

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND REGULAR SESSION
14th Legislative Day
Tuesday, February 25, 2020

Representative CAMPBELL of Orrington assumed the Chair.

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

Prayer by Pastor Russell Carr, New Life Church, Greenville.

National Anthem by Nor'easters Barbershop Chorus, Bath.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Doctor of the day, Silwana Sidorczuk, M.D., Madawaska.

The Journal of Thursday, February 20, 2020 was read and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS

The Following Communication: (H.C. 346)

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

February 25, 2020
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 (H), I appoint Representative Richard H. Campbell of Orrington to serve as Speaker Pro Tem to convene the House on Tuesday, February 25, 2020.

Sincerely,

S/Sara Gideon

Speaker of the House

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (S.C. 345)

**THE MAINE SENATE
129TH LEGISLATURE**

February 20, 2020
Honorable Robert B. Hunt
Clerk of the House
2 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Clerk Hunt:

Pursuant to my authority under Senate Rule 201.3, I am appointing Senator Dana Dow to the Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee. With this appointment, he will be replacing Senator David Woodsome, effective the date of this letter.

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

Sincerely,

S/Troy D. Jackson

President of the Senate

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 348)

**STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE**

February 24, 2020

The Honorable Troy D. Jackson, President of the Senate

The Honorable Sara Gideon, Speaker of the House
State House

Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear President Jackson and Speaker Gideon,

It is my pleasure to nominate Katherine McBrien of Union for appointment as the Maine State Archivist.

Pursuant to Title 5 MRSA §93, this nomination will require review by the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government and confirmation by the Senate.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 626-8401.

Sincerely,

S/Matthew Dunlap

Secretary of State

READ and ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

The Following Communication: (H.C. 347)

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

February 25, 2020

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:"

Environment and Natural Resources

L.D. 1594 An Act To Establish a Stewardship Program for Consumer Batteries

Health and Human Services

L.D. 1052 An Act To Require Regular and Transparent Review of MaineCare Reimbursement Rates
L.D. 1373 Resolve, To Reduce MaineCare Spending through Targeted Nutrition Interventions

L.D. 1935 An Act To Address the Needs of Pregnant Women Affected by Opioid Use Disorder
L.D. 1939 Resolve, To Ensure High-quality Long-term Care for Maine Veterans

L.D. 1970 An Act To Establish Electronic Visit Verification for In-home and Community-based Health Care Workers

Transportation

L.D. 1714 Resolve, Directing the Secretary of State To Enter into a Reciprocal Agreement between the State and Taiwan Regarding Driver's Licenses

Sincerely,

S/Robert B. Hunt

Clerk of House

READ and with accompanying papers ORDERED PLACED ON FILE.

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

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

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Bill "An Act To Improve Prescription Information Access" (H.P. 1510) (L.D. 2116)

Sponsored by Representative CRAVEN of Lewiston. Cosponsored by Senator SANBORN, L. of Cumberland and Representatives: AUSTIN of Skowhegan, COOPER of Yarmouth, CUDDY of Winterport, DOORE of Augusta, MEYER of Eliot, SHEATS of Auburn, STOVER of Boothbay, Senator: CHENETTE of York.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** suggested and ordered printed.

REFERRED to the Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

Bill "An Act To Expand and Rename the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program"

(H.P. 1511) (L.D. 2117)

Sponsored by Representative HYMANSON of York. Cosponsored by Senators: CLAXTON of Androscoggin, GRATWICK of Penobscot, SANBORN, L. of Cumberland.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** suggested.

On motion of TEPLER of Topsham, the Bill was referred to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**, ordered printed and sent for concurrence.

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

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

PETITIONS, BILLS AND RESOLVES REQUIRING REFERENCE

Resolve, To Establish the Task Force To Study the Coordination of Services and Expansion of Educational Programs for Young Adults with Disabilities

(H.P. 1513) (L.D. 2121)

Sponsored by Representative PEBWORTH of Blue Hill. Cosponsored by Senator LUCHINI of Hancock and Representatives: DODGE of Belfast, FARNSWORTH of Portland, GROHOSKI of Ellsworth, RISEMAN of Harrison.

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

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

REFERRED to the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** and ordered printed.

Sent for concurrence.

ORDERS

On motion of Representative BLUME of York, the following Joint Resolution: (H.P. 1509) (Cosponsored by Senator LAWRENCE of York and Representatives: HYMANSON of York, MEYER of Eliot, ROBERTS of South Berwick, RYKERSON of Kittery)

JOINT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF THE YORK RIVER AND ITS MAJOR TRIBUTARIES AS A PARTNERSHIP WILD AND SCENIC RIVER IN THE NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the York River, located in southern Maine, with watershed lands in the towns of Eliot, Kittery, South Berwick and York, was evaluated for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; and

WHEREAS, the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System was established in 1968 to protect rivers with outstanding values for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations, and rivers that flow through private lands and are eligible for designation are included in the national system as "partnership" rivers, maintaining all local control of land and river use, subject to existing local and state laws; and

WHEREAS, the York River's water quality, ecological and cultural resources and many outstanding values with national and regional significance make it eligible for Partnership Wild and Scenic River designation; its healthy river habitats and salt marshes support important Gulf of Maine species and improve resilience to climate change impacts; and its vibrant working waterfront contributes to the economy and to community character; and

WHEREAS, the 4 watershed communities strongly support pursuing inclusion of the York River in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System as a partnership river and accepting the York River Watershed Stewardship Plan, as evidenced by affirmative votes by the people of Eliot and York on November 6, 2018 and adoption of resolutions by town councils in Kittery and South Berwick on November 26, 2018 and December 11, 2018, respectively; and

WHEREAS, with the York River being designated as a partnership river, the 4 York River watershed communities will have access to financial and technical assistance from the National Park Service and will be able to proactively and collaboratively address issues and priorities for the benefit of the watershed region, the State of Maine and the Gulf of Maine environment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize the eligibility and suitability of the York River and its tributaries for designation as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System and acknowledge the strong community support for designation; and be it further

RESOLVED: That We recognize the benefits and opportunities of Partnership Wild and Scenic River designation to better enable watershed communities to work collaboratively to address important river preservation issues for the long-term benefit of current and future generations of Maine citizens.

READ.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from York, Representative Blume.

Representative **BLUME**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. It is with great pride in my community that I rise in support of this Resolution that asks our federal government to designate the York River as a wild and scenic river.

Our four towns have all voted to support such a designation for this beautiful resource. It's waters and extensive salt marshes nourish abundant aquatic life, some of the most diverse in the State. Paddlers, fishermen, lobstermen, boaters, as well as other businesses and citizens are dependent upon the river for their livelihoods, pleasure and drinking water. The people who are here in the gallery today have been doing the work to establish this partnership designation for some years now, which involved all sorts of studies and assessments, even involving a local high school. The Marine Biology class at York High School has been studying the extent of the population of green crab in the river; an invasive species. Their mapping of that species is providing valuable information. A surprising detail from that study was that they found also baby lobsters well upstream from the mouth of the river. That was good news.

