

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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LEGISLATIVE RECORD

OF THE

***One Hundred and Ninth
Legislature***

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

Volume I

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

January 3, 1979 to May 4, 1979

473) (Presented by Mrs. Chonko of Topsham) (Cosponsors: Mrs. Post of Owl's Head and Mr. Stover of West Bath)

Bill "An Act to Provide County Commissioner Districts in Washington County" (H. P. 474) (Presented by Mr. Nelson of Roque Bluffs) (Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Marine Resources

Bill "An Act to Appropriate Funds to Provide for Lobster Rearing Stations" (H. P. 475) (Presented by Mr. Bunker of Gouldsboro) (Cosponsors: Mr. Blodgett of Waldoboro and Mr. Silsby of Ellsworth) (Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

State Government

Bill "An Act to Amend the Membership and the Legislative Mandate of the Capitol Planning Commission" (H. P. 476) (Presented by Mr. Hickey of Augusta) (Cosponsors: Mrs. Mitchell of Vassalboro and Mr. Paradis of Augusta) (Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Taxation

Bill "An Act to Exempt Post-secondary School Books from Sales Taxation" (H. P. 477) (Presented by Mr. Davies of Orono) (Cosponsor: Mr. Tarbell of Bangor)

Bill "An Act to Provide for Quarterly Collection of the Sales Tax from Retailers having Annual Sales of \$50,000 or Less" (H. P. 478) (Presented by Mr. Dexter of Kingfield)

Bill "An Act to Establish the Maine Homeowners and Tenants Tax Relief Program" (H. P. 479) (Presented by Mr. Torrey of Poland) (Cosponsors: Mr. Michael of Auburn, Mr. Davies of Orono, and Mr. Cunningham of New Gloucester)

(Ordered Printed)
Sent up for concurrence.

Orders

An Expression of Legislative Sentiment (H. P. 480) recognizing that:

On February 18th, Mrs. Euphamie Dubay will celebrate the 100th anniversary of her birth.

(Presented by Mr. Violette of Van Buren) (Cosponsor: Mr. Martin of Aroostook)

The Order was read and passed and sent up for concurrence.

House Reports of Committees

Leave to Withdraw

Mr. Paul from the Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans on Bill "An Act to Increase to \$150 the Retirement Allowance for Qualified Teachers who Began to Teach in the Public Schools before July 1, 1947" (H. P. 20) (L. D. 37) reporting "Leave to Withdraw"

Mr. Brenerman from the Committee on Health and Institutional Services on Bill "An Act to Eliminate Mandatory Silver Nitrate Drops in Eyes of Newborns" (H. P. 175) (L. D. 219) reporting "Leave to Withdraw"

Mr. Barry from the Committee on State Government on RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Reduce the Age at which a Person may Serve in the Maine Legislature to 18 for Members of the House of Representatives and 21 for Members of the Senate (H. P. 178) (L. D. 225) reporting "Leave to Withdraw"

Mrs. Kany from the Committee on State Government on RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine Reducing to 18 Years the Age at which a Person may Serve as a Member of the Maine Legislature" (H. P. 79) (L. D. 87) reporting "Leave to Withdraw"

Reports were read and accepted and sent up for concurrence.

Consent Calendar

In accordance with House Rule 49, the following items appeared on the Consent Calendar for the First Day:

(S. P. 65) (L. D. 106) Bill "An Act to Clarify the Duties of the Maine Insurance Advisory Board"—Committee on Business Legislation reporting "Ought to Pass"

(H. P. 41) (L. D. 52) Bill "An Act to Transfer Certain Inactive Accounts of the Maine State Retirement System to the Retirement Allowance Fund"—Committee on Aging, Retirement and Veterans reporting "Ought to Pass"

(H. P. 84) (L. D. 95) Bill "An Act To Repeal the Per Diem Payment and the Commutation Allowance for Court Officers"—Committee on Judiciary reporting "Ought to Pass" as amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-28)

No objections being noted, the above items were ordered to appear on the Consent Calendar of February 16, under listing of Second Day.

Passed to Be Engrossed Amended Bills

Bill "An Act Relating to the Liability of Parents for Damage by Children" (H. P. 4) (L. D. 10) (C. "A" H-23)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading, read the second time, the House Paper passed to be engrossed as amended and sent up for concurrence.

Bill "An Act to Prohibit Smoking at Public Meetings" (H. P. 5) (L. D. 11) (C. "A" H-26)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading and read the second time. On motion of Mr. Higgins of Scarborough, the House reconsidered its action whereby Committee Amendment "A" was adopted.

The same gentleman offered House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" and moved its adoption.

House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" (H-29) was read by the Clerk. The SPEAKER: The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Scarborough, Mr. Higgins.

Mr. HIGGINS: Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House: As a former smoker all this amendment does is allow at a meeting taking place where all members present are smokers and each of them gives their consent, allows the people there to smoke, it would allow that situation. I can recall some meetings that I attended when I did smoke, it was a subcommittee meeting or something like that and no one was in attendance or those that were there did smoke, it seems perhaps unfortunate that they could not smoke. If they wish to go ahead and commit mass suicide, perhaps the state hadn't ought to get involved in that.

So, I would hope you would accept House Amendment "A" and perhaps this would make it a bit more compatible to the esteemed body at the other end of the hall.

Thereupon, House Amendment "A" to Committee Amendment "A" was adopted.

Committee Amendment "A" as amended by House Amendment "A" thereto was adopted.

The Bill was passed to be engrossed as amended and sent up for concurrence.

Bill "An Act Relating to Avoidance of Contracts Made on the Lord's Day" (H. P. 136) (L. D. 146) (C. "A" H-24)

Was reported by the Committee on Bills in the Second Reading, read the second time, passed to be engrossed as amended and sent up for concurrence.

The Chair laid before the House the first tabled and today assigned matter:

Bill "An Act Concerning the Registration under the Motor Vehicle Statutes of Farm Motor Vehicles Using Dolly Axles" (H. P. 426) (Committee on Agriculture suggested)

Tabled—February 14, 1979 by Mr. Carroll of Limerick.

Pending—Reference.
The Bill was referred to the Committee on Transportation, ordered printed and sent up for concurrence.

(Off Record Remarks)

On motion of Mr. Soulas of Bangor, Adjourned until twelve o'clock noon tomorrow.