

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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House Legislative Record
of the
One Hundred and Eighteenth Legislature
of the
State of Maine

Volume II

First Special Session

May 16, 1997 - June 20, 1997

Second Regular Session

January 7, 1998 - March 18, 1998

Stevens, Tessier, Thompson, Townsend, Tripp, Tuttle, Usher, Vigue, Volenik, Watson, Wright, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Barth, Belanger DJ, Belanger IG, Berry DP, Bigl, Bodwell, Bragdon, Brooks, Bruno, Buck, Bumps, Cameron, Campbell, Carleton, Chick, Chizmar, Cianchette, Clukey, Cross, Desmond, Dexter, Donnelly, Dutremble, Fisk, Foster, Frechette, Gagne, Gerry, Gieringer, Goodwin, Gooley, Honey, Jones SA, Joy, Joyce, Joyner, Kasprzak, Kerr, Kneeland, Labrecque, Layton, Lindahl, Lovett, MacDougall, Mack, Madore, Marvin, Mayo, McAlevey, McElroy, Meres, Murphy, Nass, Nickerson, O'Brien, Ott, Pendleton, Perkins, Pinkham RG, Pinkham WD, Savage, Shannon, Sirois, Snowe-Mello, Stedman, Taylor, Tobin, Treadwell, True, Underwood, Vedral, Waterhouse, Wheeler EM, Wheeler GJ, Winglass, Winn, Winsor.

ABSENT - Davidson, Jones SL, Lane, Peavey, Plowman, Poulin.

Yes, 67; No, 77; Absent, 6; Excused, 0.

67 having voted in the affirmative and 77 voted in the negative, with 6 being absent, the motion to indefinitely postpone House Amendment "C" (H-775) did not prevail.

Subsequently, House Amendment "C" (H-775) was adopted.

On motion of Representative KONTOS of Windham, tabled pending passage to be engrossed as amended by House Amendment "B" (H-774) and House Amendment "C" (H-775) and later today assigned.

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

Representative WINN: Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Roll Call 91, LD 535, date April 14, 1997, I would like the record to reflect that I voted yea, yes.

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

ENACTORS
Emergency Measure

Resolve, Establishing a Blue Ribbon Commission to Study the Effects of Government Regulation and Health Insurance Costs on Small Businesses in Maine (S.P. 679) (L.D. 1905)

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Townsend.

Representative TOWNSEND: Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I want to raise the same concerns I raised earlier. I simply feel it is inappropriate for us to single out individual bills to be reconsidered when hundreds, probably a thousand bills died earlier this year. They could all be resurrected this afternoon if we would choose to do that. I think that we ought to concern ourselves with issues that we expected to be dealing with today and I will be voting against Final Passage. I hope you will join me. I want to add also that there has been a great deal of discussion about study committees. A number of you have objected to study committees and the payment of legislators on them. Yet, here we have another study committee, perhaps a little summer job for someone. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Winslow, Representative Vigue.

Representative VIGUE: Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. This is extremely important. We have an association NFIB of 6,500 small businesses in the State of Maine. This is the backbone of job creation in the state. If we

are going to be serious about bringing the state back into the 21st Century. We must create jobs, good jobs, for the people that we supposedly represent. Ladies and gentlemen, I ask you to support the passage of this emergency measure. I thank you.

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

Was 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. 85 voted in favor of the same and 53 against and accordingly the Resolve failed of final passage and was sent up for concurrence. Ordered sent forthwith.

SENATE PAPERS

Resolve, Appropriating Funds to the Maine Franco-American Center (EMERGENCY) (S.P. 676) (L.D. 1900)

Came from the Senate, under suspension of the rules and without reference to a Committee, the Resolve read twice and passed to be engrossed as amended by Senate Amendment "A" (S-443).

(The Committee on Reference of Bills had suggested reference to the Committee on **Appropriations and Financial Affairs**.)

Representative BOUFFARD of Lewiston moved that the Resolve and all accompanying papers be indefinitely postponed.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Winterport, Representative Brooks.

Representative BROOKS: Madam Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Several weeks ago we approved LD 1602, which came out of the committee unanimous, I believe. It went to the Appropriations Table and was funded. What this bill would do would be to take the \$50,000 funding and give it all to the Franco-American Center and redirect \$2,650, which was originally intended to go to a legislative study committee. That study Committee has been funded by the Appropriations Table. I am not sure what has changed in the past couple of weeks. I don't think anything has. I frankly would hope that everyone here would support my good friend from Lewiston, Representative Bouffard, and several of us who worked together quite hard a few minutes ago to look at this and determine what was different and new and there wasn't anything. I hope that we can indefinitely Postpone this bill and all its papers. Thank you.

The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Lewiston, Representative Shannon.

Representative SHANNON: Madam Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I would like to stand and second Representative Brooks' fine remarks. The committee worked very hard combining several bills to come up with this piece of legislation, namely LD 1603, which Representative Brooks of Winterport spoke about. It is the culmination of much effort by the committee and the direction both bodies decided to take, including Appropriations through its funding thereof. I urge you to support the motion to Indefinitely Postpone LD 1900 and all its papers.

Representative MADORE of Augusta requested a roll call on the motion to indefinitely postpone the Resolve and all accompanying papers.

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

The SPEAKER: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is to Indefinitely Postpone the Bill and