The health and welfare of this river represents a source of pride for our community. With the added financial and technical resources from the National Park Service that will become available to the river's town stewards, we will be able to take care of it for today and into the future. With our support today, I feel we will help move this process forward to its final phase in the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate.

Thank you very much.

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

Representative **HYMANSON**: Thank you. Men and Women of the House, this is a love story to the York River, a tidal river with a 33-square-mile watershed. I've been living and playing around the York River and its watershed for 35 years, along with our three now-grown children and my husband.

We in the State of Maine are as close as we can be to preserving this beautiful river and its watershed in its wild and scenic state for generations to come. All we need is an act of congress; literally, an act of congress to vote in favor of accepting the York River and its watershed as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River in the National Wild and Scenic River System. These designated partnership rivers flow through primarily privately owned lands. We have a locally developed stewardship plan and through the partnership can develop cooperative agreements with the National Park Service to help us carry out the local plan to preserve our unique rare and exemplary treasures such as historical and archaeological sites, rare and regional wildlife and habitats, fish habitats, excellent water quality, recreation, working waterfronts, resilience for sea level rise and honest to goodness natural beauty.

Getting to this time, asking Congress for this designation has taken many years of community effort. Years ago, when another local river showed signs of environmental strain, we began to ask if the York River was in danger. Small studies by the York Land Trust, students, conservation groups found it to be surprisingly healthy. So, five years ago, a locally-led York River Study Committee that included town-appointed members from the four York River Watershed communities, York, Kittery, South Berwick, Eliot, Maine agency representatives and the National Park Service was formed. More than 80 other people and 30 more groups, organizations and agencies contributed to this effort. I was an advisor to the committee. Based on the

evaluation and documentation of the York River Watershed that make it special, a stewardship plan was created. Voters in York and Eliot, town councils in Kittery and South Berwick strongly supported pursuing inclusion into the partnership designation. A federal study just concluded affirming the wild and scenic attributes. This Joint Resolution before you recognizes the eligibility and suitability of the York River Watershed for designation as a Partnership Wild and Scenic River and acknowledges the strong community support for the designation for generations to come.

Finally, back to the love story to the York River. My three kids jumped off bridges there as rites of passage, learned to sail, went boating, kayaking, fishing, built forts. We all found solace, beauty, old bottles and bricks, peepers and salamanders, old stone walls, cemeteries, salt marshes, red-winged blackbirds, and blackberries. Our lives have been infused by nature living off a tidal marsh in the York River Watershed. Local control of stewardship with resources assured by the partnership status will assist us locally to keep our river wild and scenic. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Kittery, Representative Rykerson.

Representative **RYKERSON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Women and Men of the House. Our rivers are our lifeblood. The Kittery Town Council voted unanimously last year to support the York River designation. The watershed contains all of the Kittery water district lands including the reservoir serving our naval shipyard, a resource vital to the town's and the region's economy. Kittery's 9% of the watershed is subject to intense development pressure, but the fragile wetlands don't recognize political boundaries, they only thrive when the watershed thrives. That watershed's wetlands and tributaries buffer the effects of our warmer and wetter world. Finally, Kittery, with its watershed neighbors, wishes to protect the York River Watershed for the sense of place and the connection to nature it gives us all. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Eliot, Representative Meyer.

Representative **MEYER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House, for the opportunity to speak to this Joint Resolution.

The headwaters of the York River, the York ponds, are located within the town of Eliot. The river flows southeast through woodlands, past rolling hills and farmland, becomes tidal when it reaches the Eliot border with York, and makes its way to the working waterfront of York Harbor.

The work of the York River Study Committee highlights many of the natural and cultural resources of the York ponds, including its unfragmented forests, rare and endangered species, wetlands, vernal pools, public access and trails and its rich historical value. The watershed was home to Native Americans for millennia, evidenced by archaeological sites in Eliot that are more than 10,000 years old. Eliot, like Kittery and the Berwicks, was home to some of the earliest European settlements in the northeastern United States. The wild and scenic designation is essential for forging cooperation amongst our watershed communities, to provide a venue to discuss river-related issues and address concerns such as sea level rise, recreational and commercial uses of the river and the impact of growth and development.

Eliot is proud to be home to one of the most intact natural communities for forest habitats in southern Maine but we're concerned as it is also one of the most fragile, threatened by rapid residential growth and development. The wild and scenic designation will allow our watershed communities to come

together to focus on how best to protect both public resources and private property, working together to build resiliency and to protect the shared resource around which our towns are built. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Woolwich, Representative Hepler.

Representative **HEPLER**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker Pro Tem. As a canoeist who has driven across the York River on Interstate 95 several times, we finally got a chance to go canoeing there last fall and it doesn't take much to get past I-95 to see the special qualities, to see the silence and the birds upriver from the busyness of I-95. And so I'm delighted that this has been designated as a wild and scenic river. Thank you.

Subsequently, the Joint Resolution was **ADOPTED** and sent for concurrence.

SPECIAL SENTIMENT CALENDAR

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

In Memory of:

John Sherman Appleby, Sr., of Lubec. Mr. Appleby was a veteran of the United States Coast Guard, retiring as a chief boatswain's mate in 1986. He was an active life member of the American Legion Stuart-Green Post #65 in Lubec; he was Past Commander of Post #65, Past Washington County Commander and Past 6th District Commander. Mr. Appleby will be long remembered and sadly missed by his family and friends and all those whose lives he touched;

(HLS 855)

Presented by Representative ALLEY of Beals.

Cosponsored by Senator MOORE of Washington, Representative TUELL of East Machias.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative MOONEN of Portland, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

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

In Memory of:

Alan H. Hawkins, of South Portland. A lifelong educator, Mr. Hawkins worked as a teacher and administrator in communities across Maine, including Millinocket, Wiscasset, Cape Elizabeth and South Portland. He was a lifetime member of the National Education Association and Maine Education Association, as well as a member and a leader in a number of local education associations. He also held memberships at the New England Historical Genealogical Society, Maine Historical Society, South Portland Historical Society, Hiram Lodge, South Portland Lions Club and Rotary of South Portland/Cape Elizabeth. Mr. Hawkins will be long remembered and sadly missed by his wife of 44 years, Margaret, his family and friends and all those whose lives he touched;

(HLS 859)

Presented by Representative KESSLER of South Portland.

Cosponsored by Senator MILLETT of Cumberland, Representative RECKITT of South Portland, Representative MORALES of South Portland.

