many Mainer's ability to connect with the place they call home. This really manifests in two ways. One, the program speaks to Mainer's sense of

adventure through recreational opportunities like hiking, biking, snowmobiling, ATVing, fishing, hunting, sightseeing and birding. Two, it protects our past, present, and future forest products, agriculture and fishing industries through the conservation of working lands and waterfronts. Would Maine be a place any of us would want to live or recognize without any of the above?

As the ultimate stewards of our State, do we not have the responsibility to pass our sense of place forward? Passage of an LMF bond would invest in Maine's recreational access, conservation, and traditional Maine industries including agriculture, marine resources and farming.

If the goal wasn't to get out of here today, I'd read the long, long list of organizations, companies and municipalities that have come out in support of LMF. Let's give the voters the opportunity to voice their strong support as they have in the past always. As a sportsman, former land trust board member, conservationist, and person who loves his state, I'd ask you to strongly support the Land Conservations Task Force and vote to revitalize our Land for Maine's Future program. I ask you to support the pending motion. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Oxford, Representative Dillingham.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: Thank you very much. Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, I would concur with my Member from Windham, that our conservation is very important to the State of Maine. As somebody who is an outdoorsman and a farmer, I certainly understand the need. I would again caution that this is perhaps something that should be taken up in January and have a broader conversation, and I would ask that Members follow my light and vote against this bond and I ask for a roll call. Thank you.

The same Representative **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: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Monmouth, Representative Ackley.

Representative **ACKLEY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Friends of the House. Madam Speaker, thank you for the lunch break today. It enabled me to get some research done on my earlier question today about Maine's credit rating. The answer to the credit rating question is that Maine is rated AAA, I'm sorry, AA by Standard & Poor's. And it relates to this question on the Land for Maine's Future's bond because it's been asked whether or not we can afford this bond or any bond today.

Standard & Poor's noted that Maine has made deposits in the Budget Stabilization Fund, compared to other states has a low debt load, modest pension liability and liquidity that is enhanced by access to a large cash pool. Now, not everything is right in the eyes of the credit agencies in the State of Maine. The biggest opportunity that they have identified when it comes to problems with our credit rating is our weak demographic trends; the graying of Maine, Madam Speaker. Maine's the oldest state in the country and if we don't do things that make Maine attractive for families to move here and raise kids, our economy will slowly become based on empty homes, nursing homes and funeral homes.

And when I look at this proposal to preserve Land for Maine's Future and every other bond proposal that we've considered today, they address exactly the issues that the credit agencies are telling us need our attention. What can we do to make Maine a place for people to move to? A place where someone can live and be connected to the world, a

place where travel is safe and reasonable and efficient, a place where groundwater is clean, a place where the skills of our children get invested in first and a place where people play outside.

Madam Speaker, when it comes to the question that we are looking at today, I suggest that we take the advice of our credit rating agencies and vote yes on these long-term investments in the future of Maine.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Canaan, Representative Stetkis.

Representative **STETKIS**: Thank you, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. As many of you know, I represent a rural part of the State in one of the poorest counties in the State. Many may not know I'm a lifelong avid outdoorsman and a very strong conservationist. But what we're finding in rural parts of our State is as we remove some of this property from the tax rolls, especially in these poor communities, it's creating an even bigger burden on those few residents that remain. A couple of the towns in my district, as many know, are largely elderly, largely living off of Social Security, and removing hundreds or even thousands of acres from the pool of property taxes leaves the rest of them to make up the difference.

Until we can address and fix the problem of this unfair burden to these poor communities in Somerset or Piscataquis or Washington County, even Aroostook County, this isn't the type of thing that I can support and I would hope that we can all be reminded of some of the biggest conversation that we had during the last election cycle was people and property taxes. In certain circumstances, it is a very large burden on poor communities when you remove some of this property from the tax rolls. Thank you.

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

Representative **KINNEY**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. May I pose a question through the Chair to anyone who cares to answer?

The SPEAKER: The Representative may proceed.

Representative **KINNEY**: Thank you. I'm curious if there are any current LMF-approved bonds outstanding which have not yet been sold and, if so, what's the dollar amount that's outstanding and what are those outstanding bonds approved for? And the Grammar Nazi in me apologizes for ending that with a preposition.

The SPEAKER: The Representative from Knox has posed a question through the Chair if there is anyone who wishes to answer.

The Chair recognizes the Representative from Berwick, Representative O'Connor.

Representative **O'CONNOR**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I'm not sure if this is exactly what she's asking right now, though. The last minutes from the LMF board meeting there was \$6.4 million and \$3 million of it had been proposed, so, there's still about over \$3 million left.