On **OBJECTION** of Representative RECKITT of South Portland, was **REMOVED** from the Special Sentiment Calendar.

READ.

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

Representative **RECKITT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Alan Hawkins was a kind man, an extraordinary educator and a man not afraid to take a chance.

Early in the 1990s when I was running the programs for abused women and children in Cumberland County, we decided to establish an educational program in the schools. We called it YAAPP, the Young Adult Abuse Prevention Program. It predominantly brought information on domestic violence and healthy interpersonal relationships to youth in our schools. We started in high schools with a skit called Jake and Caroline, but we realized soon that we needed to do those things earlier in children's lives. When we realized we needed to start in middle schools, we looked for a likely school, one that would take the chance of trying this program out. And that's when I found Alan Hawkins, who was principal of Memorial Middle School in South Portland at the time. And he was willing to take that chance. We adapted the skit to the middle school. I would tell you that there were various people who were betrayed in this skit. When the middle school skit happened, I was chosen to play the clueless mom in the skit, which was always an interesting job. This program grew, it spread around the State, it spread in its scope. It started in high schools, went to middle schools, went to elementary schools for a time. But the thing that I remember about Alan is to the extent we were able to make a dent in domestic violence in Maine. Principal Hawkins helped lead the way.

So, on behalf of Maine's teenagers, I want to thank him, and I remember him fondly and always will for his efforts in this regard. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

Representative MOONEN of Portland assumed the Chair. The House was called to order by the Speaker Pro Tem.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE Refer to the Committee on Judiciary Pursuant to Joint Order

Representative BAILEY for the **Joint Standing Committee on Judiciary** on Bill "An Act To Establish an Enhanced Process for Tribal-State Collaboration and Consultation and To Develop a Process for Alternative Dispute Resolution"

(H.P. 1512) (L.D. 2118)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY** pursuant to Joint Order 2019, H.P. 1307).

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **JUDICIARY**.

Sent for concurrence.

Divided Reports

Majority Report of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-389)** on Bill "An Act To Clarify Lobbyist Reporting Requirements and Simplify Registration Requirements for State Employees Who Lobby on Behalf of a State Department or Agency"

(S.P. 639) (L.D. 1867)

Signed:

Senators:

LUCHINI of Hancock
CYRWAY of Kennebec
HERBIG of Waldo

Representatives:

SCHNECK of Bangor
ACKLEY of Monmouth
COOPER of Yarmouth
DOLLOFF of Rumford
HANINGTON of Lincoln
HICKMAN of Winthrop
HUBBELL of Bar Harbor
McCREIGHT of Harpswell
STROM of Pittsfield

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representative:

ANDREWS of Paris

Came from the Senate with the Majority **OUGHT TO PASS AS AMENDED** Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-389)**.

READ.

On motion of Representative SCHNECK of Bangor, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (S-389)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-389)** in concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-692)** on Bill "An Act To Establish the Maine Community College System No-cost Tuition Program"

(H.P. 634) (L.D. 860)

Signed:

Senators:

MILLETT of Cumberland
CARSON of Cumberland

Representatives:

KORNFIELD of Bangor
BRENNAN of Portland
DODGE of Belfast
FARNSWORTH of Portland
INGWERSEN of Arundel
McCREA of Fort Fairfield

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Senator:

POULIOT of Kennebec

Representatives:

DRINKWATER of Milford
FECTEAU of Augusta
RUDNICKI of Fairfield
SAMPSON of Alfred

READ.

Representative KORNFIELD of Bangor moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

Representative SAMPSON of Alfred **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

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

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Alfred, Representative Sampson.

Representative **SAMPSON**: Thank you, Mr. Chair, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. This bill pertains to a Pell Grant match for the State. Although I totally agree with the advantage of the Pell Grant to students who qualify, this particular bill is addressing a match for the State, which is an allocation of \$3.6 million, which is over and above what's already in the supplemental budget, so, I think with the short session that we're in, this is a financial overreach and I would encourage an Ought Not to Pass vote. Thank you.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Portland, Representative Brennan.

Representative **BRENNAN**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. Last year, the State of Maine, close to 250 students attended our University System and our community college and they were homeless. According to national studies, close to one-third of all students that attend the community colleges are either hungry or suffer from food insecurity. We have close to between 180,000 to 200,000 people in the State of Maine that have some college experience but have not finished and the primary reason that they don't finish their associate degree or their college degree is because of financial difficulties. And it's estimated that close to half of all the students that attend community college in the State of Maine work and have a family to support.

What this bill will do is provide a grant of \$500 only to Pell-eligible students who are attending the community college who are identified as financially our most needy and those that deserve our most support and help to continue to complete their college education. What I would ask you to do in considering this bill is to ignore the title of the bill. It is no longer a no-tuition cost program, it simply provides a \$500 grant to Pell-eligible students to cover the cost of both their education and their living expenses and as correctly pointed out that the cost of this would be about \$3.6 million a year for the 7,200 students that are currently eligible for Pell Grants in the State of Maine. So, I believe this is something that the State should invest in, something that's incredibly worthwhile, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill. Thank you.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 347

YEA - Ackley, AustinB, Babbidge, Babine, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Berry, Blume, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant,

Caiazzo, Cardone, Carney, Cloutier, Collings, Cooper, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Daughtry, Denk, Dodge, Doore, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Farnsworth, Fay, FecteauR, Gattine, Gramlich, Grohoski, Handy, Harnett, Hepler, Hickman, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Jorgensen, Kessler, Kornfield, Landry, MadiganC, MartinJ, Mastraccio, Matlack, Maxmin, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Meyer, Moonen, Morales, Moriarty, Nadeau, Paulhus, Pebworth, PerryA, PierceT, Pluecker, Reckitt, Riley, Riseman, Rykerson, Schneck, Sheats, Stanley, Stover, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Warren, WhiteB, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, AustinS, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Campbell, Cebra, Corey, Curtis, DeVeau, Dillingham, Dolloff, Drinkwater, Faulkingham, FecteauJ, Foster, Griffin, Grignon, Haggan, Hall, Hanington, Hanley, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Johansen, Keschl, Kinney, Kryzak, Lockman, Lyford, Marean, MartinT, Mason, Millett, Morris, O'Connor, Ordway, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Reed, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Swallow, Theriault, Tuell, Wadsworth, WhiteD.

ABSENT - Alley, Costain, Foley, Higgins, MartinR, O'Neil, PerryJ, Roberts, Sharpe.

Yes, 83; No, 56; Absent, 9; Excused, 1.

83 having voted in the affirmative and 56 voted in the negative, with 9 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-692)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-692)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **MARINE RESOURCES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-686)** on Bill "An Act Regarding Access to Lobster Licenses"

(H.P. 29) (L.D. 28)

Signed:

Senators:

MIRAMANT of Knox
DOW of Lincoln
VITELLI of Sagadahoc

Representatives:

McCREIGHT of Harpswell
BLUME of York
FAULKINGHAM of Winter Harbor
HEPLER of Woolwich
HUTCHINS of Penobscot
McDONALD of Stonington

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:

Representatives:

ALLEY of Beals
JAVNER of Chester
TUELL of East Machias

READ.

Representative MCCREIGHT of Harpswell moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Representative may proceed.

Representative **McCREIGHT**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Like the previous bill, this bill is an amendment and I would ask you to consider the title is now Resolve, Directing the Department of Marine Resources to Evaluate the Limited Entry of Lobster and Crab Licensing System.

This is an amendment to a bill I proposed last year and that original bill focused solely on the waitlist issue for lobster licenses. The Marine Resources Committee decided to carry over the bill because of the complexity of the issue and the pending whale rules, which are still not resolved. These are federal rules that will be coming down to Maine and will have a huge impact on the lobster industry. Because this issue still isn't resolved, the bill was amended to have the department take a much broader look at the lobster licensing system, including the overall health of the fishery and the many factors involved in this complex system. In light of the whale rules, which are not yet finalized, we need a new look. On top of that, the last time such a deep dive, no pun intended, was taken was in 2012 and we need to look at it again. That was a long time ago. Thank you.

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

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise in opposition to the pending motion, and not without appreciation for the comments of the previous speaker. I believe the previous speaker did an excellent job in many ways explaining why the bill that started this had to die. However, I also believe over the years, and including this year, this is one of those perennial bills. We in the Marine Resources Committee have wrestled with entry since I've been here and, quite honestly, since lobster fishing, since limited entry system was adopted in the late-90s, it has always been a bone of contention as to who can get in and when and how and under what conditions. It is a complicated system and I appreciate the fact that when we cast our initial vote on this bill in committee that most of the committee rejected the original bill before us. I would say, however, that doing the report and directing the Department of Marine Resources to study something and report back to us is kind of a waste of time. We have had this before. They report to us every year on this issue because it seems like every year there is a bill on this issue. I would be for a study, I would be for a report if there was a hope of something new coming out of it and something beneficial coming out of it that peoples' minds could be swayed on. People generally, on the issue of entry into the lobster fishery, have a pretty definite opinion and I would argue that with that opinion people do tend to err one side or the other. They generally favor the system as it is, in recognition that it is complicated and one change here or there will have ripple effects, some seen, some not seen, some one can only ultimately speculate about. On the other end of it, you have those who would rather anybody with the means go out and buy a boat and go fishing regardless of whether they should be allowed to have a license or not. You have those two ends of the spectrum.

It should be noted that many of the lobster entities, many of the industry who came and spoke about this, have grave reservations about changing the entry system. We have a system of zone councils that administer locally the fishery and

work with the department to make sure that the rules and laws that we make are enforced. We trust those folks. And I know there are folks in this chamber who are members of zone councils and certainly believe in the work that they do. I don't think for one minute we should start down the path of undermining the work that our zone councils do, and that will be what we are doing with this study.

So, Mr. Speaker, for all of those reasons above, I will be voting in opposition and would request a roll call of this, the motion before us.

The same Representative **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

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

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Stonington, Representative McDonald.

Representative **McDONALD**: Thank you, Speaker Pro Tem. Lobster licensing is a complex issue and I have no doubt that every year each of us are here we will see another bill regarding lobster licensing. That being said, there is no harm in having fresh data. The lobster industry is rapidly changing and we are facing some federal regulations that are going to have a major impact on lobster, on lobster licensing, on every aspect of the fishing industry that we can imagine.

I did not support the original bill for the similar reasons to my colleague. We do have lobster zone councils in Maine that manage the entry and exit ratios and they do a very good job at it. This Resolve is going to look at that, but it's also going to look at latency and other aspects of our lobster licensing system that I believe it's time to take a closer look at. This Resolve was a compromise between members of our committee and the department and I ask for you to follow my light and please support it.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Penobscot, Representative Hutchins.

Representative **HUTCHINS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I, too, am torn a little bit on this piece of legislation. I am of the opinion that the fact that the zones, seven zones were given the right years ago to make regulations for their own fishing zones, and so, they should be able to make the decision on this one. And I've said that repeatedly on the committee that I serve on with both of the last two speakers. The one thing that this Resolve might possibly do would be to get the zone committees, which I'm a member of the zone C committee, to do is to get off the dime and try to make a decision on this. They haven't done much on it for a long time and there are quite a number of people that have waited a long time for a license, as has been said, some places if one or two people leave, a new one can come in, others it's four or five have to leave before one can come in, so, it isn't uniform and it shouldn't necessarily be uniform. But I'm torn as to which way to vote on it and I may not know for sure until it's time to push the light. So, if you're confused, don't be too surprised.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 348

YEA - Ackley, AustinB, Babbidge, Babine, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Berry, Blume, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazzo, Cardone, Carney, Cebra, Cloutier, Collings, Cooper, Corey, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Daughtry, Denk, DeVeau, Dodge, Doore, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Farnsworth, Faulkingham, Fay, FecteauJ, FecteauR, Gattine, Gramlich,

Grohoski, Handy, Harnett, Harrington, Hepler, Hickman, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hutchins, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Jorgensen, Kessler, Kornfield, Landry, Lockman, MadiganC, MartinJ, Mastraccio, Matlack, Maxmin, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Meyer, Moonen, Morales, Moriarty, Nadeau, Paulhus, Pebworth, PerryA, PierceT, Pluecker, Reckitt, Riley, Riseman, Rykerson, Sampson, Schneck, Sheats, Stanley, Stearns, Stewart, Stover, Strom, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Warren, WhiteB, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, AustinS, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Campbell, Curtis, Dillingham, Dolloff, Drinkwater, Foster, Griffin, Grignon, Haggan, Hall, Hanington, Hanley, Head, Javner, Johansen, Keschl, Kinney, Kryzak, Lyford, Marean, MartinT, Mason, Millett, Morris, O'Connor, Ordway, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Reed, Rudnicki, Skolfield, Stetkis, Swallow, Theriault, Tuell, Wadsworth, WhiteD.

ABSENT - Alley, Costain, Foley, Higgins, MartinR, O'Neil, PerryJ, Roberts, Sharpe.

Yes, 95; No, 44; Absent, 9; Excused, 1.

95 having voted in the affirmative and 44 voted in the negative, with 9 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-686)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-686)** and sent for concurrence.