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.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of Article IX of the Constitution, a two-thirds vote of the House being necessary, a total was taken.

**ROLL CALL NO. 329**

YEA - Ackley, Arata, Austin B, Babbidge, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Blume, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazza, Cardone, Carney, Cloutier, Collings, Corey, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Daughtry, Devin, Dodge, Doore, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos,

Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau R, Foley, Gattine, Gramlich, Handy, Harnett, Hepler, Hickman, Higgins, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Jorgensen, Keschl, Kessler, Kornfield, Landry, Madigan C, Marean, Martin R, Mastraccio, Matlack, Maxmin, McCrema, McCreight, McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Moonen, Morales, Moriarty, Nadeau, Pebworth, Perry A, Perry J, Pierce T, Pluecker, Riley, Riseman, Roberts-Lovell, Rykerson, Schneck, Sharpe, Skolfield, Stanley, Stover, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Verow, Warren, White B, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Austin S, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Campbell, Curtis, DeVeau, Dillingham, Dolloff, Drinkwater, Faulkingham, Fecteau J, Foster, Griffin, Haggan, Hall, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Hutchins, Javner, Johansen, Kinney, Kryzak, Lockman, Lyford, Martin T, Mason, Millett, Morris, O'Connor, Ordway, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Reed, Rudnicki, Sampson, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Swallow, Tuell, Wadsworth, White D.

ABSENT - Alley, Babine, Berry, Cebra, Cooper, Costain, Denk, Grignon, Grohoski, Head, Martin J, Meyer, O'Neil, Paulhus, Peoples, Reckitt, Sheats, Theriault.

Yes, 86; No, 47; Absent, 18; Excused, 0.

86 having voted in the affirmative and 47 voted in the negative, with 18 being absent, and accordingly the Bond Issue **FAILED PASSAGE TO BE ENACTED** and was sent to the Senate.

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

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#### **Bond Issue**

An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Improve Highways, Bridges and Multimodal Facilities  
(S.P. 634) (L.D. 1850)

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

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Gorham, Representative McLean.

Representative **McLEAN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We are here four days before Labor Day to talk about a transportation bond. We are here only because the Department of Transportation doesn't have enough money to fix our roads and bridges in our State. And we are here because we are relying on a bond to barely keep our head above water when it comes to fixing our infrastructure.

I support this transportation bond and I urge you to support the bond as well, but we can't go on like this. We have to find a predictable and sustainable funding source for our transportation infrastructure. The way Mainers get around in this State and the way Maine businesses get their products to and from market cannot be subject to the political whims of the Legislature. It is not a way to maintain our State's most critical asset.

What I was heartened by was our earlier debate around bonds. I heard time and time again this morning the refrain we must pay for these projects, whether it's continuing technical education, water infrastructure, broadband in the budget. It's not a fiscally responsible way to bond for these things when we should be paying for them in the budget. We can do it at a later time, I heard. But somehow, ironically, those same voices will likely support this transportation bond even though it's not in the budget. There is literally not enough money to do what the engineers at DOT say we desperately need to be doing.

But I am hopeful that those who opposed the bonds earlier today because they were not funded in the budget will become the strongest advocates next session for an increase in transportation funding so that we can include the appropriate level of funding in the highway fund budget in the coming years. Even with this \$105 million bond, the DOT still needs an additional \$130 million every year to keep up with basic maintenance. Every year this becomes deferred maintenance. It is, frankly, absurd that we are here hoping, praying that we get a bond just so we can barely tread water when it comes to maintaining our infrastructure.

I do hope you support this bond, but I hope in January, after the recommendations come out from the Blue Ribbon Commission developed by the Good Representative from Greene, that you support the proposals that come out of that commission to find a long-term, responsible, sustainable and predictable funding system for our transportation infrastructure in our State. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The SPEAKER: This is a bond authorization act and in accordance with Section 14 of Article IX of the Constitution, it requires the affirmative vote of two-thirds of those present for passage.

The Chair recognizes the Representative from Presque Isle, Representative Stewart.

Representative **STEWART**: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I rise to not only ask for a roll call but also to concur with the remarks from the Representative from Gorham. Our side, too, would like to see a sustainable funding mechanism for our transportation infrastructure in the State of Maine going forward. We look forward to seeing the results of the Blue Ribbon Commission that was just convened and look forward to supporting this bond today as well, so that we can get through another year and then hopefully find a more sustainable path forward. Thank you very much.

The same Representative **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.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of Article IX of the Constitution, a two-thirds vote of the House being necessary, a total was taken.

#### **ROLL CALL NO. 330**

YEA - Ackley, Arata, Austin B, Austin S, Babbidge, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Bickford, Blier, Blume, Bradstreet, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Campbell, Cardone, Carney, Cloutier, Collings, Corey, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Curtis, Daughtry, DeVeau, Devin, Dillingham, Dodge, Dolloff, Doore, Doudera, Drinkwater, Dunphy, Evangelos, Farnsworth, Fay, Fecteau R, Foley, Foster, Gattine, Gramlich, Griffin, Haggan, Hall, Handy, Hanington, Hanley, Harnett, Harrington, Head, Hepler, Hickman, Higgins, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hutchins, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Javner, Jorgensen, Keschl, Kessler, Kinney, Kornfield, Kryzak, Landry, Madigan C, Marean, Martin J, Martin R, Martin T, Mason, Mastraccio, Matlack, Maxmin, McCrema, McCreight, McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Millett, Moonen, Morales, Moriarty, Morris, Nadeau, O'Connor, Ordway, Pebworth, Perkins, Perry A, Perry J, Pickett, Pierce T, Pluecker, Prescott, Reed, Riley, Riseman, Roberts-Lovell, Rudnicki, Rykerson, Sampson, Schneck, Sharpe, Skolfield, Stanley, Stearns, Stewart, Stover, Swallow, Sylvester, Talbot

Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Tuell, Verow, Wadsworth, Warren, White B, White D, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Faulkingham, Fecteau J, Johansen, Lockman, Lyford, Stetkis, Strom.

ABSENT - Alley, Babine, Berry, Cebra, Cooper, Costain, Denk, Grignon, Grohoski, Meyer, O'Neil, Paulhus, Peoples, Reckitt, Sheats, Theriault.

Yes, 127; No, 8; Absent, 16; Excused, 0.

127 having voted in the affirmative and 8 voted in the negative, with 16 being absent, and accordingly the Bond Issue was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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

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### Emergency Measure

An Act Regarding the Laws Governing the Maine School for Marine Science, Technology, Transportation and Engineering

(S.P. 633) (L.D. 1849)

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. 132 voted in favor of the same and 1 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker and sent to the Senate.

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

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### SENATE PAPERS

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 636)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that Bill, "An Act To Clarify and Amend MaineCare Reimbursement Provisions for Nursing and Residential Care Facilities," S.P. 588, L.D. 1758, and all its accompanying papers, be recalled from the Governor's desk to the Senate.

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

**READ.**

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Moonen.

Representative **MOONEN**: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, Women and Men of the House, I rise in support of passage of this Joint Order. This deals with LD 1758, "An Act to Clarify and Amend MaineCare Reimbursement Provisions for Nursing and Residential Care Facilities". I know that we all care about these facilities and the folks in them and we all care very much about making sure that they have the support that they need to succeed for the citizens of Maine.

It is my understanding that this recall order is before us because there is an amendment being proposed to this bill. I have not seen the amendment, I have no idea if it's any good, but I think we should all vote for this order and consider all ideas on how to make sure these facilities are funded for the people of Maine. So, I ask you to support this order. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The **SPEAKER**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Oxford, Representative Dillingham.

Representative **DILLINGHAM**: Thank you. I, too, rise in support of this bill and concur with my good friend from Portland. As a Body, we have supported this bill as it was in front of us and I, too, believe it's important that if there's a possible solution, a funding solution through the form of an amendment, that we take the time to hear what that amendment is. Thank you.

Subsequently, the Joint Order was **PASSED** 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 appointed Representative **MOONEN** of Portland on the part of the House to inform the Senate that the House was ready to adjourn without day.

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Subsequently, Representative **MOONEN** reported that he had delivered the message with which he was charged.

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At this point, a message came from the Senate borne by Senator Vitelli of Sagadahoc of that Body, informing the House that the Senate was ready to adjourn without day.

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The Speaker appointed the following members on the part of the House to wait upon her Excellency, Governor **JANET T. MILLS**, and inform her that the House was ready to adjourn without day:

Representative **MARTIN** of Sinclair  
Representative **BRYANT** of Windham  
Representative **EVANGELOS** of Friendship  
Representative **HEAD** of Bethel  
Representative **KINNEY** of Knox  
Representative **PEBORTH** of Blue Hill  
Representative **REED** of Carmel  
Representative **RISEMAN** of Harrison  
Representative **TUELL** of East Machias  
Representative **VEROW** of Brewer

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Subsequently, the Committee reported that they had delivered the message with which they were charged.

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On motion of Representative **FARNSWORTH** of Portland, the House adjourned without day at 7:21 p.m., Monday, August 26, 2019.