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

Majority Report of the Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-696)** on Resolve, Establishing the Commission To Study Fair, Equitable and Competitive Tax Policy for Maine's Working Families and Small Businesses (EMERGENCY)

(H.P. 1373) (L.D. 1929)

Signed:

Senators:

CHIPMAN of Cumberland
SANBORN, H. of Cumberland

Representatives:

TIPPING of Orono
BICKFORD of Auburn
CLOUTIER of Lewiston
DENK of Kennebunk
MAREAN of Hollis
MATLACK of St. George
STANLEY of Medway
TERRY of Gorham

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Resolve.

Signed:

Senator:
POULIOT of Kennebec

Representatives:
ARATA of New Gloucester
KRYZAK of Acton

READ.

On motion of Representative TIPPING of Orono, the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report was **ACCEPTED.**

The Resolve was **READ ONCE.** **Committee Amendment "A" (H-696)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED.**

Under suspension of the rules the Resolve was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading.**

Under further suspension of the rules the Resolve was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-696)** and sent for concurrence.

Majority Report of the Committee on **VETERANS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-687)** on Bill "An Act To Provide Support Services for Military Members Transitioning to Civilian Life in Maine"

(H.P. 1396) (L.D. 1952)

Signed:
Senators:
LUCHINI of Hancock
HERBIG of Waldo

Representatives:
SCHNECK of Bangor
ACKLEY of Monmouth
COOPER of Yarmouth
HICKMAN of Winthrop
HUBBELL of Bar Harbor
McCREIGHT of Harpswell

Minority Report of the same Committee reporting **Ought Not to Pass** on same Bill.

Signed:
Senator:
CYRWAY of Kennebec

Representatives:
ANDREWS of Paris
DOLLOFF of Rumford
HANINGTON of Lincoln
STROM of Pittsfield

READ.

Representative SCHNECK of Bangor moved that the House **ACCEPT** the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

The same Representative **REQUESTED** a roll call on the motion to **ACCEPT** the **Majority Ought to Pass as Amended** Report.

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

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM:** The Chair recognizes the Representative from Pittsfield, Representative Strom.

Representative **STROM:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I rise in opposition to this pending motion. And the reason for it

is I'm sure this bill was put in with very good intentions, going out recruiting veterans, fellow servicemembers, to come to Maine when their service is done. I mean, honestly, it's a topic that's near and dear to my heart since after 20 years of service, I returned to Maine. And I think about what brought me back to Maine. I didn't need to be recruited to come back or anything like that, I came back because with two young kids, the oldest kid ready to enter high school, I wanted my kids to go to what I consider the world's greatest high school, which just happens to be located in Pittsfield, Maine. Laugh if you want, you know it's true. And if we want to spend some money to try to recruit veterans in to come to Maine, instead of spending it on this, I would advise us let's spend money on just improving our State, making it a state that people want to come to without having to send people out across the country to try to recruit them, especially when we're already spending money for people to do work almost exactly like this. You go to our career centers, we have a veteran services coordinator at every one of them whose job it is to help our veterans find work, work here in Maine, so they can build a life here. And there's organizations, many of them, that are doing this and with the amount of money that is proposed to spend on this on this pilot project of \$200,000, we actually had a person from one of these services that provide this come into our committee and say he can do it for a fraction of that price. So, I just don't think this is a good use of money and to spend it on this, especially when there's people doing it for free and then there's companies willing to do it for a lot less than what we're offering for money for this. Thank you very much.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM:** The Chair recognizes the Representative from Caribou, Representative DeVeau.

Representative **DeVEAU:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. A couple things I want to echo the Good Representative from Pittsfield as well as some other testimony that you'll hear. There's a lot better ways that we can spend this money to assist veterans throughout the State other than putting it into this program right here, so, please follow my light.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM:** The Chair recognizes the Representative from Gorham, Representative Terry.

Representative **TERRY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. Transitioning military members have to relocate somewhere and my question is why not Maine. This bill is an investment in the State of Maine. It's in line with the State's strategic plan, looking to fill 75,000 jobs over the next 10 years.

Groups that this bill would target go out and recruit retiring military personnel. They go out and they find people that are not necessarily looking to relocate to Maine, despite the fact that the world's greatest high school is here. These groups are going out and finding people that are accustomed to hard work, that are accustomed to service, and they'll be coming here for the first time. So, it will bring families, not just the returning veterans but their spouses and their children.

We have amazing things to offer in this State and not everybody knows about it. We kind of keep that close to the vest. So, we have amazing weather, again, the world's greatest high school, and we have a hard work ethic that most veterans are very accustomed to. We want them to spend the second part of their lives here. This is a small appropriation of \$200,000 for the return on investment that it brings in. The first year that a military member comes to the State of Maine can have a return on investment of up to \$270,000 for their first year and \$125,000,000 for the lifetime of their stay here. To me, that seems like a very good investment and helps, again, fill out our State's strategic plan. There are many of our State's

biggest employers that are looking to fill their workforces, they're desperate for it, and they are also in support of this. I hope that we can be, too, and you will follow my light and vote yes. Thank you.

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

Representative **ACKLEY**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the motion. In committee, we heard much of the same arguments about how we cannot afford things like you see in this bill. And it's also not hard for me to imagine that this probably won't be the last time we hear this line of thinking this session. When we talk about how much the State of Maine can afford, we should be deferring judgement to the objective experts on the matter, that would be our credit rating agencies, the nonpartisan organizations that look at the financial standing of all 50 states and then critique our State's spending. In the last review of Maine's credit rating, it was noted by all of them that if we want to improve our credit standing, our ability to lower interest rates and expand our borrowing in the State, we don't need to be nervous about our debt load, we don't need to be nervous about our cash balance, we don't need to be concerned about the rainy day fund according to these financial experts. What we need to be laser-focused on is one thing; it's the demographic timebomb that is ticking, the aging of the State of Maine. The credit rating agencies are telling us what every employer in the State already knows. We need to attract people, good, hardworking young people to move to Maine. What the credit rating agencies are saying to us is that if we do not get good people of working age to move to Maine, we'll become a State of economic stagnation, a State of empty homes, of nursing homes and funeral homes. That's what this bill is about. It's about recruiting veterans, people with a proven track record of service, to bring their families, their skills, their pensions to the State of Maine. By the way, many veterans don't even realize their pension is income tax free here in Maine.

What's proposed in this bill is a bargain. We heard testimony from both nonprofit and for-profit organizations willing to compete for the \$200,000 in this bill because there is a vast untapped pool of human capital that can be recruited at low cost. It was estimated to cost something less than \$2,500 per family, according to these experts, to attract people to come to the State of Maine. Now, that compares quite favorably to the State of Vermont, a state with a similar demographic situation to Maine but, by the way, a much better credit rating. In Vermont, they spend \$10,000 per person to attract people to their state. Compared to that, this is a good deal for the State of Maine. It's exactly the kind of spending that Maine's credit rating agencies want to see and it's about welcoming veterans to the State of Maine. I'll be voting yes on this, Mr. Speaker.

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

Representative **HANINGTON**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I cannot disagree with anything that's spoken this morning but one thing I can say, you've got the Department of Labor, you've got the VA, voc rehab center, you've got the career centers, you've got the Department of Veterans' Services, you've got plenty of organizations that network across the system. And as a transitioning veteran myself, I worked with the career center and voc rehab and I took a job in Massachusetts because that was the best thing at the time for me. What I totally disagreed with in committee, this started out with a \$250,000 a year price tag, \$2.5 million over 10 years for a specific organization. So,

we worked it and this is the best thing that we came up in the committee. But my objection is so many times we've heard, and I'm sure everyone that has a committee here, that we do studies, at the end of that study that report is folded and it's put on the shelf down in the Revisor's office with recommendations on how to fix something. And I'm afraid that this is what is going to happen with this study because in a couple legislative sessions from now, they're going to report back and they're going to say this is what we need to do. But if we really wanted to fix the system, Mr. Speaker and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House, why don't we get behind a spending bill that we fully could fund the Department of the Maine Veterans' Services or DVEM and really do what we need to do, put money into a program that really sincerely help the veterans of this State. And I'm going to totally support the Minority Report. Thank you.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Camden, Representative Doudera.

Representative **DOUDERA**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. LD 1952 is important legislation because it addresses the most challenging impediment to business growth and success in our State; our shrinking workforce. This bill will help encourage and entice active duty military members and their families to live and work in Maine by providing funds to work with transitioning military members up to a year before they end their service. This work contributes to a reservoir of quality talent being added to Maine's workforce. On a very small scale, this work's already happening. Over the past three and a half years, more than 100 transitioning military members have relocated to Maine, generating more than 15 million for our State. These are servicemen and women from all five military services. The majority are married, with school-age kids. They're employed at more than 50 companies across the State, from Presque Isle to Berwick, and more than 50% are not originally from Maine.

This is not about veterans who are already here. This is about new folks. Maine's at a disadvantage because we don't have a significant active duty base presence like many other states do. We don't have the robust networks of communities and services that work to recruit and retrain transitioning military members to remain in their states. But we do have one of the highest enlistment rates in the country. Roughly 600 residents per year, some of them here in our chamber, choosing to leave the State and serve. We want these folks to return. But, additionally, there are approximately 200,000 potential Maine workers who transition from the active military service each year. These transitioning military members will make a choice to come to Maine if they know there is opportunity here and when they come they will buy houses, so, attention to my fellow realtors, they will buy houses, they'll send their children to our schools and they'll enrich communities throughout the State from York to Presque Isle. Let's do the smart thing and invest in our workforce by passing this legislation. Let's give ourselves a chance to say welcome home to transitioning military members who choose Maine.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Paris, Representative Andrews.

Representative **ANDREWS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have no doubt that this bill is very well-intentioned. However, there are already organizations doing this exact same type of work in the private sector, the nonprofit world, as well as the Department of Labor. Two hundred thousand dollars is a lot of money in my neck of the woods. This bill, while well-

intentioned, is an expensive redundancy. I'll be voting against the motion. Please follow my light.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Bangor, Representative Schneck.

Representative **SCHNECK**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. I rise in support of this bill.

The new Maine economic 10-year development strategy is looking for 75,000 over the next 10 years to join our workforce. Where are we going to find these people? Where are we going to find talented workers to come to Maine? Yes, a lot of these veterans that are transitioning out already came from Maine, so, we have a shot at getting some of them, but we're talking about bringing those people from away to our State with their families, with their talents. Each year, over 200,000 service members transition out of the military, with hundreds of them Maine residents. This transitioning military demographic is one that will significantly enhance Maine's workforce talent and numbers and we must invest in proactively attracting these citizens to Maine.

This project is focused on working with active duty military members up to a year before they separate or retire from service and preparing them and their families to work in Maine. This not only includes preparing them and connecting them with great Maine employers, but also providing concierge type services by connecting transitioning service members with the right agencies to assist with all aspects of transition, including peer mentors, realtors, veterans' benefits, VA and medical contacts and educational resources. This is what we're looking to do, we're trying to attract others to come here to help support our workforce needs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Rumford, Representative Dolloff.

Representative **DOLLOFF**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. When this first original bill came to us, I was pretty excited to see what this company, Boots to Roots, I believe it is, were doing. They just wanted more funding and wanted us to fund it. Well, they've been doing it. Then, as testimony went on, testimony that from another organization is already doing this, our unemployment offices are doing this. Then it came down to changing the bill with the amendment on it to start a pilot program. Well, if we need data, we can get it from these other organizations and right from our own State agencies.

I am a hundred percent for helping people either move back to Maine, veterans or otherwise, and anything we can do for our veterans because they have my heart. But if we're going to give any funds to veterans, we have programs that are already in existence that don't have enough funding to. We have programs already in place, this duplicates it. I cannot in good conscience give to this pilot program when it's already being done and our veterans need money in other areas. Thank you.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Auburn, Representative Sheats.

Representative **SHEATS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As a veteran myself, I have to point out a few things. This is not a veterans' bill. This is not about services going to our veterans who are already here in Maine or cutting funding for those programs. Only 17% of people getting out of the military are getting out as retirees. This is about bringing the new young people who are getting out of the service after a few years of service to our State to fill jobs. Many of them, like me, get out of the service without PTSD, without a medical-related disability, without any need for any ongoing veterans' support or services. We were lucky enough to get out healthy and

ready to work and I would love to see many of those people, that 83%, come to Maine.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Belgrade, Representative Keschl.

Representative **KESCHL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and Ladies and Gentlemen of the House. I agree with many of the comments by fellow veterans opposing the bill and I've heard that the military pension is exempt from taxes and that might draw them to Maine. We may better accomplish the purposes of this bill by lowering the overall income tax. That would help the veterans who are getting out and perhaps looking for a place to go. Thank you.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: The Chair recognizes the Representative from Caribou, Representative DeVeau.

Representative **DeVEAU**: Thank you for allowing me to speak on this again. I wanted to point out a couple things that has been kind of talked about but I don't think really explained in depth that needs to be. Right now, Maine is one of the highest populations per capita of veterans right here in Maine. Aroostook County is the highest in Maine. There are numerous programs right now within the federal government as well as throughout the State that are doing these types of programs. The Boots to Roots is not a new program. While I applaud what they're doing and I applaud what all of the agencies are doing throughout the State, including the American Legion, the VFW, the DAV, I'm missing a couple, Marine Corps League, Betsy Ann Ross House of Hope, United Veterans, the Adrenaline Therapy, there's a ton of programs that are out here. Right now, there's currently I believe it's right around \$200,000 that's been put aside by the 128th, \$200,000 put aside for Veterans' Emergency Assistance Program. And what that is intended to do is to provide up to \$2,000 for veterans who are in need of services for one reason or another.

Now, I don't know anything about this recent person who passed away on train tracks, but the one before that in the Brunswick area was a Navy veteran who had a housing voucher but was unable to get assistance for one reason or another. Now, while we're looking at bringing individuals, I find it kind of funny that we're now focused specifically on veterans to try to get this money. We need to get people, not just veterans. And this \$200,000 would be better suited to going to the emergency assistance program. And if you speak with the Director of the Maine Bureau of Veterans' Services or the Director of the VA or a number of the different veteran programs that actually have knowledge about what's going on with our veterans, and I'm not saying that in disrespect to anybody here, but we do this on a regular basis. We know the challenges that we are facing in the State of Maine. This one program coming to it isn't something that's new. I've been dealing with this for over six years with one of the programs that I work with in Caribou. I can tell you right now, the Good Representative from Lincoln has been with another organization for a number of years, the Good Representative from Pittsfield, the same, and I'm sure the Representative from Auburn has, as well as any number of veterans within here. I think if we were to sit down and say okay, really, where do we want this money to go, it's going to be to assist the veterans who are in need currently instead of the ones that we're hoping to get down the road.

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

Representative **STETKIS**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Men and Women of the House. As has been said a couple of times now, though good intentions, there are some serious

unnneeded redundancies here. I'm not sure, but a few people probably remember there was a blue ribbon commission put together a few years ago on this topic, veterans and bringing veterans to Maine. One of the things that was found that we could work on as opposed to, you know, spending money on these redundancies, is the ability for veterans to come to the State of Maine and use the skills that they acquired while serving. Unfortunately, under the heavy regulatory burden that we have in the State now when it comes to licensing, many of these veterans basically start off at square one, as if they have had no experience or education in these different fields. We could do this without spending a penny, so, I would suggest that instead of these redundancies and spending these hundreds of thousands of dollars that could be spent on potholes in our local communities, that we look at our regulatory system and lessen some of these licensing requirements to allow our veterans to come home. Thank you.

The SPEAKER PRO TEM: A roll call has been ordered. The pending question before the House is Acceptance of the Majority Ought to Pass as Amended Report. All those in favor will vote yes, those opposed will vote no.

ROLL CALL NO. 349

YEA - Ackley, AustinB, Babbidge, Babine, Bailey, Beebe-Center, Berry, Blume, Brennan, Brooks, Bryant, Caiazza, Cardone, Carney, Cloutier, Collings, Cooper, Craven, Crockett, Cuddy, Daughtry, Denk, Dodge, Doore, Doudera, Dunphy, Evangelos, Farnsworth, Fay, FecteauR, Gattine, Gramlich, Grohoski, Handy, Harnett, Hepler, Hickman, Hobbs, Hubbell, Hymanson, Ingwersen, Jorgensen, Kessler, Kornfield, Landry, MadiganC, MartinJ, Mastraccio, Matlack, Maxmin, McCrea, McCreight, McDonald, McLean, Melaragno, Meyer, Moonen, Morales, Moriarty, Nadeau, O'Neil, Paulhus, Pebworth, PerryA, PierceT, Pluecker, Reckitt, Riley, Rykerson, Schneck, Sheats, Stanley, Stover, Sylvester, Talbot Ross, Tepler, Terry, Tipping, Tucker, Warren, WhiteB, Zeigler, Madam Speaker.

NAY - Andrews, Arata, AustinS, Bickford, Blier, Bradstreet, Campbell, Cebra, Corey, Curtis, DeVeau, Dillingham, Dolloff, Drinkwater, Faulkingham, FecteauJ, Foster, Griffin, Grignon, Haggan, Hall, Hanington, Harrington, Head, Hutchins, Javner, Johansen, Keschl, Kinney, Kryzak, Lockman, Lyford, Marean, MartinT, Mason, Millett, Morris, O'Connor, Ordway, Perkins, Pickett, Prescott, Reed, Riseman, Rudnicki, Sampson, Skolfield, Stearns, Stetkis, Stewart, Strom, Swallow, Theriault, Tuell, Wadsworth, WhiteD.

ABSENT - Alley, Costain, Foley, Hanley, Higgins, MartinR, PerryJ, Roberts, Sharpe.

Yes, 83; No, 56; Absent, 9; Excused, 1.

83 having voted in the affirmative and 56 voted in the negative, with 9 being absent and 1 excused, and accordingly the Majority **Ought to Pass as Amended Report** was **ACCEPTED**.

The Bill was **READ ONCE**. **Committee Amendment "A" (H-687)** was **READ** by the Clerk and **ADOPTED**.

Under suspension of the rules the Bill was given its **SECOND READING WITHOUT REFERENCE** to the Committee on **Bills in the Second Reading**.

Under further suspension of the rules the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-687)** and sent for concurrence.

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

**CONSENT CALENDAR
First Day**

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

(S.P. 723) (L.D. 2050) Bill "An Act To Establish the Central Aroostook County Emergency Medical Services Authority" Committee on **CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(S.P. 658) (L.D. 1911) Bill "An Act To Amend the Unemployment Compensation Laws" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **LABOR AND HOUSING** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (S-388)**

(H.P. 1334) (L.D. 1863) Bill "An Act To Amend the Maine Uniform Probate Code" Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1342) (L.D. 1876) Resolve, To Name Bridge 3880 in the Town of Dresden the Veterans Memorial Bridge Committee on **TRANSPORTATION** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1389) (L.D. 1945) Bill "An Act To Require Forest Rangers To Be Trained at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy" (EMERGENCY) Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1397) (L.D. 1953) Bill "An Act Regarding Driver's License Suspensions for Nondriving Violations" Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1434) (L.D. 2013) Bill "An Act To Extend Arrearage Management Program Requirements for Transmission and Distribution Utilities for One Year" Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1451) (L.D. 2040) Bill "An Act To Eliminate the Requirement That Municipalities Retain Paper Copies of Certain Vital Statistics Records" Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1459) (L.D. 2048) Resolve, Authorizing Certain Land Transactions by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Bureau of Parks and Lands Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1470) (L.D. 2069) Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 27: Standards for Pesticide Applications and Public Notification in Schools, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control (EMERGENCY) Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1471) (L.D. 2070) Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 26: Standards for Indoor Pesticide Applications and Notification for All Occupied Buildings Except K-12 Schools, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control (EMERGENCY) Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1482) (L.D. 2081) Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 311: Portfolio Requirement, a Major Substantive Rule of the Public Utilities Commission (EMERGENCY) Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 1483) (L.D. 2082) Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 28: Notification Provisions for Outdoor Pesticide Applications, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Board of Pesticides Control (EMERGENCY) Committee on

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY
reporting **Ought to Pass**

(H.P. 341) (L.D. 432) Bill "An Act To Amend the Greater Augusta Utility District Charter" Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-684)**

(H.P. 1028) (L.D. 1415) Bill "An Act To Improve the Laws Regarding Discontinued and Abandoned Roads" Committee on **STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-691)**

(H.P. 1330) (L.D. 1859) Bill "An Act To Increase Access to Justice and Maine's Rural Lawyer Workforce by Expanding Student Attorney Practice Opportunities" Committee on **JUDICIARY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-690)**

(H.P. 1358) (L.D. 1892) Bill "An Act To Make Changes to the So-called Dig Safe Law" Committee on **ENERGY, UTILITIES AND TECHNOLOGY** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-685)**

(H.P. 1392) (L.D. 1948) Bill "An Act To Prohibit, Except in Emergency Situations, the Performance without Consent of Pelvic Examinations on Unconscious or Anesthetized Patients" Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-688)**

(H.P. 1402) (L.D. 1958) Bill "An Act To Expand Tax Increment Financing To Include Adult Care Facilities and Services and Certain Child Care Facilities" Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-695)**

(H.P. 1429) (L.D. 2008) Bill "An Act Making Technical Changes to the Maine Tax Laws" Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-693)**

(H.P. 1433) (L.D. 2012) Resolve, Authorizing the State Tax Assessor To Convey the Interest of the State in Certain Real Estate in the Unorganized Territory Committee on **TAXATION** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-694)**

(H.P. 1479) (L.D. 2078) Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 100: Enforcement Procedures, a Major Substantive Rule of the Maine Health Data Organization (EMERGENCY) Committee on **HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES** reporting **Ought to Pass as Amended by Committee Amendment "A" (H-689)**

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

There being no objection, the Senate Papers were **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED** or **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.

ENACTORS

Emergency Measure

An Act To Amend the Laws Prohibiting the Use of Handheld Phones and Devices While Driving

(S.P. 653) (L.D. 1901)
(C. "A" S-386)

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. 109 voted in favor of the same and 11 against, and accordingly the Bill was **PASSED TO BE ENACTED**, signed by the Speaker Pro Tem and sent to the Senate.

Emergency Measure

Resolve, Regarding Legislative Review of Portions of Chapter 12: Licensure of Manufacturers and Wholesalers, a Major Substantive Rule of the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation, Maine Board of Pharmacy

(H.P. 1338) (L.D. 1872)

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. 116 voted in favor of the same and 2 against, and accordingly the Resolve was **FINALLY PASSED**, signed by the Speaker Pro Tem and sent to the Senate.

Acts

An Act To Add Rivers, Streams and Brooks to the Department of Environmental Protection's Compensation Fee Program

(S.P. 601) (L.D. 1777)
(C. "A" S-385)

An Act To Establish Standards for Operation and Maintenance and Asset Management for Publicly Owned Treatment Works and Municipal Satellite Collection Systems

(H.P. 1263) (L.D. 1779)
(C. "A" H-677)

An Act To Support Replacement of At-risk Home Heating Oil Tanks

(H.P. 1264) (L.D. 1780)
(C. "A" H-678)

An Act To Protect Teachers from Professional Teacher Certificate Endorsement Changes

(H.P. 1329) (L.D. 1858)
(C. "A" H-676)

An Act To Amend the Laws Governing Waste Discharge Analysis by Laboratories Operated by Waste Discharge Facilities

(S.P. 708) (L.D. 2006)

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

Resolves

Resolve, To Require the Department of Health and Human Services To Submit a State Plan Amendment To Exempt Retirement and Educational Assets from Calculations for Medicaid Eligibility

(S.P. 102) (L.D. 362)
(C. "A" S-387)

Resolve, To Establish the Commission To Study the Use of Adjunct Professors in Maine Community College System

(H.P. 1344) (L.D. 1878)
(C. "A" H-679)

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

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

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

Refer to the Committee on Health and Human Services Pursuant to Joint Rule

Report of the **Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services** on Bill "An Act To Amend the Laws Governing the Maternal, Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Panel"

(S.P. 758) (L.D. 2119)

Reporting that it be **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** pursuant to Joint Rule 353.

Came from the Senate with the Report **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**.

Report was **READ** and **ACCEPTED** and the Bill and accompanying papers were **REFERRED** to the Committee on **HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES** in concurrence.

SENATE PAPERS

Bill "An Act Regarding Sales of Alcohol in Municipalities and Unincorporated Places" (EMERGENCY)

(S.P. 759) (L.D. 2120)

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

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

Non-Concurrent Matter

An Act To Improve Geographic Information System Data Acquisition and Maintenance

(S.P. 568) (L.D. 1719)

PASSED TO BE ENACTED in the House on June 12, 2019. (Having previously been **PASSED TO BE ENGROSSED AS AMENDED BY COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" (S-261)**)

Came from the Senate with the Bill and accompanying papers **COMMITTED** to the Committee on **AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY** in **NON-CONCURRENCE**.

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

The following Joint Order: (S.P. 760)

ORDERED, the House concurring, that the Joint Standing Committee on Inland Fisheries and Wildlife shall report out, to the Senate, a Bill, "An Act To Clarify All-terrain Vehicle Registration Requirements and Establish Regular Maintenance of All-terrain Vehicle Trails."

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

READ and **PASSED** in concurrence.

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

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

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do wish to speak on the record.

The **SPEAKER PRO TEM**: The Representative may proceed on the record.

Representative **TUELL**: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. So, those of us from Washington County are pretty tough stock and as many of you know, yesterday several of us from Washington County had eventful trips here. And myself and a member of the other body hit a patch of ice and went around a few times and crunched a guardrail. We're fine. Another member of this body had a little more eventful trip over and over and over, but still made it here, concussion and all, and I just want to say that Washington County is strong and we're here and we're glad to be here. So, with that, I would add this coming Saturday another group of strong individuals from Washington County will be coming to Augusta. They're the Machias Bulldogs boys' basketball team and they won the Northern Maine Championship Class D this past weekend in Bangor. And while basketball is not the same thing as an auto accident by any stretch of the imagination, these kids and their coach worked extremely hard, upset a bunch of other teams along the way including my friend from Beals, his basketball team, undefeated basketball team, to make it to all the way to the State Championships. So, congratulations to the Machias Bulldogs and the whole area is proud of you. It just goes to show, you can't keep Washington County down. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On motion of Representative BRYANT of Windham, the House adjourned at 12:18 p.m. until 10:00 a.m., Thursday, February 27, 2020, in honor and lasting tribute to John Sherman Appleby, Sr. of Lubec, Claude Dumond of New Canada, Ora St. Peter of Caribou, Franklin R. MacNeil of Bath and Alan H. Hawkins of South Portland.